

Oakura Gets Its Own Information Centre

By the time you read this **Oakura Info+** will be more than a just an idea for local women Michelle Powell and Tracey Lusk. The continued growth of Oakura in recent years has highlighted the need for our own information centre.

Often people come into the village or go down to the beach and just do not realise the bounty of talent and opportunity that is here. Our leisure activities extend from the beach to the ranges. We are enjoying the talents of local artists, more eating places and retail outlets and the options for accommodation continue to expand. Info+ will promote all of these.

As well as being an information centre promoting business in the area, Info+ will be the place to go for any local news. You can help with this by contacting Info+ with details of all club events and meetings and other relevant information. Other services provided will include an internet facility, a gallery for art exhibitions and a booking office. The Info+ office will be available for meetings and workshops for small groups. One local businessman shared his vision of it being a place where smaller enterprises could be realised. Each month an exhibition of creative work will feature. The official opening will be Monday 14th October in readiness for The Rhododendron Festival and another busy summer in the area. Festival booklets will be available and tickets for Festive Fantasies at Ahu Ahu Villas will be on sale. The centre will be situated on the main road opposite Butlers next to Strategic Farm Consultants.



Tracey Lusk and Michelle Powell

STOP PRESS

We are delighted to announce that McDonald Real Estate has supported this venture by becoming our major sponsor. Their generosity has been overwhelming and we are most grateful for their commitment to the community.

Tracey and Michelle.



OAKURA TENNIS CLUB *OPEN DAY*

Sunday 13 October

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From Mayor Pete

It's great to see the progress that's being made in Oakura.

I see that the road surface of Messenger Tce is being tidied up now, after the stormwater work that's been done to reduce the likelihood of flooding between Dixon St and the Oakura River. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding during this time!

We've just had Clean Up New Zealand week, which the NPDC organised in our part of Taranaki. It's a great time for us to remember how fortunate we all are to live in such a special place! But more particularly the Clean Up New Zealand week is a reminder of how it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to do what we can to protect our environment.

Of course both national and international media attention will be focused on us like never before over the coming months, so let's all make sure the world sees us at our best – pristine and clean.

If you see that piece of paper on the ground, please pick it up. I assure you that I'll be keeping my eyes open and doing what I can – if you see me go past some rubbish, **I suggest you yell at me!** You can be sure, I'll be doing the same in return. You know it really is an easy job if we all do our bit.

As a council we'll also be doing our bit to get rid of graffiti. If you spot some, please ring us on 759 6060 so that we can get it cleaned up.

I really am so very proud of this district – let's let the world see us at our best!

Peter Tennent
Mayor



Omata School's wonderful wearable art

Three rooms at Omata school entered the Wearable Art Show this year. The children had lots of fun making their creations. The end results were fantastic!!!



Bridget Allen models one of Omata School's wonderful wearable art creations.



"The Junior Cadets" as created by the children of Room 4 at Omata School.

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Oakura Dynamite Bay Children's Club

Dynamite Bay has been so much fun over the last five years. I've loved every minute of it. The Club has been adventure-based with a Christian influence and a focus on having heaps of fun while we have learnt about ourselves, our strengths and weaknesses and God's amazing love and acceptance of us.

The Club started five years ago as an initiative by the Oakura Highway 45 Church (based at St James'). It is run mid-week and has catered for primary aged children. The first few years we had five leaders and about forty kids each week. This has dropped off to 22 kids and two leaders. Leaders must be Christians and happy to share their faith through Bible studies and life experiences with the kids. Teaching children spiritual things is challenging as it has to be real and practical as opposed to waffly and superspiritual. It's been wonderful to see children's faith, hope and character develop as they have a personal experience of God.

We have done so many nutty things over the years, especially at the camps we have run. To name just a few: tramping, first aid, four-wheel driving, sports (indoor hockey, flaming football, kayaking and more), arts and crafts, nightlines, mudslides, 40-hour famine, drama and dance, and a lot of other messy stuff as well.

Presently we are involved with the Wearable Art Awards; we have three awesome costumes entered. Thanks to kind donations from *Oakura Medical Centre* and *Oakura Pharmacy*. I'll let you know how we get on. The Club is full and next year there may be changes to the running of it; however, leadership is really what the progression and success of the club hangs on.

Any enquiries call Teena Bennet on 7527271.



