

TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

JUNE 2012

TARANAKI TRAINEE DAIRY FARMER OF THE YEAR

Mark Duynhoven out on the farm.

More on page 3



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

TOM dates to remember for July 2012 issue:

Copy and ads - 11 June

Distribution - from 25 June

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E D I T O R I A L

Dinner party conversation turned to a subject I had been giving some thought to lately - piercings and tattoos. Both body enhancements (or disfigurements as I see them) seem to have taken off this century. Why I ask myself are they so popular when they are so frequently so ugly?



My first impressions of body modifications was as a young child being mesmerised by the cover of a National Geographic magazine which featured a tribal woman with dozens of rings around her neck stretching her neck to an impossible length and also big droopy earlobes and protruding lower lip (possibly several different pictures but I see them all in my mind on one woman). I was struck by how primitive those people were to us the civilised ones. Today I am now wondering if we are still primitive and becoming less civilised everyday.

The art of tattooing is traditional in many cultures and has deep deep meaning but I wouldn't be surprised to learn that white Europeans are the most tattooed and pierced in the world.

Does this mean white Europeans are looking to replicate a culture of their own making to give a sense of identity that makes a unique sub race - the tattooed ones and the non-tattooed ones? If tattooing is a rite of passage where is the new place the tattooed ones are going? Hardly to manhood or womanhood as we non-tattooed ones have reached adulthood without the need to modify our bodies with pictures and piercings.

Ear stretching is an interesting one and something which fills me with horror. It seems no body part is unsuitable for piercings and I am amazed by people using their bodies as a pin cushion.

Maybe this is all a crazy trend that will soon become unpopular and we know how influenced society in general is by trends - lets hope so.

For those out there with the odd tattoo or piercing - don't take umbrage - I merely am trying to figure out why so many people are so easily led by the ring in their nose!

Kim



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Taranaki Trainee Dairy Farmer of the Year

Congratulations to Mark Duynhoven on becoming Taranaki Trainee Dairy Farmer of the Year 2012. Mark fought off around 20 applicants in the region to gain the title. Mark grew up on his parents' farm in Egmont Village. He is now a herd manager for Kevin and Diane Goble on their farm on Upper Timaru Road and he says they have inspired and taught him alot.

To gain the title Mark sat a series of tough interviews and practicals over two stages. Both the preliminary round and the final round involved a 30-minute interview with three judges and a 30-minute practical assessment. The questions involved specific facts and figures, Health and Safety issues and personal opinions on issues affecting dairy farming in the current economic climate. The practical assessment involved tasks such as putting a set of milking cups together and, in the final, setting up a portable feeding trough. Mark also says that he was asked about his personal goals and future plans. Mark, his partner Krystal, and their young son, Max, hope that in five years' time they will have progressed to a 50/50 sharemilking contract.

Mark says that the competition process was very rewarding and the feedback was really useful, and he has already been able to follow up on some of the advice that he received. Mark is also studying an Ag ITO Level 4 course one day a fortnight and hopes to attend a financial planning course.

Mark is now setting his sights on the finals in May. As part of his preparation he has made a three-minute DVD about his goals and interests in dairy farming. Next he will attend a two-day study course in Waikato and then he is off to Auckland for the finals. This will basically follow the same format as the regionals but with interviews and practicals lasting one hour.

Mark says it has been a great experience and learning curve for him. He is "happy to have got this far, I will keep doing my best, keep doing the studying and push it further." Good luck for the finals, Mark.

By Rosie Moyes



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Mayor Harry

Have you taken part in our celebrations of NZ Music Month?

Puke Ariki and district libraries have been hosting a series of events to entice anyone with a hint of interest in music and Kiwiana.

Some of you may have attended the Guitarra performance at Oakura

Library on 24 May. If you missed it, fear not! The library is hosting another great music event at midday on Thursday 7 June — be sure to pop along and enjoy this free event.

I am delighted that this series of events is being held in libraries throughout the district, giving as many residents as possible the chance to take part. Libraries are doorways to information, culture and heritage; a public living room where we can experience new ideas with other people in our community.

If you want to know more about the events on offer, go to www.pukeariki.com or check out the Events Calendar on www.newplymouthnz.com. And be sure to encourage your friends and family along to these events too!

Meanwhile, all elected members have been preparing for the public hearings on submissions to the Draft Long-Term Plan 2012–2022. We received a record number of submissions on this plan, with the options for the rubbish/recycling service and the proposed multi-sports and events facility at TSB Stadium/Pukekura Raceway garnering the most comments. Thank you to everyone who took the time to read up on the draft plan and send in a submission.

If you are interested to hear what other members of the public have to say, you can watch the hearings online via www.newplymouthnz.com. We'll be broadcasting this live and also providing a recording for later viewing.

We'll also broadcast the Council debate on the submissions on 6 June.

Mayor Harry Duynhoven

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**Oakura
Library**

Hello all,

Last month we celebrated New Zealand Music Month with several special events. We hosted singer/songwriter Missie Moffat and Guitarra duo Ross Townsend and Dominique Blatti. It was delightful to see a varied audience interact with the musicians in such an intimate setting.

We have ordered several new series of early readers for littlies just learning to read. They have appealing titles, colourful illustrations and bold text.

Also don't forget to check out our new book display as you enter the library. They are the most recently published bestsellers by your favourite authors ready to be issued to you.

Hope to see you soon,

Karen and Vincenza



Missie Moffat entertaining the children at the library.



Bob Richards

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Kaitake Community Board

I recently attended the service award presentations and opening of the new vehicle shed at the local fire station. It was a particularly pleasant occasion and during the ceremony I reflected on the long hours and hard work that these volunteers continue to provide for our community. In many ways these fire-fighting volunteers embody the strong and distinctive community spirit and character of the district west of the city. Down through the years there have been many events and activities that have provided opportunities to work and play together and most locals, at some stage of their life, have put their hand up and volunteered to get involved.

