

SEPTEMBER 2007

akura's World Champior

It came as no surprise to me to get an email from Jon Sarten in Canada informing me that his daughter Hannah had won the world championships in BMX racing in her age group.

Hannah competed in the 11 year old girls section of the UCI BMX 2007 World Championships in Victoria, Canada and knocked out three times winner Domemica Azuero from Ecuador to take the title.

Early in the final Hannah was just about squeezed out of the race and was back in 6th place, but on the 3rd straight she pulled out and blitzed the competition to take the lead and win by six bike lengths. Poor mum Marie screamed herself hoarse and dad Jon has had a pacemaker fitted! The family were not expecting a win but had thought a realistic goal would be to

achieve an entry into the finals. The win is a tremendous achievement for an 11 year old from Oakura.

The family spent a month away in the States and Canada, first competing for three days in Las Vegas at the ABA Las Vegas Nationals held underground in the air conditioned arena of South Point Casino. Hannah finished with a trophy for 7th place in the 11 to 12 year old mixed class.

The ABA Nationals were quite an experience for the Sarten family. Each round had about 375 motos (heats) and it was a much bigger event than they had previously experienced in either New



Hannah proudly displays her World No.1 plate and trophy.

Zealand or Australia. The rules, gates and race track were all different so it took Hannah a few races to get the hang of it. She says it was like BMX on steroids! After Las Vegas Hannah attended a fourday training camp at Naniamo, Vancouver Island with Baba Harris, a well-known professional BMX World Champion. Then it was off down to Victoria to race in the World Championships.

Hannah raced in three motos and qualified in 1st place. Jon said Hannah was very relaxed about her finals race and was waving happily from the start gate. He puts her success down to skill and

power. It also helps having the bike set up correctly, which Jon is now an expert at.

Over 55 other Kiwis competed in the World Championships with Sarah Walker from Kawerau coming second in the Elite Women's 20" race and 1st on her cruiser. All the Kiwi supporters screamed encouragement Hannah in her final. Dad Jon said it was an awesome feeling to be part of it all.

Hannah now proudly displays "World No 1" on her bike.

Of course Hannah has other achievements of note, and if her year goes to plan she could be the holder of World No 1, National No 1 (she holds both now), and member

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FROM THE TOM ZONE

I promised myself I wouldn't mention the word 'tornado' but I would like to thank everyone who expressed their appreciation of last month's 'Tornado *TOM*' issue. Of course a big thanks also to the people who shared their shattering experiences and photos with us. So back to the ordinary or should I say everyday doings of extraordinary people in our community. Like the Volunteer Fire Brigade who recently received a bequest from local benefactor WF Gordon. And our cover girl Hannah who has stood proudly on the world stage and represented Oakura in the best possible way.

I think it is extraordinary that Fay Looney is now standing for Council. What an extraordinarily generous gesture to make. Fay has devoted hours and hours of time to our community through the Kaitake Community Board and she still has the capacity to keep on giving. I would imagine the job of councillor would most often be a thankless one and one you would cop a lot of flak for. I implore everyone who can vote to vote for Fay. It is the best representation our community could possibly get. So get busy ticking!

The other huge issue in the forefront at the moment is the Oakura Sewerage Scheme and I urge everyone to read the following article on the issue. Keep informed.

Kim

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

Prudent Trust Administration 7599119



TOM is a free, monthly publication, delivered on the second Wednesday of the month to all homes and post-boxes from the city limits to Dover Road.

THE TEAM

Tracey Lusk,	Co-ordinator	06	752	7875
Kim Ferens,	Co-ordinator/Features	06	751	1519
Advertising:	Melissa Newton	06	752	1056
Music Reviews:	Graham Donlon			
Proof reading:	Louise Norton			
Graphics:	Ron Stratford			

The Oakura Messenger Ltd, 25 Jans Terrace, Oakura.

email kim@thetom.co.nz Phone 0800 THE TOM www.thetom.co.nz

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

Letters to the Editor

O-or-wa-kra

Dear TOM

I feel compelled to write regarding the pronunciation of "Oakura".

My parents moved to Oakura in 1952. I have lived here on and off for many years since then, along with other members of my family, and consider myself to be "an old local". In fact, for a time, a local was not a local unless they had lived here for at least 20 years! We were always very protective of our patch!

For many years, Oakura was pronounced *O-or-kra*. We were all aware of the Northland Oakura but that was pronounced (and still is) *O-ar-kra*. Some people pronounced our village in the same way but not the locals.

With due respect to Ron (your "illustrious graphics nerd" and one who we all love dearly) over the years, due to awareness of correct Maori pronunciation of a Maori name, we have come to correctly pronounce our town *O-a-kura*.

So please, not Wa-kra – not sure where that one came from-Regards

Helen Ivess

How dare anybody disagree with me!. What do you think about "kura" - leave out the difficult bits? Ron.

Tornados or Tornadoes

I challenge everyone to come up with the correct spelling of the above word. I favour tornados but the TOM has tornadoes, which is correct?

Regards

Al Rawlinson

Look, when it comes to Maori pronounciation lessons and English spellings, we are a law unto ourselves - don't mess with us. (Actually, Al, I prefer it without too - looks too much like tomatoes, but it is a valid alternative to use with an 'e'. Ron.









Hi folks!

Well, the nominations have closed for this year's local body elections and the voting papers will soon be delivered to every voter on the electoral roll.

Now all you have to do is vote for your preferred members of New Plymouth District Council, Taranaki Regional Council and Taranaki District Health Board!

It's important to get your votes in because the people elected to these bodies will be representing your interests for the next three

So keep an eye out for the voting papers in your letterbox. They will be mailed to registered voters between 21 and 26 September, and voting will close at noon on 13 October. The election results will be announced that afternoon.

Meanwhile, we have a huge summer of events coming up for the district. The season kicks off with Motorhead playing on 19 October in TSB Stadium, followed by the Taranaki Rhododendron and Garden Festival (26 October to 4 November), concerts by The Beach Boys and Elton John, then the start of the TSB Festival of Lights.

The concerts are fantastic news for the district – especially as Elton and Motorhead will be playing only in New Plymouth during the New Zealand leg of their world tours – and I hope to see many of you there!

But I'm particularly looking forward to the Rhododendron Festival, and seeing visitors flock here from around the country to witness the magic that Taranaki residents can conjure with their green fingers.

Personally I wouldn't know Hebe from herb (thank goodness my wife Rosemary looks after the garden at home or we'd have an unplanned 'nature gone wild' theme!), but I appreciate the effort that goes into good gardening – especially when the gardens are going on show. So I have a big thank you for everyone who is involved in the Taranaki Rhododendron and Garden Festival. Whether you are opening your own garden as part of the Festival, are helping a friend or relative with their entry, or are involved in the behind-the-scenes work, thanks for helping to make sure that Taranaki sparkles for the benefit of so many visitors.