Lauren Howe, Sam Everest, Teena Bennet, Duchesne Alder, Catheryn Buttimore, Jessie Muggeridge, Alison Powell, Holly Eaton, Nathan Wood, Simon Bennet, Dylan Hawkins, Cameron Stewart

Festive Fantasies

@ Ahu Ahu Beach Villas



See four stunning villas which overlook Oakura Bay dressed in individual Christmas themes.

Each Villa will be transformed into a Christmas haven with indulgent bed and table settings, gorgeous Christmas cakes and exquisite floral design.



Come and soak up the Christmas mood and magnificent view, while enjoying coffee, wine and sumptuous eats, from the Taranaki Tidings Grotto.

Divine Dining - Be part of a special dining experience in this wonderful environment Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. Bookings essential as numbers extremely limited.

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CONTACT DETAILS

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email. festivefantasies@xtra.co.nz

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Legally Speaking

What does my contract mean ?

In many different ways we all come into contact with contracts. It is interesting to consider the rules that apply when the parties disagree over the meaning of their contracts.

Until recent times, if a contract was written, and its terms were straightforward and not ambiguous, they would be enforced by the Courts on the basis that each of the parties must be taken to have meant what they said in the contract.

There are some exceptions to this – most notably in the field of employment law where the nature and principles governing employment contracts are quite different from those principles relevant to standard commercial contracts.

More recently the Courts in England have begun to look at the circumstances surrounding when the contract was agreed as a guide to interpreting the contract and the parties' meaning. This trend has been adopted by our Court of Appeal and now features in most contract interpretation cases.

The principle in brief is that "the meaning of the document is what the parties using those words against the relevant background would reasonably have been understood to mean".

The principle still means that Courts do not easily accept that the parties have made mistakes with their language particularly in formal documents. However, if it is obvious from the background that something has gone wrong, the Courts do not have to interpret the contract in a way which would give the parties an intention they plainly could not have had.

The extent of this principle is still being tested as cases come before the Courts. The types of background circumstances that will be relevant are still being settled. Evidence of each party's behaviour in performing the contract might be relevant but this is still to be definitively resolved. There are some background circumstances excluded e.g. matters of previous negotiation and evidence of each party's subjective intentions.

As well as these issues of interpretation there can be arguments about the necessity to imply terms into the contract. The legal principles behind implied terms are themselves an entirely separate strand of contract law.

Taken as a whole we suggest that increasing amounts of care need to be taken both in the preparation and interpretation of contracts.

Paul Anderson
18 September 2002

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THE LAWYERS

Oakura Junior Sports Club



Back Row: Sigourney Lovell, Letitia Cook, Michelle Temata, Jendi Coxhead, Paige Hareb. Front Row: Grace Power, Hilary Temata, Anita Crawford

The Oakura Junior Sports Club fielded one Miniball team and two Basketball teams for the 2002 Winter League Season.

The Miniball team (Oakura Miniball Bullets) ranged in age from 5yrs to 7yrs, our youngest player being Joe Hau. The games were played at the Y.M.C.A, on a Monday. This team was coached by Rick Riccitelli. Some boys had played before and others were new to the game. After only a few games this team came together well, ending up with a very successful season with only 1 loss. Young Ricky Riccitelli was a pivotal part of the team with his all round skill, Matt Everest had a great season shooting the hoop and Micky Mugeridge's passing and shooting was awesome.

Our two Basketball teams (Oakura Magic and Oakura Bullets) played at the TSB stadium Monday evenings. Oakura Magic was a mixed yr.5 & yr.6 team; they played in B Grade. These children showed great skills and determination and were rewarded by achieving the semi-finals. They displayed good Sportsmanship throughout the season. They were coached by Chris Davies who managed to loose her voice while offering encouragement and advice from the sideline during the Semi-Final !!

Oakura Bullets, the Senior year 8 girls' team, played against 13 other teams, getting 4th overall and earning themselves a place in the A Grade semi-finals. Their Coach was Helen Crawford. The players improved their individual skills from game to game, showing guts and determination against some very tall players. Grace Power's consistently good versatile play earned her the recognition of the most improved player. Jendi Coxhead and Paige Hareb both made the New Plymouth Basketball U14 Satellite Representative Squad.

New Plymouth Girls High run a Summer Basketball League next term, we have four mixed Yr.5/6 and Yr.7/8 teams entered. We look forward to bringing you favourable results from these teams.