With more land being subdivided and demand growing for our desirable lifestyle location we need to encourage newcomers to appreciate our community values. The best way to do this is to encourage participation and thus those that do can give something back to the community in some way. There are an impressive variety of groups and organisations in the district so the opportunities are endless.

The Kaitake Community Board (KCB) made a long list of submissions to Council on the Long-Term Plan. In doing so we made a conscious decision to steer away from the big-ticket items — rating differential, racecourse complex development, solid waste issues, Perpetual Investment Fund, etc. We didn't believe we could advocate for the community on these issues as there are many varied opinions, but we certainly urged individuals to do so.

We concentrated on all the niggling things in our wider community that have been upsetting folk and that they had alerted us to. We made a verbal/visual presentation on this list to Council at the hearings. In this climate of economic belt tightening we realise that being successful will be difficult but will be giving the submissions process our very best shot.

The KCB knows many of you have made submissions and we are particularly impressed that the students at Oakura School have submitted as well on local issues. The involvement of the next generation in local issues is to be applauded.

However..... a recurring issue being brought to the KCB's attention is residents' irritation with those dog owners who walk their dogs or allow them to roam around the village streets but fail to clean up after their animal defecates on the footpath or on a verge in front of someone's house.

We are particularly lucky to live in a very dog friendly place. It's a great environment for a family pet and there are some pretty special dogs living here but there are some important responsibilities for owners as well. There is a Council Bylaw covering this particular issue. It states: The owner of any dog that defecates in a public place or on land or premises other than that occupied by the owner shall immediately remove the faeces from that place and dispose of it in a sanitary manner into a suitable receptacle.

For those few miscreants who take little notice of this rule and have scant regard for their neighbours the Council has the power to levy a \$300 fine and will do so on the

identification of the owner of any four-legged transgressor. Well, that's it for this issue. The next meeting of the KCB will be on Monday, 2 July at the NPOB Surf Club at 4.30pm. Ka kite ano.

Doug Hislop (06-752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Teresa Goodin and Deputy Mayor Alex Matheson who is the Council representative on the KCB.

Oakura Fire Brigade

Firefighters, families, friends and employers gathered at the Oakura Fire Station to celebrate the commitment of the volunteer firefighters, the support of the firefighters' employers, and the opening of the new support appliance shed.

In 2001 the United Nations (UN) initiated the Year of the Volunteer. The CEO of the UN Fire Service Association, George Verry, elected to dedicate a fire service medal to recognise and celebrate the Year of the Volunteer Plus Ten (10 years on). The United Fire Brigades Association and the NZ Fire Service Commission issued a medal and a bar for ten years' service to recognise the contribution our volunteer firefighters make to the community. Alex Matheson, Deputy Mayor, congratulated the Oakura firefighters for their dedication and commitment and presented the volunteer firefighters with their awards.



Seamus Breeze receiving his award.

Thumbs up to our fire fighters - Olivia Whitehead, Michael Gibbon and Emma Dashorse.



Oakura Fire Station with its new signage.



Mary Bourke TSB Community Trust and Betty West cut the ribbon for the new appliance Building.

MEDALS ISSUED:

- Mel Breeze — 4 yrs of service.
- Ross Bennett — 4 yrs of service.
- Jonathan Whitehead — 4 yrs of service.
- Ian Gibbon — 4 yrs of service.
- Mike Dunn — 5 yrs of service.
- Andrea Leadbetter — 7 yrs of service.
- Mark Braddock — 7 yrs of service.
- Rowan Oldfield — 7 yrs of service.
- Seamus Breeze — 7 yrs of service.
- Ross Buttimore — 9 yrs of service.
- Alan Rawlinson — 9 yrs of service.

MEDAL AND 10 YEARS BARS ISSUED:

- Craig Scott — 23 yrs of service.
- Chris West — 31 yrs of service.
- Greg Newton — 19 yrs of service.
- David Reilly — 15 yrs of service.
- Matt Crabtree — 14 yrs of service.

Deputy Chief Fire Officer, David Reilly, spoke of the NZ Fire Services' Employer Recognition Programme and the vital role that the firefighters' employers play in supporting the volunteers, releasing them to attend call outs in the Oakura community and surrounding districts. Pat Fitzell, Area Manager NZ Fire Service, presented Certificates of Appreciation to each employer.

The celebrations continued outside where Mary Bourke from the TSB Community Trust and Betty West, Life Member of the Fire Service, cut the ribbon to officially open the new shed. This now houses the new support vehicle, enabling better responses to incidents within the community.

Congratulations and thanks to our volunteer firefighters for their commitment and dedication to making our district a safer place.

By Rosie Moyes



Jan Rawlinson Oakura Beach Holiday Park receives Employers Certificate of Appreciation.

The Alcohol Reform Bill

Alcohol consumption is a part of life, some would say too much a part of life. Alcohol has been recognised as the cause of significant social and health-related harm, and is implicated in 30% of all police-recorded offences, 34% of recorded family violence, and 50% of all homicides. ACC estimates that almost a quarter of all claims are alcohol related, as are up to 70% of emergency department presentations for injury.

The Law Commission's report to the Government in 2010 was clear in its recommendations. Things have to change in New Zealand in regard to alcohol consumption. The Government has responded quickly and strongly by presenting a bill to Parliament that will bring changes to the law.

Key proposals in the Bill include:

A split purchase age — the purchase age to be increased to 20 for off-licence retailers such as liquor stores, supermarkets and grocery stores but remain at 18 for on-licences such as restaurants, bars and clubs, where drinking takes place in a controlled environment.

A risk-based licence regime — licence fees will reflect risk factors, such as type and capacity of venue, trading hours and previous conduct of a licensee. Low-risk premises, such as wineries, will pay the lowest fees.

Parents and guardians will be responsible for their children's drinking — it will be an offence for anyone else to supply alcohol to an under-18 year old unless they have the parents' or guardian's express consent and, if so, must supervise responsibly. Supply of alcohol to minors without consent or in an irresponsible manner may be liable for a fine up to \$2000.