It's that kind of passion and dedication that strengthens our community and makes this such a great place to live!

And remember, if you have a great idea for a development or you have a project that you think the Council can help you with, give me a call on 759 6060 and I'll see what we can do to help. I'd love to hear from you!

Peter Tennent, Mayor



I've Finally Finished!!

A BIG "THANKYOU" to you all

To all my family, friends and clients for the support and understanding over the past 2 years as I have studied for, and passed, my Real Estate National Certificate. And now at last, after 23 papers and 2 exams, I now have my Real Estate Diploma, which also gives me my Licensee Status.

You were all so understanding as this older student got to the stage where she nearly gave up. Working to sell properties while studying was a great challenge, but now I only have to list and sell!!!!

It's great to have the dining room clear of books and papers, and the office all clear of Open Polytechnic books, but one thing I did learn was how to search and research on GOOGLE. I can even show the kids and grandkids a few

However, there is proof that we grandmas can do anything we want to do, if we put our minds to it. It may take longer to do those assessment papers and it may take longer to type on the computer, but when you've finished . . . the excitement is still there. Just like it was before, many years ago when I was a young nurse waiting for the postman to come with the Final Results -"PASSED" and the jump for joy is still the

Max, Cullen and Keeley would all say "Nana are you still doing your homework???" And out would come their papers and pencils, but I did have to do some explaining after one of them helped me and drew beautiful circles all over my very important assessment. Fortunately, the Assessor was very understanding!!!!

What does this mean for me now???

It means I have reached the highest level of Real Estate Qualifications and can give you the ultimate in service and qualified advice on all Real Estate issues.

To give the best, you have to do the best you can do.

To me, it is not the Commission that is important, but the service I can give.



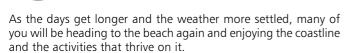
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HON. HARRY DUYNHOVEN

MP for New Plymouth



As one of my brood has been bitten by the surfing bug, I am now broadening my horizons and gaining a new appreciation of the passion that the growing sport of surfing invokes in many. An issue that many surfers feel strongly (and are often misinformed about) is Iron Sand Mining. I was recently invited to speak about it on the 'Surf Show' with Arch at the MOST FM. Some of you may have heard the interview.

I have put together some common questions and the answers to the subject, and trust that these will be helpful in filling in any gaps you may have regarding this issue.

What is iron sand and what is it used for?

Iron sands are coastal sand deposits in which heavy iron-bearing minerals are concentrated.

Iron sand is used in the production of iron and steel.

Where are New Zealand's iron sand deposits located?

North Island iron sand deposits are located onshore over a stretch extending 480km along the West Coast from Auckland to Wanganui, and in places can occur up to 4km inland. Potential exists for offshore occurrences of iron sand along that coastline. South Island iron sand deposits are located in the area surrounding Barrytown and Westport.

Are there any applications currently before the Government to mine iron sand from the seabed?

There are no applications currently before the Crown to mine offshore iron sand or other mineral sands.

Who assesses applications for mineral permits?

The Crown Minerals Group in the Ministry of Economic Development is the Government's agent for assessing applications for mineral permits.

How are permit applications for iron sand assessed and processed?

The Crown Minerals Act 1991 ('the Act') sets the legislative framework for prospecting, exploration and mining of Crown owned minerals, including iron sand, in New Zealand.

The Act requires the preparation of minerals programmes. The Minerals Programme for Minerals sets out the policy framework that the Minister of Energy considers in granting a permit in respect of minerals.

What types of permits are granted by the Crown?

There are three types of permits that may be granted under the Act:

- 1 prospecting
- 2 exploration
- 3 mining.

A permit issued under the Act is simply the allocation of a right to Crown owned minerals. It does not necessarily provide the permit holder with the right to commence actual prospecting, exploration or mining in the permit area.

What is a prospecting permit and what activities are likely to be undertaken?

Prospecting permits are granted to enable preliminary or reconnaissance exploration investigations or studies.

No mining is permitted under a prospecting permit.

Prospecting activities may include geological, geochemical and

geophysical surveys; the taking of samples by hand or by hand held methods; and aerial surveys.

Prospecting activities generally have minimal environment effects.

The nature of a prospecting permit is such that any comment regarding the likelihood or scale of mining in the future is, at best, highly speculative and premature.

What is an exploration permit and what activities are likely to be undertaken?

Exploration permits are granted to locate mineral deposits and determine the feasibility of mining them.

Mining is not permitted under an exploration permit.

Work which may be undertaken over an exploration permit area ranges from minimum impact activities such as mapping projects and taking samples by hand; to bulk sampling, drilling, and other studies that are reasonably necessary to determine the nature and size of a mineral deposit or occurrence.

Exploration activities that disturb land generally have minor environmental effects. However, if earthworks or drilling are required to evaluate mineral deposits then resource consent may be required from the local authority to ensure any adverse environment effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

What is a mining permit and what activities are likely to be undertaken?

Mining permits are granted to allow the extraction and sale of Crown owned minerals, industrial rocks and building stones.

Mining permits are granted over land where it is established that there is a deposit or measured resource capable of being mined.

The scale of mining ventures ranges from large-scale commercial operations to small and recreational operations using suction-dredges or hand held methods.

What role does the Resource Management Act 1991 have in regards to mineral permit activities?

The Crown Minerals Group does not process or administer resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991.

A permit is simply an authorisation to prospect, explore or mine Crown owned minerals and does not regulate environmental, social or cultural effects. The environmental, social and cultural effects of any application are properly managed through the resource consent process under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Management of the seabed is devolved to regional councils in association with the Minister of Conservation, whereas district councils regulate the onshore area of the coastal environment.

Is the Crown required to consult with iwi and hapu when assessing a permit application?

Yes. Section 4 of the Act states that the Crown must have regard to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. Consultation procedures regarding iwi and hapu are set out in the Minerals Programme for Minerals, and the form of the consultation process is flexible.

When a permit application is made, the Crown Minerals Group will notify and consult with the appropriate iwi and hapu of the application area.

In all cases, iwi and hapu must be consulted about the details of the application, including the application area and an outline of the proposed work programme. If appropriate, there is opportunity for face-to-face consultation, while iwi and hapu can have up to 40 working days for making comments on an application. Iwi and hapu may also request that defined land of particular importance to its mana be excluded from a permit.

At what stage is the public notified?

Resource consent applications for mining on and offshore would proceed on a publicly notified basis with all aspects of the proposal and its environmental effects thoroughly identified and examined, with independent environmental assessments commissioned as warranted. Resource consents that allow

mining would only be granted with substantial conditions that avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on natural and physical resources.