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Greetings from Sentiments

In case you haven't met us we are the florists in the heart of Moturoa. We send flowers nearly everywhere and over the past sixteen years we have made many friends. I've commuted from a farm in Warea to Moturoa for the past 10 years, six days a week so I feel I know State Highway 45 really well. I have to say that living up on Plymouth Road is most enjoyable and that Oakura is now our local shopping area.

We often have a joke at work about being armchair travellers as a great part of our business is in the organising of flowers to be delivered by Interflora to all parts of the world and of course all round NZ. One moment we will be organising a birthday bouquet to go to a daughter in Scotland, the next maybe to Darwin in Australia, then perhaps birthday flowers to a lady in Okato - more flowers to Urenui. It sure keeps us on our toes catching local couriers. It's so easy to send flowers- all we need is the name, address, phone number of the recipient and of course the all important message, a credit card or Farmers card for payment and it's all organised.

As Christmas approaches we get many calls from all parts of the UK, especially London and often from places like Shanghai in China, all wanting flowers for Mum and Dad for Christmas delivery.

Speaking of Christmas we are off to the Christmas gift trade show next to stock up on lots of nice little goodies for gifts- yes Christmas starts early in the retail world.

Finally my compliments to Tracey Lusk and her team, the Messenger is a great publication, it's really interesting to read all the local news.

SENTIMENTS Janice
Thompson
Florist
DIP NZPFA

PH 751 3686
FAX 751 2782

504 St Aubyn St
Moturoa
New Plymouth



Janice Thompson

New Road Markings- Messenger Tce/Dixon St intersection

Since the completion of work to Messenger Tce there are now new road markings for the intersection (as shown). This means that when car A is turning right onto Messenger Tce from Dixon St it must give way to Car B turning right onto Dixon St from Messenger Tce.



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Raffle Results of the OJSC In- door Netball Teams Raffle

1st prize	J Herbert	#463
2nd prize	Coltman	#485
3rd prize	Lyn Naumann	#475

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Rebecca Shannon who sold the most tickets, won a gift voucher from Café Wunerbar - thank you Danger and Vanessa. Well done to Miana Walden, Anne-Marie Dehar and all the girls who worked so hard selling tickets.

Thank you to all our sponsors.

Kaitake Rugby Netball Club

COURT SIDE 2002



WE DID IT!! No, we didn't win 3rd Grade - we came a very close second, but what we DID do, was get the Kaitake Netball Club back on its feet, generate interest in our netball within the village and get a great bunch of girls together - most of whom didn't know each other beforehand but who have now formed a very close bond and at the end of the season took quite some time to stop "practising" on Thursday nights!! So all in all, a very successful season.

As mentioned in the last Court Side, we did suffer from a number of injuries which unfortunately coincided with other commitments, resulting in us having to call on ring-ins for the last 4 games. We sincerely thank Alice Cook, Katie Nelson and Gaylene Askew for filling in for us. Not an easy task and you all did a splendid job which meant that we maintained our competitiveness despite suffering a couple of crucial losses. Hey, that's Netball!!

A huge thank you to our loyal supporters - both down at the courts and within the village. Your interest and support was much appreciated.

Prize Giving : Congratulations to the following Award recipients:

Player of the Year Award	Cath Spindler
Most Improved Player	Karen Lovell
Most Dedicated Player	Bob Fleming
Supporters of the Year	Danger & Vanessa

Summer Netball - If anyone's keen on an informal and fun run-around, come down to the courts on touch night, starting after Daylight Saving on Thursday 10 October.

Masters Netball - Wanganui 6-9 February 2003 - If anyone is interested in entering, please contact (only-just-old-enough) Bob Fleming on 7527-119. All calls will be treated in the strictest of confidence!!

AGM Will be held Jan/Feb 2003 - Notice to follow. All Welcome.

CU Next Year *Kaitake Netball*

Bernadette Holdom, Bob Fleming, Brenda Crummy, Cath Spindler, Catherine Ongley, Helen Tkaczyk, Jody TeMata, Karen Lovell, Tanya Farrant, Vanessa Danger, Vicki Eaton

Local skiers come away with medals at Turoa Races

Saturday 7 September a group of 12 Stratford Mountain Club Junior members competed in Turoa Race # 2.