Local communities will have more say about where and when alcohol can be sold — local authorities will be able to limit the sale of alcohol and set conditions on licences, and there will be broader criteria for objecting to alcohol licence applications through local area plans.

Liquor licences will be harder to get and easier to lose — licences will be harder to get through local alcohol policies with broader criteria for objecting to licence applications, and licensees and managers who persistently fail to comply with the law will lose their licences.

Tighter restrictions on the types of premises that can sell alcohol and when they can sell it — dairies and convenience stores won't be able to sell alcohol. There will be national maximum hours that premises can be open for alcohol sales.

Tighter restrictions on the irresponsible promotion of alcohol — especially irresponsible promotions that target young people.

Legislation alone won't turn around our binge drinking culture, which is why the Government recently announced further non-legislative measures to target alcohol-related harm. The National-led Government will commit an additional \$10 million a year for alcohol treatment services. This funding will come from alcohol excise revenue and is on top of the approximate \$120 million spent on alcohol and drug treatment services each year.



Jonathan Young
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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An expert forum will also be set up to consider the effectiveness of further restrictions on advertising and sponsorship to reduce alcohol-related harm. The forum will report back within a year of the Bill becoming law.

I invite you to go to my website www.jonathanyoung.co.nz and use the Have your Say facility to give me your feedback on whether the drinking age and the ability to purchase alcohol should be changed.

Jonathan Young, MP

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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Introducing a Massage to Rival All Massages

Emerge Beauty and Wellbeing Day Spa is the place to go for an hour's relaxation —it works so well I nearly fell asleep! On offer is a new technique to the village and a first for Taranaki too: a bamboo massage. We all know about the benefits of massage and a bamboo massage is no exception.

Bamboo massage has a long history dating back to traditional Chinese medicine in ancient times but it has only recently caught on in the West. Leah and Paula have undergone training in the technique and have begun sharing their expertise with their clients. It was an experience I thoroughly enjoyed.

Bamboo massage involves using a bamboo cane of various sizes to knead and roll out knots and tension in the larger muscle groups on the body. Leah used a combination of bamboo canes, warm oil and her hands to work over the body, releasing tension and stress. The benefits are many and include improved circulation, relaxation, stimulation of the lymph nodes, releasing of tense muscles, easing of aches and pains and, I am told, with regular use can sculpt the body by diminishing cellulite.

Leah has a deft touch when it comes to bamboo massage and her combination of hands and bamboo flowed nicely around the body — at all times using the right amount of pressure to make the experience pleasant. I was intrigued I wasn't asked about any underlying injuries but I soon realised this wasn't necessary as the massage, while being therapeutic, wasn't on a level to distress or aggravate any issues.

The tranquillity and easing of stresses and strains makes bamboo massage a wonderful treat for anyone wanting to spend an hour having the tensions of daily life ironed out with a tactile bamboo massage from Emerge.

By Kim Ferens



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TOM Garden of the Month: Karyn and Kurt

This month I had the pleasure of visiting the garden of Karyn and Kurt and 9-year-old Zac in Macfarlane Street.

The history of the property and the land can be traced back to the 1880/90's when the land covered 14 acres stretching down to the sea. Back then the land was farmed and the house had its own orchard. Karyn showed me a yellowed, very aged piece of newspaper they discovered under the wallpaper dated 1894. Amazing and very fragile. As time moved on the history of the house is sketchy; today it is a lovely family home and a tranquil haven. The family have lived in the house for about 13 years and in that time have renovated and extended the house. The garden too has changed, a neighbouring house being moved forward and Karyn and Kurt taking over the land increasing the size of their garden.

As Karyn shows me around the garden it has such a lovely peaceful and private feel. Two huge Norfolk pines dominate the boundary and cabbage trees, palms and bamboo edge the pool area, giving it a wonderful sub-tropical feel. The old cowshed provides an interesting changing room! Everywhere you look there is evidence of the history, such as the old stone chimney, and the very old rimu and pohutukawa trees. Unfortunately, some of the older trees were lost in the tornado. Sam Sutherland has landscaped and built all the structural garden features, including steps made from old sleepers, planters and an awesome stone wall around the spa area and pool.

It is a family garden that shouts of fun and wonderful garden entertaining with its huge offshore mooring buoy used as a fire (nicknamed The Teletubby!). There is even a wooden boat and sand pit sunk into the ground for Zac, his mates and the grandchildren.

Thank you, Karyn, for showing me around your idyllic garden. Thanks to Fairfield's Garden Centre Karyn will receive a \$12 gardening voucher.

By Rosie Moyes



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Four Square in Fine Hands

The new owners at Oakura Four Square, Mark Williamson and Geoff Smith, have been in situ for a few weeks now and have been relishing the challenge of running our local convenience store. We are very lucky to have such skilled and hardworking owners — they both bring a wealth of corporate and personal skills to the business.

Mark and his partner Annelisse have come from Christchurch. Mark was involved in contract work with the EQC following the Christchurch earthquakes. Prior to this he was based for two years in Wellington as General Manager for NZ Bus — a position in charge of more than 600 staff. Mark has also worked for Shell in Retail Operations for 16 years.

Geoff, his wife Jacqui, and two children Isaac (12yrs) and Lucy (9yrs) are from Motueka. Geoff was General Manager for a forestry company for three years, having previously worked for Shell International for over 30 years in the Retail Business as part of the Global Marketing team. Originally from Hawera, Geoff is waiting for the family home in Motueka to sell so his wife and children can join him in Oakura, where they will be looking for a house to either rent or buy.

Mark and Geoff say working in the Four Square is very enjoyable and being at the customer interface is a great experience rather than just implementing policies for others to carry out.

Mark and Geoff want to thank the community for being patient with them as they learn the ropes. They say it felt like being thrown in the deep end when they started at Easter weekend — it was one of the busiest Easter weekends on record. They are finally getting a handle on their store and say they aim to build on the good job Steve, Marlies and the team have been doing for the past few years.