It is therefore the outcome of local decision-making through the resource consent process and its public participation that actually determines whether any future proposal is allowed.

Where can I find more information?

Further information on the permitting process and current permit applications being processed is available on the Crown Minerals website: www.crownminerals.govt.nz.

Information on the resource consent process can be obtained from local and regional authorities.

I trust this information will be useful for those of you who have an interest in this issue.

Thank you for reading my column. Best wishes.

Harry Duynhoven





Hon. Harry Duynhoven MP for NEW PLYMOUTH

"The Working MP"

158 Tukapa St., New Plymouth. Ph. 753 3211. Fax 753 2711



KAITAKE COMMUNITY BOARD

This will be my last Kaitake Community Board report as elections are looming.

TOM has provided our community with a great avenue for communication — I hope whoever has this role next will continue to keep you informed. Feedback has been minimal, but I take that as a positive sign and choose to believe most are happy.

We leave you now with the sewerage scheme underway. It would be naive to think there are not going to be some problems along the way, but provided that problems go through the right channels, it's been my experience that genuine attempts are made to solve them. The first step is to call 759 6060 to log your complaint (that's what I do when I receive them).

Council meetings receive deputations from the public as does the Community Boards. This is an excellent forum to gain attention for issues. Sadly under-utilised, our last Board meeting took about 10 minutes – virtually tick and flick. The bulk of the work is done around the Council table. Paula Marshall from DoC spoke to the meeting about the Department's plans for replanting on the Kaitakes and future plans for Lucy's Gully. Paula is very approachable and invites local involvement in this project.

The sweet treats from the Waitotara and South Taranaki Country Womens Institute for the tornado victims came as a wonderful

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surprise. Many have asked me to pass on their thanks to the ladies who delivered the treats to the meeting and in addition to this column, I wrote a thank you note and sent it the editor of our Taranaki Daily News, anticipating it would be published – however, it seems good news is not acceptable.

Shaun Preston's concert was fantastic, thanks to Craig Meads. People still stop me and ask if I enjoyed it. Be assured I loved it – even with one foot in plaster, I managed to tap. Elton better watch out – this young man is going places.

Well, we have survived floods, tornadoes and more drenching rain, but Spring is coming, followed by Summer. The whitebaiters are out, the weather is warming, and we can move on.

Thanks to the members of our Board – the last three years have been productive and enjoyable. I wish incoming members all the best.

Fay

(Continued from page 1)

Oakura's World Champion



Hannah, up there with the best.

of the Trans Tasman Mighty 11 Boys team, an achievement no other girl has ever attained.

Having a world ranking has seen the sponsors step up and Intense Bikes have offered bikes, clothes and gear to Hannah. Crupi bikes are also working with Jon and his PWC Racing team of eight riders.

It is not hard to visualise Hannah going on to better and brighter things in BMX racing in the future. Dad Jon says she just keeps on getting better and better, and when I asked Hannah if she ever gets sick of BMX she said, "No way!" The Sarten family compete in BMX racing nearly every weekend and often travel to other cities for events. It is a huge commitment for the family, but Hannah has made all the sacrifices worth it with her winning streak and her healthy attitude.

By Kim Ferens



Oakura residents – Fay needs your support!

Love her or hate her, Fay Looney is the best chance of community representation Oakura is likely to get in the next Council election. We must all support her if we want Oakura's issues to be heard around the Council table.



Looking over the list of candidates standing in the next election, it is clear there will be some stiff competition from the rugby diehards, but I think Fay will bring a wealth of experience and a broad mind to the Council table.

As a community we owe Fay a big 'thank you' for her three-year stint on the Kaitake Community Board. She has worked extremely hard to resolve local issues and keep us informed. Fay says of her tenure on the Board, "I have now come to understand how the Council works and also how the staff at the Council are working hard to grant wishes." It is through her involvement on the Board that Fay has been able to see how her energy and experience can be put to best use and that is in the Council decision making process. She says, "The only good thing about grey hair is the experience gained in getting it!"

Fay has lived all her life in New Plymouth and Oakura, has raised a family, run a business and is a photographer of unarguable talent. Fay stays current on community issues by continually being "on the job", attending workshops and by being involved in the lives of her children and grandchildren... a good balance of life skills in other words.

As a Councillor, Fay says she will follow through on local issues such as the beach and coastal environment via the Coastal Strategy and the sewerage scheme. These are prime reasons why you should give Fay your vote, but be assured that Fay also has the wider interests of the entire New Plymouth ward at heart and is keen to work hard and be answerable to the whole community.

Get ticking!

By Kim Ferens





APPEARANCE MEDICINE

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Dénus to de la September:

- . Sow new lowns in previously prepared ground.
- · Firstly planting trees and strubs. before the cities weather sets in.
- · Feed roses with Butlers Rose Food and realch with Butlers Organic Compost.
- How the ground regularly to keep years; seedling weeds at key.

Things to do in Outster:

- Install a horse irrigation system now before the dry weather hits.
- · Trim back Spring Rowering climbers and shrubs.
- Food existing lowers with Butlers lowe Food.
- Trim torsity plants such as Hibisous, Ireamer and New Guisea Impations.

Colour in the Garden

- Plant patted colour for instant affect-Impatiens. Nerrania. Petania, Salvia, Snopdrogen, Marigald and Zinnia.
- . For bright & coleanly Suremer displays fill puts and basints with Calibrachous.

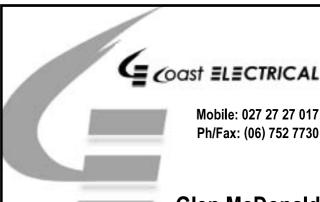
Front from the Gorden

- . Plant vege and borb plants now, as well as Strawberies and other Susaner bubs.
- Tanastone, Cacarobers, Pappers, Coargettes, Pangkin and Melons can also be planted rare.

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Sewerage changes set to reduce costs

A change of strategy on how to construct Oakura's new sewerage system will trim up to \$3 million in costs and will change the connection price for property owners.

"The biggest change for property owners is they will pay the actual cost of constructing the necessary connecting pipework on their properties and have their redundant septic tanks cleaned out and secured, rather than pay a cost averaged across all properties," says General Manager Mr Anthony Wilson. "Instead, by paying the actual costs, everyone will know what they're up for." Home owners can reduce the cost of connection by doing some of the excavation and reinstatement themselves, and they will have complete choice over who does their on-site work, says Mr Wilson.

The Council originally planned to build and pay for the sewer mains as well as all lateral pipes from the main pipeline to the property boundaries for all properties in the town, regardless of whether or not a property owner had decided to connect to the system at this time.

The necessary connecting pipework on private property would have been installed by the contractor as part of the overall contract and paid for at an averaged cost by those choosing to connect.

"In short, if a property owner signs on to connect when the community is polled over the next three months, they will only be required to pay for the necessary work on their property.