There were 150 children competing in this event with three locals winning medals:

Paige Hareb 1st J4 Girls.
Thornton Davies 2nd J5 Boys
Monique Forest 2nd J2 Girls
Chris Davies

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GO GIRL FIONA CLARK

**Photographs that shocked the nation go on show at
New Plymouth's Govett-Brewster Art Gallery on 12 October.**

"Mayor shocked by dancing pictures" read 1975 newspaper headlines as a media tempest gathered around young artist Fiona Clark and the exhibition *The Active Eye*. The exhibition, New Zealand's first major photographic survey, was touring the country to escalating moral outrage over the inclusion of two of Clark's images of transvestites dancing. Public outcry was so strong that the exhibition was not allowed to open in Auckland, and these two images were removed from the exhibition at many venues throughout New Zealand. The images eventually went missing from the exhibition. Both an exhibition and a catalogue, *Go Girl* revisits this episode, one of the most controversial in New Zealand's photographic history. It presents for the first time Fiona Clark's complete photographic series *Dance Party*, from which these two images were selected. *Go Girl* traces the controversial history of the works, the refusals to exhibit them, and the prejudices in the media and public imagination against their subject matter. *Go Girl* includes a larger group of images from the early 1970s, which focus on the gay, lesbian and transgender community in New Zealand at the time. The artist has brought the series up to date by re-photographing a number of the surviving subjects in a warm and engaging manner. Comparing and contrasting New Zealand of the 1970s with the New Zealand of today, the exhibition tells a story of gender and identity over a 30-year period. The story also provides rare insights into the birth of performance art in New Zealand, and the emergence of photography as a serious art form in New Zealand. *Go Girl* is a major project for Taranaki based artist Fiona Clark, one of New Zealand's most accomplished photographic artists. The images make up one of the most significant bodies of photographic artwork ever produced in this country. The substantial catalogue will feature all of the images exhibited. **Go Girl runs at New Plymouth's Govett-Brewster Art Gallery from 12 October to 1 December 2002.**

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www.likemindstaranaki.org.nz Email: mental.health@clear.net.nz
All enquiries to Selina Robinson, Executive Officer

'The Decorating Guru' Tip of the month

Damp wet winter months feed moss and mould, particularly on paths and steps. This growth is dangerous and should be sprayed or brushed over with a Moss and Mould killer, with a good hosing or soft water blast after a few days.
Maintain your investment.

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Kaitake

Kindergarten

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Robyn Lander (head teacher) with children and pets at Kaitake Kindergarten

The Kaitake Kindergarten Pet Day was fun for everyone with a menagerie of surprisingly well-behaved animals visiting us. The children spent two wonderful sessions outside in the garden parading their cats, dogs, chooks, sheep, goats and cuddly toys. Thank goodness it was sunny. This day was organized to teach the children about caring for animals and to provide a link between the family and kindergarten.

Construction of the "sensory" garden is well under way. The children will be delighted to find it ready for planting at the start of the new term. We need a small donation of manuka to create a picket-type fence around the garden. If you can help with this please call Jeremy Pritt on 752 7142.

Preparation for the craft fair is continuing. Last year pre-loved books and magazines were very popular and an excellent fundraiser. If you would like to contribute to this year's stall or have any other ideas or questions about the craft fair please call Janis Neeson 752 7 149 or Michelle Powell 752 7236.

Councillor's comments

Congratulations to Tracey and her team on the Messenger. What a neat way to share information and keep the community in the loop.

At last the Pitcairn Street walkway is complete and the footpaths are well on the way to being finished. I had a phone call from Mrs Mocky Ryan who tells me they have lived in Pitcairn Street for 54 years. She has used the new walkway and thinks it is great. Even though things went a little slow on this project the end result is fabulous.

This month I have been attending Te Reo Maori classes offered to us by the council. I have enjoyed these classes. Whero Bailey has been our tutor. I have heard some interesting stories and learnt more about the history of Taranaki.

Sir Tipene O Reagan was a guest speaker at the council recently. His talk was interesting, but I must admit it leaves you wondering.

I attended the Community Sports fund meeting in New Plymouth last week. It is disappointing to see the Hillary Commission Funding taken away. It means many youngsters will miss out. However a very strong message was sent from New Plymouth that we are not happy, and one can only wonder at the outcome. Once again the month has been busy and varied. I was somewhere the other day and heard Christmas Carols playing. A sure reminder the year is moving on.

Tu Tahitanga (Standing Tall together).