Neither man has had much downtime since taking over but when Geoff gets his family in the village he hopes to become involved in his children's sport, get along to the beach, do some fishing and enjoy some family time.

Mark likes getting out on his bike and knows there are plenty of locals keen to take him on a wee bike ride around the mountain! He and Annelisse enjoy cruising in Annelisse's 1961 Chevy Impala (Miss Dixie) — look out for the distinctive shiny red car parked outside the store!

Call in and introduce yourself to Mark and Geoff, they are enjoying meeting and befriending us locals and are keen to carry on the fine tradition of a convenience store in our village.

By Kim Ferens



Mark on the left and Geoff on the right.

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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Kaitake Golf Club News

RECENT EVENTS

As the days get shorter, summer golf and twilight fixtures are on hold as winter starts to work its way closer. The course is looking good after the battering from recent storms thank you to the Green staff and members who volunteered their time to help clean up.

Junior Fun Day – 26 keen young golfers attended the first day of junior golf during the recent school holidays with Dominic Barson providing coaching. 13 attended a second day to play a 9 hole Ambrose where they could put their skills into practice. These days were supported by McDonalds. We hope to repeat the Junior Golf Fun Days in the school holidays during the year.

The Midweek Women's Pennant team is doing very well and is currently leading equal with Opunake.

The predicted rain held off while 42 pairs took part in the annual 2 Ball Best Ball Tasman Trophy this month. S Neale and D Wilcox won the gross while S Spurdle and D Jones took the honours with best nett.

Results

The President's Trophy is the latest of the men's competitions to be completed. Lionel Kay was the winner with Snow Lock runner-up. This was a great effort by two gentlemen who clock up 171 years between them. Top Dog is now underway.

Latest results from the 18 hole Midweek Women; winner of the Askew Plate K. Brown, runner-up J Gerrard; Fougere Cup winner S Johnson, runner-up M Green; Consolation J Ross, runner-up L Julian; Nancy MacCormick winners were L Julian and J Aitken, runners up M Barrat and V Voffe.

The 18hole Weekend Women's results; Ladies Trophy winner A Jarrold, runner-up P Gray; Nancy MacCormick winners L Agnew and S Richardson, runners up J Neale and J Jupp.

The Midweek 9 Hole women ran their annual Top Dog with 10 pairings competing for the Top Dog Title. Veteran Y Coxhead and A Cattle ultimately claiming victory over J West and C Chamberlain.

Congratulations to all winners

COMING EVENTS

Sunday 1st July

Open Subway Ambrose. There is a Starters Sheet up in the clubhouse to secure a tee time or phone Jacqui in the office to put your name down.

SPONSORSHIP.

Kaitake Golf Club appreciates the generous support Sponsorship brings to the club. Anyone who may be interested in becoming a Sponsor can contact Murray Gray on 7534450 or Ross Benton on 7527099.

More information on Kaitake Golf Club can be found on the website www.kaitakegolf.co.nz.

Good golfing everyone

Andrea Jarrold



Fishing Report

The fishing during April and into May has been good. The tuna have now all but gone until next summer, but snapper and gurnard are fat and feeding up hard for the winter. Roger Zeltjies caught his first 20lb snapper, and followed it up with another good snapper a couple of weeks later. We are finding the fish in shallow water 8–10m. The Port is fishing well with lots of John Dory close to the shore, as well as lots of good-sized gurnard.

The last weekend in May is the last day of our club competition so members should be chasing those record fish before the prizegiving in June. The weather has been amazing so make the most of it before winter sets in.

Cheers, Garry



Above and right, a very pleased Roger Zieltjes with his first 20lb snapper.



Dog Grooming @ the Pet Parlour

Pet Essentials are proud to now have a full dog grooming service available. The room is purpose built, so that it can easily be cleaned and disinfected, and customers are able to watch the grooming process through the glass door and window.

Safety of your dog is particularly important to us and all dogs must have their vaccinations up to date.

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We look forward to seeing you and your dog real soon!!



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Oakura Pony Club

The 2011/12 Pony Club session is coming to an end. It's safe to say that all of our members have had lots of fun, spending hours, as they do, not just riding but caring for their ponies/horses. While some of our members have been extremely successful in national and local competition that's not all the pony club is about. If you love riding and generally just hanging out with other like minded kids, think about joining our club next year.

For Pony Club members it's all about:

Caring for their horses and ponies

Gaining and improving riding skills

Having fun with their horses/ponies and making new friends with similar interests

Having a chance to compete in teams in Mounted Games, Dressage, Show jumping and Eventing. It also fosters individual competition.

Having the chance to sit certificates at various levels

Having respect for others and their horses and adhere to the Fair Play Charter.

So if you're thinking of joining the Oakura Pony Club, we would love to see you, the new season starts in October. We try to have rallies at least once per month and membership is generally around \$90-\$100/season. Children must have an adult join with them, even if the adult doesn't ride. For membership enquiries contact us at: lumby@xtra.co.nz

Following the success of Horse of the Year our members are continuing to shine in recent competitions.

In April Anna Hinton and five other Taranaki team members travelled to Oamaru for the NZPCA Horse Trials Championship.



Anna Hinton on Sexy B.

The annual competition for all New Zealand Pony Club riders is held in the South Island once every four years and this involves a huge amount of organisation to get horses, riders, parents and all the required gear down to the competition venue. Two days of travelling included a ferry crossing, flat tyre and cracked windscreen on horse truck and broken arm for a parent all before the team even arrived at Oamaru. The three days of competition went well for Anna. On the first day in the dressage test Anna on her horse Sexy B was judged first in the A1 division for riders aged 17 to 21 years. On the second day there was a new tough cross country course, only eight riders out of 24 jumped the 20 jumps successfully and of those only 3 went inside the time allowed. Anna went clear around all the jumps, but had some time penalties and dropped back to second place. Then the third and final day arrived. Anna jumped all the jumps well in her show jumping round and then watched as the overnight leader did her round but knocked down a rail. This meant Anna was back in first place. At the prize giving Anna won two cups, one for dressage and the overall cup. The Taranaki team also won the Horse Management Award for their well organised team work with the horses over the three days. This successful competition was a great highlight in Anna's horse riding results, and thanks to her first Instructor Jill Tompkins and most recent instructor Denise Paterson for their great inspiration.