"If an owner only decides later to connect, they will be required to pay for a lateral pipe from the main sewer to their property boundary as well," he says. Home owners who sign on will be required to connect within 12 months of the sewerage scheme being commissioned – with the commissioning taking place probably in the first or second quarter of 2009.

An open day in Oakura will be arranged to enable property owners to discuss these changes with Council staff, and how they will be affected.

Feedback from Fay Looney, Council candidate and ex-Kaitake Community Board member

After discussions with a qualified civil engineer and a plumber I have some major concerns about decisions affecting this project. Council are making decisions to change the original policy on the scheme due to budget restraints, while also hoping to achieve community aspirations.

Let's be absolutely clear on the community aspirations and more importantly the sustainability of an important New Plymouth asset – Oakura Beach.

The community, and the entire district I am sure, want a clean beach. Presently the beach is closed for mussel collecting and paua gathering due to microscopic algae. That can happen naturally but is also caused by polluted water outfalls. This red tide is present in our water and we do not want outfall of any kind contributing to this.

Sewerage tanks in Oakura are, in many instances, leaking into our waterway. Many residents are more than aware of this and it is time we stopped fudging the issue. There are facts that back this up. Our community has said at many meetings and after much consultation that it wants proper sewerage treatment, but it appears we have been sold a scheme that from all accounts is now unachievable financially, unless cuts are made.



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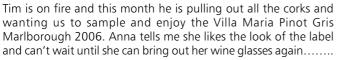
TOM Wine of the Month:

Villa Maria Pinot Gris Marlborough 2006

A great deal for only \$20.50 at the Oakura Four Square – be in quick only 2 weeks to score this beauty.



Oakura Four Square OPEN 7 DAYS



This very old and established wine estate has marketed this under its Cellar Selection label. The emphasis on this type of selection is having good quality fruit at harvest, minimal handling of the grape which in turn results in an elegant food friendly wine.

What a way to begin the season of spring. It is fresh and you will notice a lovely apple and pear taste and before you down too much of it you may also get a gentle hint of cinnamon on your already indulged taste buds.

At this point in time NZ Pinot Gris is becoming well established around the world. It has surpassed many other leading countries to come out on top in the UK wine magazine, Decanter's review of New World Pinot Gris. It has recently experienced a worldwide

surge in popularity. A mutation of Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris grows extremely well here in our cooler climate. The flavours in this grape don't fully develop and express themselves until relatively

I am just imagining the perfect night out. I leave the house, head for the Four Square and grab the Pinot Gris, while there I also grab a couple of the dessert wine we featured last month – 2002 Noble late Harvest.

I head out knowing that I have brought two really good quality wines without having to re mortgage the house.

I know you want to know if this is worth cellaring. With a staggering 2% of wine drinkers in this country committed to cellaring wine (something like 95% of the wine bought in NZ is drunk within 24 hours), I would suggest that you can enjoy this one now. Buy two more bottles at least and bring one out next spring. Then I suggest you then bring out your 3rd or 4th bottle in a year or so after that. If you buy enough of this juice you will be enjoying it the next time we are heading into another Rugby World Cup. Wine is a living, breathing thing, it changes with time. On that note if you want a great deal then get to the Four Square and grab this special wine at a great price of \$20.50. This is only going to be at this price for 2 weeks from when TOM is delivered so polish your crystal, get your drinking heels on and enjoy this

Yours in Corks and Screw Tops Jillyho



Hello from Oakura Library

We have a good selection of new titles covering a range of interests for all age groups. We feature some here.

Dennis Greville's Weekends for Garden Lovers in New Zealand is a comprehensive guidebook with a selection of public and private gardens to visit in New Zealand. It includes information on accommodation, places to eat and other activities in each region. Paddy the Wanderer by Dianne Haworth is the story of Paddy the Airedale Terrier who frequented the Wellington wharves in the 1930s and became a sea-faring legend – a true story of an amazing dog with a taste for adventure. Written for the primary to intermediate level, it is sure to have wider appeal.

James Patterson's latest thriller, Step on Crack, is guaranteed to please Patterson fans, and from crime writer Ian Rankin we have another murder mystery, The Naming of the Dead.

Remember the new library hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12 noon till 6pm Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9am till 1pm Karen and I look forward to seeing you soon. Happy reading! Judith Schumacher



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Interactivo

(DM Ahora!/Elite)

The success of the Buena Vista Social Club series has skewed the public perception of Cuban music, with most listeners thinking that the series of bestselling albums reflects the current musical state of the island. This is, of course, very far from the truth. Magnificent as they are, the BVSC recordings specialise in 'old geezer' Cuban music, beautifully sung and played, recorded to an audiophile standard, but basically serving up inspired reworkings of classic son (the great Cuban song form as delivered by such pioneers as Beny Moré, Arseñio Rodríguez, Arcaño and Miguelito Valdés).

From start to finish Goza Pepillo is an exhilarating ride. In contrast to the elegant Buena Vista sound, Goza includes heavy beats, rapping and near-gonzo guitar, but unlike the approach of most rock groups when the musical tide is turning, Interactivo feel no need to reject the past! Interactivo coaxes Cuban son into the twenty-first century, but its members are not afraid to draw from/expand on the riches of traditional Cuban music.

Something of a modern-day Cuban supergroup, Interactivo features singer-songwriters Yusa and William Vivanco, sonero and rapper Francis del Rio, and poet and rap queen Telmary (Diaz) upfront, supported by a classy band led by pianist, composer/arranger and bandleader Roberto Carcassés. The opening track "Palabrara" is ushered in with what could be a solo homage to Rubén González, with Carcassés playing with genuine élan. Then ka-boom, the band kicks in and from then on the album twists and turns like a snake.

If you like the idea of Cuban-infused R & B, try "No Money." Or, for the hip-hoppers, "Los Revolucionarios" should hit the spot. If slinky jazz-fusion guitar playing is your thing, check out the intro to "Quien Dijo?" Supperclub sounds? Then "Si No Llego a Mañana" may be the track for you. Finishing up with a jazzy rearrangement of the "Tubular Bells" theme, followed by a soul-jazz version of The Beatles' Abbey Road classic "I Want You (She's So Heavy)", this album has got to be worth hearing at the very least!

Goza Pepillo is the second release on Buena Vista Social Club architect Juan de Marcos Gonzalez's DM Ahora! label. It may well be the most innovative Afro-Cuban album of the Noughties, but with its ancient-to-the-future scope, it may be just too intense for some fans of Latin music.

The Rough Guide to the Music of Brazil

Various

(World Music Network/Elite)

Largely sidestepping the ever-popular bossa nova and samba, The Rough Guide to the Music of Brazil shines the spotlight on some lesser-known gems from South America's most musically diverse country. Ranging from the Afro-reggae of Chico César through to the ambient chamber-folk of Orchestra Popular de Camara (whose "Correnteza" is the most original piece of Brazilian music I have heard for years), this is an intriguing set.