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Studio jeweller and enameller new to Oakura

I am a studio jeweller and enameller which means that I design and create jewellery as an artist may paint pictures. My work is labour intensive and involves many different techniques working in tandem with each other, creating pieces that are usually "one off". I usually work around a theme so that a body of work will hang together, exploring different aspects of an idea. I enjoy brooches for their ability to be like a small painting attached to the body and the challenges of creating a wearable object that is interesting when seen both from near and afar. My work often reveals very fine detail on close inspection, but hopefully also "works" at a different level from a distance – then draws a viewer in for a closer look. Necklaces and earrings are also made, as are rings and other objects that require different design solutions. Enamel plays a less major role in these pieces, though is still present.

Enamel is a vitreous material fused by heat to metal. I use high quality transparent enamels on pure silver and often incorporate pure gold foils and high carat gold and silver wires into pieces. Very thin layers of enamel are built up, each being fired before the next is applied. The enamelled piece then has to be set, as if it were a stone, into a piece of jewellery, which is made separately so each piece is in fact two, which makes such work very labour intensive. There are many different techniques in the art of enamelling and it is the interpretation of such to create the desired piece, which is unique.

I have recently returned, from attending the 3rd Australian Enamel Conference, to my newly acquired home in Oakura refreshed and buzzing with ideas for my work and aspirations for its development both creatively and economically. For several years Oakura has inspired my work which is a response to the natural world around me. My current series called "Tidelines" is inspired by the transition between bush and sea, providing ideas for form, colour and pattern. Technical exploration of specific jewellery and enamelling techniques results in work that is very "Taranaki". So while someone here in Taranaki may appreciate the colour and form of a brooch as being reminiscent of our beach finds, so an outsider can appreciate it for its colour, shape, form, feel, composition and technical qualities.

I intend to develop my workshop to be able to run short courses in enamelling and jewellery making techniques when I have properly "moved in" to my new house. If you are interested, please write to: Sally Laing, P O Box 5080, Westown, New Plymouth or email sally.laing@xtra.co.nz. My work is sold through Kina and applied Art Galleries in the main centre. I am also available to make work for private commission. Some examples of my work will be on display at Oakura Info+ until the end of November.

Sally Laing



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Local gardens in the Taranaki Rhododendron Festival

25 October - 3 November 2002

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• Ti Tiro Gardens, 469 Plymouth Rd, R D 4, New Plymouth

In their young garden, Dianne and Brian Payne are using the peaceful setting with mountain and sea views and natural contours, leading to a stream and waterfall. Natives, bog, rhododendrons plus much more.

Open 9.00am-6.00pm

Admission gold coin donation.

• Sydmar, 31 Carthew St, Okato

Syd and Marge Sharpe. This garden is 6 years old, with roses and perennials. Our hope is to have an all year round garden with lots of colour, but low maintenance. Part formal, part cottage, with fish pond and a rural outlook. Plants and watercolour paintings for sale.

Open 9.00am-6.00pm

Admission free.

• Munro, 7 Cumming St, Okato

Elly and Steve Munro. Amble your way through a two way garden of shrubs and ground covers, over a pathway of thyme to a young native bush, then follow a stone walled creek.

Open 9.00am-5.00pm

Admission free.

• Haylock, 68 McFarlane St, Oakura

Peg and Howard Haylock. 1/4 acre mixed garden with shrubs, perennials and annuals, a raised garden walk through to see containers and water features.

Open: 9.00am -5.30pm

Admission free

• The Garden Shed Studio, 136 Wairau Rd, RD4, Oakura

Artist potter, Joyce Young, specialises in garden sculptures of native birds, birdbaths, stone ware pottery and decorative wall panels. All set in 3/4 acre country style garden. Watercolours of Taranaki landscapes.

Open 9.00am-6.00pm

Admission free

• Clark, 3 Russell Drive, Oakura

Judy and Nita Clark. Full of colour and strong on roses and annuals, this garden is very well presented, flat and easily accessible. Over 100 roses, stocks, pansies etc

Open: 9.00am-5.30pm

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● **Ngamamaku, 1521 Main South Road, Oakura**

Nestled at the foot of the Kaitake Ranges, Tony and John's 3 acre garden is a wonderful mixture of enclosed, strongly defined small spaces, with pleasing prospects at every turn and an immense range of interesting plants. Relax on a secluded seat beside the natural mountain stream that rushes down through native bush, and soak up the tranquil sound of running water mingled with bird song. A unique arched summerhouse opens on to a formal lawn surrounded by roses and hedges, and the large pergola leads to a nikau bush walk. The natural bush has been enhanced with plantings of bromeliads and stunning clivias. The contrast between strictly formal and totally natural is deliberate, yet the change appears subtle, the result of careful planning. This same care is evident throughout the garden, and contributes much to its success and intimate charm.