At Dressage Taranaki's Anzac Dressage tournament, held in Waitara, Molly Lumb (riding Zeus) and Catherine West (riding Alvis) were 1st equal in Elementary 3.4. In their second test (3.2), Catherine and Alvis were 1st with Molly and Zeus a very close 2nd.

The Taranaki Area Pony Club cups day held at the New Plymouth Race course was a day of our members to have lots of fun participating in dressage, show jumping and games. The Oakura team were placed 3rd in the team's parade.

By Nicky Lumby



Molly Lumb riding Zeus.



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Oakura Boardriders

Third time, very lucky! We had to postpone our senior club champs twice before we had the right conditions to hold a competition. As you can see from the photographs the surf at the back of Stent was most contestable on Sunday May 6. The sun was shining and the mountain was clear and majestic till later on in the afternoon. We didn't have as many contestants as we normally do but nevertheless the usual high quality of Oakura surfing still prevailed.

Unfortunately conditions at Fitzroy Beach weren't nearly as good the following weekend for the Taranaki Inter-club Competition. Adjectives like challenging and tricky I notice are often used to describe some of the conditions the Dream Tour women have to compete in. It's one way to justify sending the women out to surf and I guess the slang word 'crap' is not PC enough! However I wouldn't use such a word to describe the conditions at Fitzroy, as the general feeling among the competitors was that they had a good time. It is always a wonderful opportunity for the clubs to get together and it is always very competitive. The New Plymouth Surfriders took home the trophy with the Christians narrowly betting us to second place. Waitara Bar Boardriders came fourth with the Opunake club in fifth place.

I hope some of you were the lucky ones to watch the 'Big Wave' contest held at Bogworks on Tuesday 15th May. I hear it was great entertainment.

Phili B



Hamish Christophers.



Richard Kurta, Open Mens champ.

RESULTS:

UNDER 18

1. Toby Brankin
2. Ben King
3. Alex King

LEGENDS

1. Ton Deken
2. Brian Clark
3. Alan Crawford
4. Mike Hareb

OPEN WOMEN'S

1. Jackie Keenan

OPEN MEN'S

1. Richard Kurta
2. Hamish Christophers
3. Wade Lobb
4. Brian Clark



Mike Hareb.



Mitch Walker.

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Toby Brankin U16 and U18 champ.



Paige heading out to the Bogworks competition while her two grand dads look proudly on (below).



The OBC Interclub team.



Bogworks photos by Jackie Tomlinson

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Drummer to Share his Skills

Taranaki local artists build a diverse and vital link between us commoners and the fascinating artistic/ creative world. We have internationally recognised painters, authors, actors, dancers and poets. We also have some of the world's best musicians, both in reality and in training.

The New Plymouth region has many hidden gems when it comes to incredible talent and reclusive Taranaki resident and veteran Kiwi Rock drummer Rob Ju is certainly one of those.

Rob and his wife Karen have chosen the surf, fishing and hunting spots and solitude of our fine coast over the big city life offered to them in the wheels at the top of the NZ music industry.

As the power house drummer of one of NZ's top bands "The Pink Floyd Experience" Rob is seen playing in huge venues capacity crowds in Australia, New Zealand and recently South Africa. The band is incredibly tight and the stage performance is really a sight to see.

A talented wood craftsman Rob has been building his own custom drum kits locally for several years and his snare drums are incredibly sought after by professionals.

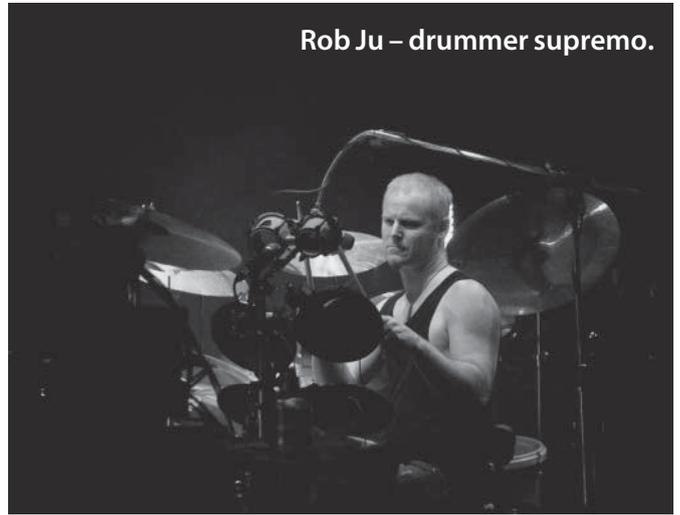
Rob's local musical outlet "Highway 45" is also achieving recognition and online chart success with songs the band has written and recorded locally and the band is now touring frequently around the country.

Recently Rob has decided to dedicate his skills and talents as a top kiwi musician to teaching drums full time to lucky students of all ages at New Plymouth's own West Coast School of Rock.

For Taranaki this means being given the opportunity of working with a teacher and mentor who has international touring experience and current chart success, sharing the skills and knowledge of how to get to the top of the industry.

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Rob Ju – drummer supremo.



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Leeana Hughes

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New Plymouth Boys' High School

We are very proud of the following boys –

Alan Ansell: 1st in Latin in NZ Scholarship. Selected in the NZ Informatics Olympiad team to compete in computer programming in Italy in September. Matthew Stephenson: who, after applying for a recount, gained a 2011 Scholarship in Statistics and Modelling.

Julian Weir: selected for NZ swim team to compete in Trans-Tasman tri series, after attending Australian swimming age group nationals and being placed 3rd in his favourite event, the 100m backstroke.