Other highlights include pieces by electronica artist Mylene, Forro in the Dark featuring Bebel Gilberto and O Karaiva, a group that sounds musically far closer to zydeco than to samba!



cen _{Taranaki's}



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Oakura's e-macadamia proves inspirational in national competition



The Cerebos Great Coffee Competition 2007.

Over 150 employee's from all over NZ competed in this competition. We had a budding section and a professional section, only 6 finalists made it through to each section.

The Performance: Set up - 5 minutes. Performance - 12 minutes: Competitors have 12 minutes to prepare and present 2 single espresso, 2 single shot Lattes and 2 signature drinks. Clean up - 5 minutes

The inspiration for my signature drink came from a recent trip to Taranaki. My gorgeous big sister Kim suggested we visit the local Macadamia orchard in Oakura. After talking to the owner Christine Charteris from Emacadamia the e-sensual nut, her passion and enthusiasm about her products inspired me to create my signature beverage. Christine sent me on my way with a box full of goodies and samples and all fired up ready to create.

Many short blacks and macadamia nut sessions later, my family was relieved to see the taste of the drink evolve, finally I had nailed it!

Golden Needle –Colour and Costume of Yunnan

A stunningly beautiful exhibition of costumes, jewellery and ornamental swords proudly supported by Port Taranaki, a foundation partner of Puke Ariki.

Brought in from the Yunnan Provincial Museum in Kunming, Yunnan, China, 'Golden Needle – Colour and Costume of Yunnan' is the result of a newly established professional connection between Puke Ariki staff and their counterparts from South West China.

Because of its geographical location many of Yunnan's nationalities have cultural associations with South-east Asian peoples resulting in numerous multi-cultural influences that are particularly apparent in the many styles of clothing worn by people.

Main Exhibitions Gallery, Puke Ariki, New Plymouth

1 July - 7 October 2007

"Macanut Espresso"

- Dilmah White Lychee No 1 Hand Rolled tea. Sample the rare tea with subtle delicate flavours to cleanse your palate.
- The glass is rimmed with macadamia butter, sugar and fine macadamia shavings.
- Rich intense stimulating pure Robert Harris Ultimo, a blend of the finest quality Brazilian, Indian and Costa Rico coffee.
- Indulge yourself with the finest quality white chocolate and macadamia butter on your spoon, enhanced with a macadamia macaroon.
- To finish the drink off, taste the chocolate coated macadamia.

Final placing – 2nd and only one point behind the winner. So close, yet so far!

Averil Cooper

Coffee Trainer

News update from e-macadamia

- 1. We stock all nuts other than cashews and peanuts. We slice and make nut butters from all nuts other than cashews and peanuts.see www.slicednuts.com
- 2. We are open during the Rhododendron Festival 1.30 4.30pm each day. Open for groups anytime by arrangement. Give Christine a ring on 7527793.
- 3. We recently presented to the top Melbourne Chefs and are now investigating exporting to Melbourne and Dubai.



Good fortune favours the brave

At the end of August I attended a function at the Oakura Volunteer Fire Station where the Brigade was presented with a cheque for \$1500 to buy a much needed generator. The cheque was presented by Grenville Jackson, Chief Executive of the Public Trust, on behalf of the William Francis Gordon Bequest.

The Bequest was established in 1940,

following the death in 1936 of 87 year old New Plymouth resident William Francis Gordon. Under the terms of his will, the residue of his estate was to be regularly disbursed to charities approved by the Mayor of New Plymouth. Since then more than \$63,000 has been distributed to New Plymouth charities.

The presentation was also attended by Mayor Pete, who summed up very nicely what it is about our volunteers that is so special. He said, "In the aftermath of the recent twisters and tornadoes in Oakura, the local volunteer fire brigade provided outstanding leadership and service to the local community. There was substantial damage to private homes and properties, the local kindergarten and also to a number of farms. The fire brigade was run off its feet helping residents place tarpaulins over damaged roofs, providing electricity to homes and businesses, and generally helping with rescue and cleanup.

At one point during a tornadom the fire brigade was without power at its station, and it became pretty obvious that an emergency stand-by generator was needed. The funding from the WF Gordon Bequest will allow the volunteers to buy this new equipment.

A large contingent of fire fighters was on hand to accept the cheque, as were local Council candidate Fay Looney and Ward Councillor Alex Matheson.

It was a very happy occasion and here's hoping more good fortune follows.

By Kim Ferens



Fay Looney, with Public Trust Executive and Mayor Pete, officiate at handing over the cheque.

Big smiles all round for a big cheque. Ross Bennett, Craig Scott, Mayor Pete and Public Trust Chief Executive Grenville Jackson.



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Living & Working in the Oakura Area **Harcourts**

Wildcat goes gold

Local coffee roaster Jude Nagel is still recovering from the shock of winning a gold medal for her 'Wildcat' blend of coffee at the New Zealand Coffee Festival in Auckland in August. Wildcat beat 150 other brews in a blind taste test to win the espresso section of the coffee festival.

Wildcat was a late entry into the competition and Jude says she only just got the coffee in on time. Wildcat coffee is proof that the big boys don't always win and a tiny boutique roasting house can hot-foot it with the most experienced of coffee roasters.

If you haven't tried the Wildcat blend, give Jude a ring on 0800 227 377 or visit the Oakura Four Square for some supplies.





Update from the Big Red Truck

"The difference between a man and a boy is, a boy wants to grow up to be a fireman, but a man wants to grow up to be a giant monster fireman." ~ Jack Handy

Greetings again from all at the Big Red Truck.

Thankfully August was a relatively quiet month. The major call for the month was to assist with the large commercial fire at

Congratulations are in order to the four members of the Brigade who recently completed and passed their basic training, breathing apparatus (BA) and first aid courses. These are Ross Bennett, Simon Bishop, Tran Lawrence and Andrew Cullen, the last of whom deserves a special mention for being honoured as top recruit during the week-long course.

With a lot of potentially cold nights still ahead, it is worth touching on a recent fire incident in the North Island where a house was severely damaged by fire caused by an electric blanket being left on. Luckily the fire broke out during the day when no-one was home, however not only was the house almost destroyed, but most of their personal possessions were lost. A comment that is regularly made to the Fire Service when we attend a fire is: "I hear of it happening to other people, but never thought it would happen to me". The fact is that it can happen to any one at any time, therefore we have to be proactive to ensure we reduce the

Electric blanket care tips

For safe operation of your electric blanket:

- Ensure that the blanket is flat on the bed and has no folds or creases.
- 2 Secure firmly using ties, do NOT use pins.
- Ensure that leads are extended (not coiled), visible and clear of foot 3 traffic.
- While the blanket is in use refrain from placing heavy objects on top
- Keep pets off the beds when blankets are in use.
- Always supervise children when the blanket is in use.
- Always turn off your blanket before getting into bed.