Open daily 9.00am-6.00pm

Admission \$4

● **Pukeiti, 2290 Carrington Rd, New Plymouth**

View more than 10,000 rhododendrons and azaleas in a unique setting of lush native bush full of ferns, water features and alive with birds. Drifts of primulas, hostas, bluebells and the world renowned vireya collection are just part of the scene which provides all year interest. At Pukeiti, you will find a special flower display in the display room, during the Festival, with over 100 different blooms that are labelled and freshened each day.

Open: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Admission: \$8, Seniors \$7, Children free

Plant Sale

Over 2,000 potted perennials, shrubs and grasses for sale at Omata School, Holloway Rd, Omata.



From 9.00am Saturday November 2.

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November 2 & 3

Hon. Harry Duynhoven MP for New Plymouth

Greetings to all households in the Oakura area. I am impressed with the Oakura Messenger, as I am sure you will be. Community newspapers are a great way to bring a community together and I congratulate Tracey and Catherine on their initiative.

One of my first tasks as Associate Minister of Energy was to make a very positive announcement for Taranaki. Oil exploration permits for the first deepwater petroleum bidding round have been tendered.

The Deepwater Taranaki basin was recently surveyed and has revealed potentially valuable geological strata off the West Coast of the North Island covering a total of 42,000 sq. km. This is adjacent to the highly productive Taranaki basin and extends down the continental shelf from about 200 metres of water depth into the head of the New Caledonia basin, in about 1800 metres of water depth.

Large potential oil bearing traps up to at least 150 sq.km in size have been identified within the deepwater basin.

This is the first ever deep water exploration bidding round ever announced in New Zealand. It will provide a very positive outcome for Taranaki and it will see the long-term development of the oil and gas industry in our area.

Oil exploration efforts are continuing on land and we are already seeing substantial benefit from that locally. I am looking forward to being able to positively contribute to the Taranaki economy in my new role, and I am pleased to have been able to sign off this new initiative.

Best wishes

Hon. Harry Duynhoven
MP for NEW PLYMOUTH




Hon. Harry Duynhoven
MP for NEW PLYMOUTH

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From a visitor's diary

When I arrived in New Zealand I was lightly disorientated after having spent 24 hours flying and 9 hours waiting in L.A. Airport. However, I found the scenery stunning on my coach trip from Auckland to New Plymouth and the film "The Lord of the Rings" instantly sprung to mind.

I was welcomed by the Logan family and instantly felt at ease. They also assured me that I would not have to get up every morning at five to milk - phew !! I have so far had a brilliant experience living on this New Zealand dairy farm. I have learnt all sorts from how to feed calves to how to change a nappy properly ! I've even surprised myself by getting into the rugby over here (my Dad will be proud !).

One thing which has particularly stood out to me about NZ is the hospitality of Kiwis. I recently went shopping in New Plymouth and as soon as anybody heard my accent they instantly asked how long I was here for and what I was up to.

In a few months I am going on a bus tour around the South Island to see more of the country. Planning to be back in England for Christmas, but you never know, I may fall in love with a Kiwi and never return !!

Lucy Edwards
England

Oakura Bowling Club

Where is the Oakura Bowling Club? We are just off the main road, tucked in behind the Oakura Hall.

We are a friendly little club with excellent amenities, a very good green, and sea views. What more could you want?

We are a combined club with a total membership of about 40. People come from New Plymouth and Omata to play at our club but largely the membership is made up of locals. Our member's ages range from early 40s to late 80s but we can cater for everyone.

Our club days are Saturdays and Sundays for the men, and Tuesdays and Thursdays for the women. We also have a number of combined days so couples can play together. Every Wednesday we have a social roll up at 1.00pm and we would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who wants to see what the game of bowls is all about. 'All you need are flat soled shoes - we'll supply the bowls.