Ajeet Rai: representing New Zealand in under 14 age group Asia Pacific region world tennis championships.

Dylan Taylor: Oceanic junior paper tiger champion.

NZSS Adventure Racing Championships (Go-4-12) – 1st, 2nd and 3rd in teams' event.

The orienteering team - placed 6th in the North Island Secondary Schools championships. Liam Paterson 4th in senior boys, Tom Spencer 4th in intermediate boys, Hamish Sturmer 13th in intermediate boys, Alex Sturmer 18th in junior boys.

Jesse Pemberton: 2nd in NZ BMX age group nationals. Strong showing in NZ Secondary Schools Mountain Biking. Results in a combination of cross country, up hill and down hill events – Steven Mead 23rd, Cory Sutherland 24th, Tyler Baker 27th

School's yachting team came 10th in New Zealand at the Secondary Schools nationals.

Thane Blyde: Oceania champion in his weight class in Kenpo (martial arts).

Rowing - 2012 Aon Maadi Cup Regatta, held in Twizel in late March. NPBHS entered a squad of 11 students in 8 crews across 7 of the 48 events.

CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES STANDING :

Star Trophy (Overall Champion School) – 47th equal of the 116 schools that competed for this trophy. That result placed NPBHS 3rd in the Wanganui/Taranaki region.

President's Scull (Champion Sculling School) – 33rd equal

of the 111 schools that competed for this trophy.

Executive Trophy (Champion Sweep Oar School) – unplaced of the 69 schools that competed for this trophy.

Medals – Bronze medal Boys' Novice Double.

NPBHS 1st V Basketball – winners of the Hamilton BHS Invitational Tournament. This was a pre-season tournament held over one day. The team played four games and won all of them. It was a great opportunity to fit the new players into the group and work on patterns and routines. The coach this year is Brendon Baxter, who was Assistant Coach last year and the Captain is Lachie Fenwick with Derek Albertson as Vice-Captain.

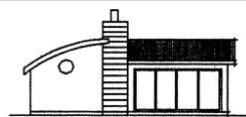
Bruce Bayly, Acting Headmaster



NPBHS 1st V Basketball team.

Top row – Dane Brooks, Scott Hugo, Blair Shorter, Jordan Harries, Lachlan Fenwick, Paul Stephenson.

Bottom Row – Aaron Ransfield, Lewis Win, Derek Albertson, Beauden Giddy.

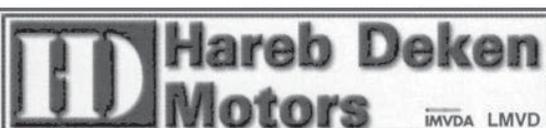


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The Fondue Four Mix It Up

Well, the Fondue Four have made it into the semi-finals of the Maggi Intermediate Schools Cooking Competition. And I'm not surprised! Out of the 40 or so schools in the central region that entered, they've been selected along with 11 other teams to compete on June 1. We're very excited.

As the girls wrote on their entry form: "We wanted to use Maggi products in an unusual way to make us stand out from everyone else. We also wanted to help people with restricted diets like gluten-free and vegetarian. We did lots of taste testing to create our winning recipe and it is a yummy and delicious recipe that uses all the food groups and looks very appealing."

Our dish for a family of four is "Pan-seared Haloumi Cheese on Pumpkin Puree with Parmesan Gnocchi and Green Vegetables" and we're now practising at least twice a week so that on the day everything will go like clockwork.

To overcome that age old problem of "...but I know the recipe off by heart now so I don't have to look at it", we have laminated each girl's individual duties in the meal preparation. From now on, she will cross each ingredient off her sheet with a whiteboard marker to ensure nothing is forgotten or doubled! We have discovered that doubling the salt in the sauce, completely leaving out the brown rice flour in the gnocchi, or cooking the pumpkin without taking out the pips first, does nothing to enhance the dish! We are learning and it's a lot of fun.

Each practice one of the girls takes the finished meal home



Izzy Goodhue, Siani Tran-Lawrence, Nicole Watchorne, Georga Sanders.

for her family so that no one gets sick of eating it, although I don't think anyone will get sick of snacking on the delicious, salty fried haloumi and it's an exercise in self-control ensuring we leave enough on the dish for the family to enjoy.

As the school doesn't quite have the funds spare to pay for all the costs of the trip to the semi-finals in Porirua, the girls are organising a little bake sale to help pay for the accommodation.

We shall find out if we've won our heat by June 2, and if we have, we will then get into the hard process of creating a dessert to showcase along with our meal in the national finals. Something chocolatey is looking like a distinct possibility. So hopefully August 15 will find us heading down to Christchurch. You never know!

We'll keep you informed of our progress.

Barbara Olsen-Henderson (tutor)

Year 5 and 6 Sports Exchange

The mood in the air was very focused as the Year 5 and 6 Oakura students prepared for their first interschool sports exchange. The four games were held in Oakura School with Frankley School as guests.

On the lower field both soccer teams were working hard to score goals. In the first half Frankley was doing well, with the score looking up. During the second half Oakura started to pull through, holding up the defence, but struggled to score goals. The final score was 7-1 to Frankley.

Unfortunately for Oakura, the rugby game on the upper field wasn't going so well. The boys played right to the end, but did miss a few tackles. The score was 53-0 to Frankley School.

On the netball courts there were two teams competing. On court one Frankley School was off to a good start during the first half, though during the second half Oakura's defence picked up somewhat. It was an enjoyable game; Frankley School did a brilliant job scoring a total of 26 goals! The final score was 26-1. Congratulations to Frankley!



Interschool sports day with Frankley School.

On court two it was a hard battle at first but the Oakura Stars started to pick up their game by half time. Frankley was a worthy opponent, making the girls hungry for the ball. The final score was 6-4 to Oakura. It was not an easy game and the teams excelled themselves. We wish them good luck for the Year 5 and 6 interschool competition.