Storage:

- It is recommended that you store your blanket between the base of the bed and the mattress when not in use or rolled up under the bed.
- Alternatively store your blanket in a dry area where objects will not be placed on top of it.

Always follow the care instructions on the blanket label.

Have them checked every 12 months for wear and tear by a registered electrician. Also carry out visual checks of cords and general blanket condition often. If it is not working properly, destroy it. Do not on-sell at garage sales, etc. Regular testing by the Fire Service over the years has indicated failure rates consistently in excess of 20%, and as high as 46% in one large test. So remember . . . "IF IN DOUBT, GET IT CHECKED OUT"

For more details see:

http://southern.fire.org.nz/promotions/elect_blankets.htm

Stay warm and safe.

FF Breeze.



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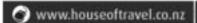
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Anne W

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Properties For Sale by Anne All these properties can be viewed at www.open2view.com find an agent: Anne Wilson



2 Tui Grove OAKURA

New executive 4 bedroom family home with ensuite, private sunny courtyard and great indoor/outdoor flow.

13 Linda Street, **OAKURA**

New Listina. Large lounge, 2 bedroom, open plan home. Sea and bush views.



12a Mace Tce, OAKURA

New Listing. Great family home. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living areas, fantastic private garden. Close to shops, river and beach.

22 Kaitake Road, OAKURA

Large family home on 1 acre with very private sheltered garden, filled with bird life.

11 Townsend Road Bell Block

Gorgeous, 4 bedroom/ensuite, large villa sited on private ½ acre section with fabulous gardens.

75 Morley Street

Architecturally designed, large family home or business opportunity. 4 bedrooms, 2 living, 3 bathrooms.



Hussey Street

2 x 1 ACRE BLOCKS

Rare opportunity to own a large piece of land right in the heart of the village.

Add to this - privacy, shelter and views down to the Oakura

206 St Aubyn Street

Commercial opportunity. One house divided into 2 flats, plus separate flat. Rental investment or commercial development.

369 Mangorei Road

Modern 2 bedroom Townhouse, sunny and decorated in neutral colours. Large basement garage, easy care section.

323 Devon Street

Central character villa, 3 bedrooms, private, immaculate.

23 St Ives Grove

4 acre lifestyle block on the fringe of the City with a versatile, 4 bedroom home and swimming pool.

Unit 6/12 Davies Lane

Large 2 bedroom brick unit in quiet friendly cul de sac.

Oakura Sections

A selection of 10 sections in the Oakura and coastal area for you to choose to build on. Wairau Road, Warea Road, McKellar Street, Tui Grove, Pitcairn Street.

Properties Sold by Anne

11b Selwyn Street

let the McDonald Real Estate family look after your family

New Plymouth | Bell Block | Oakura | Opunake Hawera | Eltham | Stratford | Inglewood | Waitara



Anne Wilson now in Oakura

Anne and her team have revamped the Oakura office of McDonald Real Estate. The team comprises of Anne, Liz Geraghty and Nicki Procter. Part of the team also is the red VW beetle that you may have noticed around the village, this along with Anne's other VW, make quite a jazzy statement. The move for Anne and Liz has been a very exciting one and



From left, Liz, Anne and Nicci with the bright red beetle

they are clearly thrilled to be working at McDonald Real Estate along side branch manager John McDonald.

The office is undergoing a few changes as the team put their personal touch to it but the service people have come to expect from Anne has not changed. Everyone in the team is very experienced and well qualified to meet client needs. And because the three women work as a team they are able to offer a full time client back up service meaning there is always someone available to deal with client needs.

Anne says she is loving working in the village. The change to McDonald Real Estate is one of a few changes in her life. Anne and Cam's youngest son, Ben, has gone off to school and they are now toddler free for the first time in 14 years. The family have also moved into their new home that Cam has just finished building.

Nicki needs no introduction to TOM readers and as ever is a very charming and professional member of the team.

Liz lives in New Plymouth but is loving the positive work environment at Oakura. It is also making it easier to catch up with the mother-in-law, Bess Bryham who is a long term resident of Oakura.

As a real estate team these three woman are able to offer clients and potential clients a supportive environment with a professional approach that gets results. Each of the team has different strengths that complement each other and they are also able to gather support from other McDonald Real Estate branches and their three very supportive managers. So if it is results you are after contact Anne Liz or Nicki at 7521340 they would love to hear from you.

By Kim Ferens

Shane Herbert - Lawyer
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Toby's Build & Design Ltd



Todd (Toby) Burkett is a quietspoken man who combines his skill as a builder with an ability to see how a house will best fit its environment. He is also a talented designer with the experience needed to ensure that clients get the very best they can afford.

Todd comes from a well-established building family. Father Brian was 16

years old when he began building and Todd joined the family business when he was 18. In 2001 Todd and wife Feona moved to Queenstown where they specialised in building luxury homes, the first of which was bought by Auckland mayor Dick Hubbard. Todd designed and built the house in the middle of winter on a cliff surface of hard rock overlooking Lake Wakatipu. For the next four years Toby's Build & Design was busy building houses and turning waterfront baches into

magnificent holiday homes.

In 2004 Todd, Feona and their new son came home to Oakura, where Todd continues to design and build homes as well as renovating existing dwellings.

For any building requirements, call in and see Todd at 232 Main South Road, Spotswood, or call him on 752 7067 or 027 228 9117.













Celebrate your Curves!

Welcome to Curves, a friendly, mirror-less haven. Curves makes health and exercise fun and achievable.



The workout is simple and effective. Curves has designed the hydraulic machines so that they fit women's bodies. The Circuit raises your heart rate and strengthens your muscles and bones all at the same time. And you can do this in just 30 minutes.

Curves opened in New Plymouth in March and the growing membership is more like a sisterhood than a gym. When you join you become part of a network of 4 million women all round the world. Your membership travels with you and you can go to any Curves around the globe.

You deserve to take 30 minutes out of your busy life just for you!

Come and join us.

Curves, 251 Devon Street West, New Plymouth

Phone 769 9586 www.curves.com



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Curves

\$800 Boost to the Taranaki Disaster Relief Fund

Curves New Plymouth has donated \$20 per new member in July to the Taranaki Disaster Relief Fund. This is a total of \$800.

The owner of Curves, Gill Lambert says 'Several of our members were affected by the tornadoes. I've been impressed with how, despite the devastation to their homes; they have kept going with life as normal, even coming in for their workouts! Thanks to the women who joined in July allowing me to make this substantial donation.'