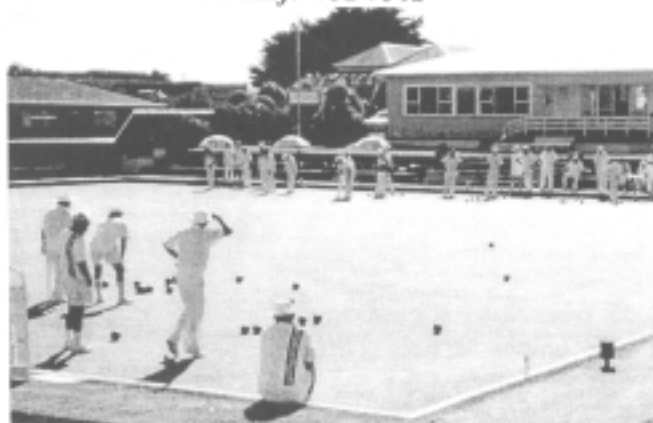
We are keen to gain new members and can cater for people wanting to play socially, through to the competitive player wanting to test their ability against top bowlers throughout the province. Everyone is welcome.

We are also very interested in encouraging the younger generation to try their hand at another sport. They could perhaps form a group or team and compete against teams from other schools and colleges.

Our members would be only too happy to help with the coaching or any other assistance you may need and we can guarantee you a warm and friendly welcome.

For further queries contact :

President: Fred Umlauf 752 7542



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Readers' remarks

Too much talk and not enough action. Oakura seems to have been caught up in a sort of time warp in recent years: Boom Boom multimillion dollar homes, flash cars and 4 wheel drives, lifestyle blocks, and a great beach, lots of horses, and just a great place to live. Well isn't it about time to tidy up the streets a bit more, better footpaths, trees and better road maintenance, and a main street with some style that reflects the people that live out here? We need someone who can design and beautify both entrance ways to Oakura, someone who can design and make the Oakura beach a nice and approachable beach frontage with some style to match everything else.

I suppose we are getting there slowly though, its only taken the last 30-40 years for some of the footpaths to be started and finished. Come on Oakura let's give our council a bit of a nudge and get some more action out here. I sometimes feel a bit embarrassed driving around Oakura looking at some of the patch ups and lack of imagination; perhaps we should wait until Tom Cruise has been and gone, and get ready for the next wave of celebrities - she'll be right won't it?

Bruce Madgwick

In response to Mayor Pete's article in the last issue of the Oakura Messenger, the idea to hold a dance and lighting show at Shearer Reserve for local teenagers is not a new concept; it has been held for many years by Silas Searle, a local resident who took it upon himself to organise a sound system and tent sometimes with fireworks at midnight. The Oakura Boardriders Club helped by paying for a hired sound system. The last one was held approximately two years ago and was well received; unfortunately, the planting sustained some damage. I wish the organisers well in their endeavours and thank Silas for his past efforts.

Mike Christiansen.

A Bite of History...

Cyclone Bola

7 March 1988. NONE of the current students at Oakura School was alive when Cyclone Bola hit Oakura. That event didn't exist for them. Do you remember? When Bola hit Taranaki, I was working at the City Library in New Plymouth. The boss couldn't see what all the fuss was about. She insisted on sending the Mobile Library out into the wind with a different driver, one who drove ten-tonners for the army. The staff watched other workers locking up and leaving the central city, and sheets of roofing iron whipping through the sky near our windows. It wasn't long before the driver brought the book bus back, white-faced and told off by Civil Defence for luring people outside. Nationally, the cyclone caused damage of around \$200million and three deaths. The New Plymouth Fire Brigade responded to 1401 calls over the three days of wind and torrential rain. The yearly average was 800. Volunteer brigades like that of Oakura were kept frantically busy responding to lifting roofs, tying tarpaulins over gaping holes in people's homes. The East Coast, around Gisborne, got most of the rain. Three days non-stop. Taranaki got most of the wind - up to 100 kph, and Oakura bore the brunt of the wind damage. Power was off for up to 4 days in some places. Crops, orchards, tunnel houses and hay waiting to be baled were all lost in the wind. Many herds couldn't be milked without power. Roofs were lost, including the town hall's. Trees were fallen like pick-up sticks all around the region. Pukeiti and Ngamamaku gardens were hit hard. Roads were blocked. Debris washed up on the beach for weeks afterwards. I've read two eye-witness accounts from Oakura. They both mention the edgy feeling that persisted for years afterwards, whenever the wind got up a bit. More importantly, they also talked about the way that community spirit gathers when something like this happens. Neighbours checking on each other, sharing meals, mucking in with the clean-up. Don't let it take another Bola for our kids to see that kind of spirit!