Kima Costelloe (12 yrs) and Danielle Hood (12 yrs)

“Let’s Go” Cycle Programme

At the end of Term 1 and the start of Term 2, Rooms 8, 9, 10 and 11 participated in the Let’s Go Cycle Safety training program run by the District Council. During these sessions classes were taught different skills both on and off their bikes, such as helmet safety, bike safety, road safety, and the different indication skills to turn left or right and stop.



“Let’s Go” cycling action.

Before going out onto the road, they taught us how to ride in a straight line, the indications, and how to react when someone suddenly opens a car door in front of you. To master this skill we played an emergency stop game that developed confidence in having to stop suddenly.

In the next sessions, the students had a chance to use their skills by biking on the road. We were taught a lifesaver look, which is used whenever you are about to pull out onto the road or indicate to turn or stop. The roads that we biked on were Dixon Street, McFarlane Street, Messenger Terrace, Lower Wairau Road, Arden Place and Main South Road.

Every child was given a survey so the principal can look at the way we get to school, footpaths in need of repair, blind spots, etc. We had to complete this in a timeframe. The head pupils discussed with the principal the most dangerous areas in Oakura that need to be restored, and after that put together a submission to be sent to the Council for its 10-year plan. In the submission the head pupils asked for continued support for the Let’s Go programme as it is supporting our school to be road safe and we would like to continue this educational program.

By Isabel Goodhue and Nicole Watchorn

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

Who’ll Get It?

7599119

Omata Movement Madness

Excited Oakura children crammed into the bus to take them to Omata School for an action-packed afternoon. The children from Rooms 5, 6 and 7 (in Years 3 and 4) were going to Omata for a thrilling event called Movement Madness.



Omata and Oakura children enjoy the action of movement madness.

This event took place on Thursday, 3 May and included several activities, such as: croquet, soccer, sprints, javelin, relays, Frisbee and high jump. The children from Omata and Oakura were split into 12 mixed groups. This exchange was designed so that students from different schools could interact and meet new people.

Not all of the groups got to participate in all of the activities, but the groups completed most of them.

“All the activities were fun, I liked them all.” — Francesca Carthew

“My favourite was the high jump.” — Aiden Matchett

After the exciting activities, the children did some fun Jump Jam to finish off the active part of the event. To finish off this fun day, the children were given two biscuits and a drink.

Kima Costelloe (12 yrs) and Danielle Hood (12 yrs)

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COMING EVENTS

May

31 Show: Totally Amazing 1:30pm

June

5 Queen's Birthday Holiday

6 Art Gallery Visit, Room 4

26 Year 6 Gymnastics at Okato 9am-2pm

29 Music Assembly 9am

Term 2 Ends

Term 3 begins Monday, 16 July

Many thanks to all those businesses that kindly donated goods or services to our Pumpkin Festival, your support has enabled us to raise \$10,000 towards a covered walkway for our school.

A huge thankyou to the Pumpkin Festival Committee of Joss Hobson, Glynis Kemp, Bena Denton-Woolley, Hamish and Lil Logan, Helena Williams, Lisa Feaver and Nell Jones. Your many hours of preparation paid off with a wonderful day.



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From the Harvest Committee

There are so many people to thank for enabling this fabulous day to happen — from seed growing, community support, family involvement, children's enthusiasm, staff, business support, judges, growers, bakers, creators, to setting up and cleaning up. Thank you very much! We have such a great community school here and it was fantastic to see everyone enjoying themselves on the day!

JUNIOR AND SENIOR COMPETITION WINNERS

Heaviest Pumpkin: Xavier Johnson

Best Decorated Pumpkin: Claudia Read and Kate. Logan

Jack-o'-Lantern: Shayne Ryan and Fabian Johnson.

Baking: Asher Williams and Macaiah Williams.

Story: Claudia Read and Katie Pullen.

Artwork: Reef Pratt and Miles Wagstaff.

COMMUNITY WINNERS

Pumpkin Weight Guess: Ross Butler 42.5kg.

Jelly Bean Guess: Sam Casey.

Lucky Buckets: M Marshall, Merle, M Standing, Kieren Williams, H Aldridge.

Silent Auctions: 1. P Lewis; 2. T Win; 3. A Perrett; 4. N Butler; 5. P Johnston; 6. C Campbell; 7. P Johnston; 8. A Perrett; 9. F Johnson; 10. T Joyce.

Regards

Karen Brisco





Claudia Read's winning pumpkin in the Decorate a Pumpkin competition.



Fabian Jackson's winning jack-o'-lantern.

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Shave for a Cure

Dawn and Lawrie Maddox have lived in the country for less than a year and only recently moved into their home on Plymouth Road but already Dawn has her mind on wider issues. This month Dawn has had her shoulder length hair shaved for charity.



Dawn before and...after.



Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand's biggest annual fundraising event is Shave 12 — shave for a cure, where willing participants shave their hair short to raise money. Dawn has sadly lost both her parents to cancer and Lawrie, his mother. It is a cause they both strongly support. So, with Lawrie's encouragement, Dawn had her hair shaved to a number 1 in front of the residents at the Marinoto Rest Home in Inglewood where she works! Dawn casually says, "It's only hair at the end of the day!" It took about 20 minutes to transform Dawn and she has no regrets.... it was a bit sensitive to the sun to begin with, Dawn says, and she wore a hat for a few days when the weather was cold. But "It saves time in the morning, it's a very easy care style," Dawn laughs.

Dawn hopes to raise \$1,000 for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand, and she would like to thank Oakura shops and individuals for their support and generosity. And it's not too late, if anyone would like to donate they can go onto the Shave 12 website (www.shaveforacure.co.nz) and under "shave" type in Dawn Maddox' name.

It's such a great cause, almost everyone has been affected in some way by the disease. Let's hope with events like these we can raise awareness and money to fight back. Well done, Dawn, and I hope the winter isn't too cold for you.

By Rosie Moyes

Cute Eyes Aren't All They Offer.