One of the major factors in good health is safe and adequate housing.

Curves helps women achieve healthy lifestyles by offering a supportive and effective 30 minute workout and, soon to be introduced, a weight management programme.

For more information contact:

Gill Lambert Work 769 9586, Home 758 3920.

Shane Herbert - Lawyer
Civil Litigation
7599119



(9)例 SPORTS

Calling all multi-sporters

Are you lost and in need of a mid-life adrenalin injection? Or just insane and looking for the ultimate challenge before you get too old and feeble? Then I have just the thing for you.

I'm in the process of putting together three days of multisport from New Plymouth to Napier (410 kilometres). Sounds daunting, I know, but once you break it down into three days and 13 legs it does become achievable – even for someone of average ability like me. It would be even easier in a two or three person team.

This is not an official event but an opportunity to get a bunch of like-minded crazy people together to have some fun and take on a challenge. The intention is to test the course and prove that it is achievable for people of different abilities and backgrounds. When this does become an event in the future you can brag that you were one of the 2008 originals.

We plan to put the course to the test in March or April next year, possibly just after the ITU race in New Plymouth. We already have three individuals, a two-person team and a mixed three-person team. Numbers are very limited to keep logistics down, but we still have room for 1 or 2 more individuals, another two-person team and a three-person team. We want to keep this as local as possible.

This is an opportunity to participate in something very unique. If you're interested and would like more details on the course or the team criteria, please call Craig Cook on 752 1230 on Tuesday or Thursday evenings.

Kaitake Golf Club

23rd September 2007

Taranaki Mens Open

Sponsored by BlueChip
2 Ball Best Ball

\$15.00 per player !8 Holes

Superb Prizes / Gross & Nett + Spot Prizes

Phone Entries 752 7665

Raewyn Hawker, Sec/Manager

Oakura Tennis Club

Invites existing and new members to their **Open Day** on **Sunday 16th September**

Come for a friendly, relaxed hit - Juniors 10.30am - 1.00pm, Intermediate & Seniors 1.00pm

- Find out about teams, competitions and club nights for the 2007 - 08 season
- Subscriptions
- Order Oakura Tennis Shirts
- Upcoming Coaching
- Deposits on court keys

Enquiries Dave 752 7370 or Becky 752 7474.

Oakura produces basketball reps

Two local boys, Matthew Everest and Jack Wagstaff, plus ex local Ricky Riccotelli are part of the New Plymouth under-13 boys basketball rep team that will be heading down to Dunedin to compete for the National title.

The team made fourth place at the Regional tournament held in Lower Hutt in August, qualifying them for the Nationals to be held during the second week of the school holidays in October.





Under 14 Reps, Matthew Everest (above) and Ricci Riccotelli.



Kaitake Netball 2007

In the last *TOM* we mentioned the possibility of winning the A Reserve Competition in Opunake. Well, we came very close but ended up third overall.

Getting seven players on court each week became a real struggle. An episode of Shortland Street doesn't even come close to the amount of illness we have had to deal with during the last month. Between chicken pox, pneumonia, influenza and sick children, we just couldn't get the combinations on court. Following are the results of our final rounds.

Round 2

Kaitake – 21 v Opunake High School –19

Wunder Player of the Day: Anna and Cath – a great defensive effort from Anna and Cath provided us with some sting in our attack end of the court.

Round 3

Uh Oh, we had to default to Surf Highway!

Wunder Player of the Day: Any of us who were able to get out of bed to ring Bob and tell her we were too sick to play.

Round 4

Kaitake – 17 v Kaponga Off Loaders – 43

Wunder Player of the Day: Melissa L – great effort in the shooting circle when under extreme pressure from the defence.

Round 5

Draw: Kaitake v The rest of the World at Wunderbar

Looks like this could be a game where all players are available and ready to fire.

This is a great opportunity for us to thank Danger for his sponsorship and ask him to be our mascot for the 2008 season.

Many thanks also to Wunderbar for providing us with a Coffee and Muffin Voucher for the Player of the Day Award. Remember Girls, support your sponsor.

Yours in netball

Norma Plummer



Rachel Hareb took this shot of the July tornado. She apologises if it looks a bit shaky, but she was a tad scared at the time. We don't blame you Rachel.



Kaitake Golf Club



Kaitake Golf Course is an 18 hole, picturesque course, situated 2kms south of Oakura on Surf Highway 45 and 15min from New Plymouth.

For more information

Phone (06) 752 7665



GETTING WET!

Oakura Boardriders update

Another month has gone by with the usual sketchy winter weather patterns. There hasn't been a lot of snow on the Manganui Ski Field, with the exception of a few days for those keen on the top tow I am told.



The "Prez" spins a few yarns at the mid-winter

There have been waves around but you'd have had to have been there at the right time as they've come and gone with the next weather pattern. Oakura beach has had some nice days, small but sheltered from the wind.

The Boardriders had their mid-winter dinner and it was a great night by all accounts, with the bus trip leaving a few memories (or not, as the case might be!). Unfortun-ately I was away and missed it.

The contest scene has been quiet. There was a visit from the American ESA 'All Stars' at the New Plymouth

Boardriders Club, where a contest was organised. This team has some of the US East Coast's brightest talents, most with healthy sponsorship to boot. In the end the finals were held in marginal conditions with the USA team triumphing. Some Taranaki surfers put in a good showing, with Michael Mallalieu, Tyler Anderson, Conan James, Mark Parthemore and Sean Kettle all making finals and showing along the way they can match it with the international competition.



Tyler Anderson putting in a great performance.

A few locals have escaped to warmer climes, the most popular being Indonesia, and more are heading off in the next few weeks. I've had lots of reports of good surf but I haven't seen any photos as yet.

Keone Campbell and Paige Hareb were in Indonesia with the Billabong team. The boys competed in a couple of junior events, with Gisborne's Buck Woods scoring a 3rd in the Indonesian 'Occy Grom Comp'. Paige is now off to the Maldives with the Billabong girls . . . hard life for some!

The next contest is the third Rip Curl Gromsearch, which will be held in the Wellington area on the last weekend of the school holidays. This will be interesting, being the first time one has been held in the area. Suffice to say there is not a lot of hope for good waves as Lyall Bay is being talked about . . . watch this space.

Unfortunately the lack of snow has caused some disruption to the annual 'Surf and Snow Contest', and this is on hold pending some snow. Fingers crossed that the next few weeks will see the contest get underway.

By the time you read, this the Boardriders AGM will have been held. I hope all members made an effort to attend. Remember, there is always the opportunity to make a difference. . . just put your hand up.

For more info, contact Paul Christopher's on 752 7126 or Mark Braddock on 752 7035.

Brent Anderson

Oakura Boardriders.