Min Grey

I found while researching Bola that there aren't really any photos of the local damage held in places like the Puke Ariki photo collection. If any readers have photos, please call me, 752 7787, and I can arrange to have them digitally scanned by Puke Ariki for posterity, and returned to you.

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Essenia Foetida

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Originally, a Taranaki family from Alton, Maureen and Peter Rabbidge moved to Oakura two years ago with their three children, Bridgette, Judd and Liam. They have spent the last six years developing their business, Revital Fertilisers. With an estimated 300 tonnes of *Essenia Foetida*, that's worms, they are able to meet the growing demands of a market looking away from chemicals to replenish the land.

Worms convert organic matter into vermicast, a biologically active fertilizer containing essential nutrients and trace elements, as well as millions of bacteria, enzymes and remnants of plant materials and animal manures. This is harvested twice each year, then screened and mixed and blended with other components to meet the needs of the customer. Interestingly, although Revital Fertilizer is BioGro Certified, 85% of their production is supplied to non-organic farmers.

Because it is plant food in its simplest form, it is readily absorbed. "Tomatoes, carrots, broccoli and pumpkin do fabulously" says Maureen "Roses do really well and bloom for an awfully long time".

Revital Fertiliser is sold in quantities from 10 litres to truck loads. It is available from The Warehouse or call Revital Fertilisers for bulk orders on 0800 367 967.



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Maureen Rabbidge
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Gardening with Rosemary Herb

October Checklist:

Vegetables:

- * Plant tomatoes - look for "Hearty Red" - disease resistant with good flavour.
- * Continue plantings of cabbage, broccoli, lettuce and parsley.
- * Dust cabbage and cauliflower with Derris Dust to control caterpillars.
- * As weather warms, begin sowing beans, cucumber, squash, pumpkins, peppers, eggplant & courgettes.
- * Plant main crop potatoes and kumara.

Fruit Trees:

- * Spray with Mavrik for leaf roller and other caterpillars.

Flowers:

- * Sow seed or plant out summer flowering annuals like petunia, phlox, alyssum, aster, marigold, calendula, lobelia, impatiens.
- * Spray roses and ornamentals with Super Shield to control insect pests and diseases.
- * Mulch with compost or straw to suppress weeds and conserve soil moisture.

Lawns:

- * Sow new lawns. Uncoated seed is best - it has double the quality of seed per kilo.
- * Re-sow thin or bare areas using Easy Grass, a grass seed, mulch and fertiliser all in one.

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What's new at the library ?

The library has some exciting new hours for you. The library will still open every week day, but from now on will close daily from 12:30 to 1:00pm. Even librarians need lunch, so we can be fresh and alert in the afternoon to help find your books and information.

The late night, Wednesday, now has hours 6:00pm to 8:00pm, so closing no longer coincides with the fire station alarm test. When you hear that siren on a Wednesday at seven, you still have time to go to the library.

The library collection continues to grow and change. The video lending collection that used to seem old and tired is now refreshed every two months. Most popular video last month was 'The Wiggles', but we have others that older children will enjoy.

We can help with homework too: don't forget that if our collection doesn't have a book with the information you want, we can courier one in, or run an Internet search for you.

Friday morning at nine the Plunket group meets for coffee and a chat. You're welcome. It's a great way to meet new people, and sometimes we even have a storytime.

Bill

Local garden trail coming up

On the weekend of 16 and 17 November the Oakura School is staging a 'Garden Trail' of local gardens, some not seen before including a variety from small to large, native to tropical, something for everyone.

Gardens include: Ngamamaku, Joyce Young's and Susie Anderson's

Refreshments will be available. Tickets on sale from Labour weekend at The Crafty Fox, Peak Plants, Oakura School, Oakura Info+.

See next months issue for further details.

Situation Vacant / Persons Wanted

Wanted: Security persons for New Years Eve Dance, Shearer Reserve, Oakura Beach. You must be honest, mature and reliable, over the age of eighteen, and ideally you will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively with teenagers and young adults. You will be expected to work as part of a team for six hours on New Years Eve. This non-profit community initiative will focus on providing safe entertainment for the young adults of Taranaki in an alcohol-free zone. Further information regarding job description, remuneration, and responsibilities on the night can be obtained by phoning The Event Organiser, Oakura 75-27529.

Please express your interest, in writing, by 31st October 2002, to : The Event Organiser, "Soundz-Like It", 21 Donnelly Street, Oakura.