As well as being highly decorative in the home paddock, alpacas produce a unique and exclusive fleece which is used in a wide range of products in New Zealand and overseas. The physical attributes include a hollow cell in the middle of the fibre (similar to possum fibre) which enhances insulation properties; making for a 30% warmer garment compared to one made of sheep's wool: the smooth surface of the fibre, as seen under the microscope, eliminates the 'prickle factor' that many wearers find with sheep's wool against the skin: high end fashion fabric woven from the finest alpaca fibre has a unique sheen and drape that emphasises its luxury qualities.

But this is no new discovery. The Inca civilisation 800 years ago prized the finest fleece alpaca herds from which garments were made fit for royalty. Surprisingly, Incan artefacts analysed with modern equipment, have been shown to be made from fibres measuring 13 or 14 microns. Even today, with knowledge of genetics and science of breed improvement, farmers are struggling to reach this level of fineness.

The best alpaca fleeces measure 15 microns as young cria. Under 20 microns is a very good fleece especially if it is uniform: it will feel soft to the touch. As the animal ages, the fibre diameter will increase year by year. Old alpacas may produce fibre in the 26-36 micron range and even coarser still.

The quality of the fleece shorn from an alpaca (and the colour) will determine the best use for that fleece. White fleece can be dyed any colour and so has higher commercial value. Coloured fleece, natural colours ranging from fawn through browns and greys to black, has great appeal to crafters, who appreciate the earthy tones in their products.

Pooled together fine fleece (under 22 micron) scoured, carded and spun into yarn (and possibly dyed) is used for knitting yarns, hand or machine knitting for sweaters, scarves, singlets etc. Coarser fleeces processed into yarn would be more suitable for hats, gloves, socks and work jerseys.

Even the coarsest fibre has uses: scoured and carded to form insulation batting used in duvets, for instance.

Felting and felted knitted fabric, combined with other fibres such as silk, provide endless possibilities for the resourceful and enterprising craft minded alpaca farmer.

So – Dad- alpacas will be much more useful than just lawnmowers!

By Trish Watson

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Overweight Children

The number of overweight kids has jumped visibly – Why and What are we going to do about it?

Overweight kids are in the high risk categories for diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and stress. These children may have self esteem and self confidence issues. Research has shown that they have more social interaction disorders and more problems concentrating at school. How does this happen? Genetics have been blamed; however, except in a very small number of cases, it's not the genes but the eating habits, exercise habits and lifestyle choices of the parents that have been passed on.

If the parents are inactive, often the children have the same negative attitude towards exercise. If the food we serve at home is high in fat, high in sugar and low in fibre and nutrients – that is what our children will be eating.

Computers, computer games, the internet, TV, email, remote controls, labour saving devices, lifts & escalators, junk food, busy lifestyles, poor food choices and a general lack of movement and regular exercise are the reasons why we are all getting fatter – including our kids!!!!

We really need to make a conscious and consistent effort to move more, eat more real food, eat less junk food, eat more fruit and vegetables, drink more water and exercise regularly – and we need to encourage our kids to do the same.

We can't expect our kids to choose a salad sandwich over a fast food take-away if we don't. We can't talk about the importance of exercise and then find an excuse not to do it ourselves!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Are you setting an example you would be proud or ashamed for your kids to follow? Set a great example, move more and do it with your kids.

By Estelle Williams

Twenties Tempo

The Val Deakin Dance Theatre Trust will be having a 1920's evening at the Dance Centre on Saturday, June 16 from 7pm. The fun evening has several dance items, including a Passing Parade featuring personalities from the 1920's, live musical interludes, Charlie Chaplin films, a glass of bubbly and a light supper. There will be prizes for best dressed person in 20's style.

Tickets are \$25 and can be obtained by phoning 06-752 7743 (after 9.30am).

The fundraiser is in aid of repairs and maintenance at the Dance Theatre's historic premises, the Dance Centre. Built in 1892, the old church was a Methodist Centre for many years, and had additions built in 1926 as well as renovations when the Dance Theatre took over the premises in 1981.

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ENJOY SOME INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION OR JOIN A SMALL GROUP CIRCUIT CLASS WHICH WILL BE LOADS OF FUN.

"Remember, if NOTHING changes, NOTHING changes"



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OAKURA CLUBS & GROUPS

GymSports Oakura

Gymnastics for youngsters from 5 to 9 years old at Oakura Hall every Wednesday afternoon during the school term, 4-5pm. For further information phone NP GymSports on 06-758 8277 or 027-341 4200.

Hurford - Omata - Oakura Rural Women

Meet 2nd Wednesday each month at 1.00pm. New members welcome. Contact Jean Kurth 751 2274.

Indoor Bowls

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

JKA Karate

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

Mini Groovers

Tuesday mornings 10.00am, Oakura Hall.
Gold coin donation.

Oakura Pool Club

Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm @ Butlers Reef over winter. 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

Every 2nd Thursday, 9.00am at the Omata Community Hall. Ring 751 2308 for next session date. All parents and pre-schoolers welcome.

Playcentre

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

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

Saturday morning ballet classes are held at Oakura Hall. Pre-school students from 9-9.30 and a Basic Ballet class for children aged 5, 6 and 7 from 9.30-10.45 am. Contact Val Deakin or Jane Roseman on 06-752 7743.

Volkswagen Club

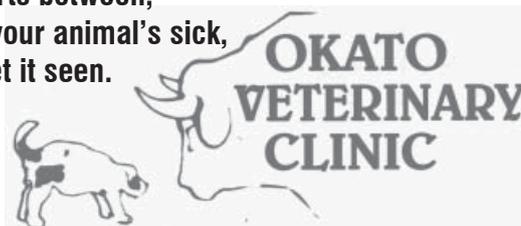
Events range from car rallies, the YMCA climbing wall, camping, BBQ get togethers and sharing good family times and knowledge. Contact President: Huw Griffiths - huw@taranakivw.co.nz or Secretary: Julie Salisbury - julie@taranakivw.co.nz

Yoga

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

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From ears to rears
And parts between,
When your animal's sick,
Best get it seen.



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