New Plymouth Old Boys Surf Life Saving Club News

A sure sign that Spring is on the way is an increase in activity around the Oakura Beach Clubhouse. The NPOB Surf Life Saving Club is gearing up for another year of keeping our beaches safe as well as preparing for the competitive Surf Life Saving competition season.

It is important to recognise that there really are two areas combined within the Club – the beach patrol function and the competitive sport of Surf Life Saving. The New Plymouth Old Boys train hard year-round and are proud to excel in both these areas, and while first and foremost our duties are to keep the Oakura beach safe, we also take great pride in nurturing national and even international-class athletes in the sport section of our Club. NPOB athletes Ayla Dunlop-Barrett and Jamie-Lee Reynolds were both recently selected to the New Zealand National Team to compete in the International Pool Competitions in Sydney from 14-15 August 2007. New Zealand won both tests against Australia.

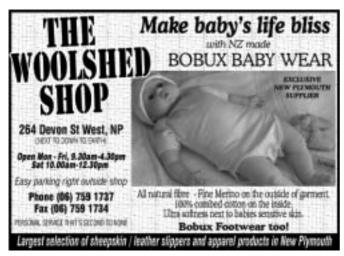
The dedication of our athletes and patrollers is always driven by the hard work of those behind the scenes – our coaches and executive who volunteer countless hours of their time to insure NPOB maintains the high standard we are recognised for around the country. We recently held our Annual General Meeting where some new additions to the executive were voted in. Janet Lean was elected President this year, who along with incumbent Chairman Noot Barrett, takes the lead role in running our Club. Newly appointed Treasurer Jacinta Hurley and Administrator Susan Cadenhead will make sure the financial and logistical aspects of the Club are maintained to the highest of standards.

The Old Boys are always looking for new members to join the Club. All are welcome to join coach Blair Dunn and our dedicated athletes in Winter Training sessions held every Tuesday at 4pm and Sundays at 11pm at the Surf Life Saving clubhouse.

The New Plymouth Old Boys Surf Life Saving Club is looking forward to another season of keeping our beaches safe for all to enjoy, as well as showing the rest of New Zealand and even the world what awesome Surf Life Saving athletes we have right here at Oakura.

Charlotte Curd, Shaun Preston and Jenna Green







Collection of tarpaulins

used to secure homes during tornado emergency

Taranaki Civil Defence provided most of the tarpaulins used to secure homes in Oakura during the recent civil defence emergency. Thanks to everyone who has already returned tarpaulins.

If you still have tarpaulins please contact the Taranaki Emergency Management Office to arrange collection when they are no longer required.

There are some tarpaulins that have been returned to Civil Defence that were not supplied by them. If you think any of these tarpaulins may belong to you please contact:

Taranaki Emergency Management Office

Phone: 06 758 1110



working with people | caring for our environment

What a show!

The Tornado Relief Concert at TSB Showplace was nothing short of fantastic.

For those of you who missed it, I am sorry. It is often the way with one-off shows that by the time people start talking about the event, it is too late.

Organiser Craig Meads did an outstanding job of coordinating this concert, from the idea of mixing Charlotte Curd's and Jenna Green's voices into the "Power Cut Start" Traveling Wilbury's song "Inside Out", the PowerPoint presentation and set list. And all piped music was "storm themed", ending with "Did I Make a Difference".

The show was hosted by JT and Erin of More FM, and the night kicked off with MMC – three very talented local boys, Matt Everest, Michael Muggeridge and Cameron Meads, with a combined age of only 36. These three, who first got together only a few months ago, were accompanied by Michael's father, Steve Muggeridge. Wearing aviator glasses, they played their own instrumental versions of popular cover tracks starting with "Wipeout". What talent they have!

Following MMC was Alan Manu with his band Backlash. Alan is famous for his single, "Surf Highway 45". His performance was personal and his stories humorous.

David Lean, the Civil Defence Emergency Management group controller, took the stage to pass on his report of the situation on the night of the tornado and the days to follow, congratulating the emergencies services and the volunteers and stating that the way things were handled in Taranaki have become a benchmark for other areas. He affirmed the strength of the community we live in.

During the evening we saw photos of the damage that the village experienced and it brought a tear to my eye. The beautiful photos of undamaged Oakura supplied by Fay Looney were just the remedy.

Shaun Preston is one hell of guy. What a generous offer he made when he suggested to Craig that he perform for nothing at a charity concert, to "reach out and be able to help".

When they said he was the next best thing to Elton John, they weren't lying. He had the voice and looks to die for and it was obvious to me by the way he interacted with the audience that he is a 'thoroughly good chap'. We were clapping, singing and jiving in our seats for the two hours plus that he was on stage. For his final song he asked Jenna Green up on to the stage. He lifted her onto his baby grand piano case and sang Elton John's "Your Song" to her. Jenna was the only person to sustain injuries from the tornado.

Another idea of Craig's was a "musicians jam" at the end with both Shaun and Alan taking turns to shine on Alan's "Surf Highway 45". All musicians on stage wore Surf45 shirts and the night ended in fun. Reports of people being unable to get to sleep till 3 am because of the music still reverberating are not without substance!

Check out Shaun's website at <u>www.shaunpreston.com</u> for his original CD.

Yes, this concert was about raising thousands of dollars for the Taranaki Disaster Relief Fund, but more importantly it was a concert about healing.

For those needing to draw on this fund for "out of pocket expenses" caused by the disaster, applications should be made through the Civil Defence before the end of the month. Forms are available through Civil Defence and Council administered public libraries.

By Tracey Lusk

Oakura School News

Pupils help beach conservation

The Year 5 and 6 pupils of Oakura School took time out of their busy day recently to help save the Oakura beach from erosion.

We interviewed Mr John Leslie of the New Plymouth District Council about the planting. He said, "The plants are spinifex. The best time of the year to plant them is in Autumn and Winter, and we take the seedlings from the beach around February and let them grow in the local nursery. Today we have planted around 2000 plants. They grow at the beach, on sand dunes and on river banks and take around twelve months to grow."

Seth, Meika and Georgia from Oakura School told us, "We are having fun and helping to prevent erosion on our beach." This is the process they went through . . .

First they found their piece of land, they found their plant and dug their hole. Next they put their fertiliser in the hole, put their plant in, covered the roots with sand and patted it down.

The pupils were excited to help in the conservation of our beach. By Chloe Evans and Rhea Procter.

Our class trip to the Art Gallery

Wow! What a big surprise I got on Tuesday because I went to the Art Gallery. At the Art Gallery I went into a room. In the room there were lots of photographs. There was something funny about the photographs because the person who took the photos used her computer to put some funny things in the photos.

Next we went into another room. The room was plain. I looked in the corner and I saw a bathroom but the mirror was not a mirror because you could stick your head through it. When it was my turn...I got a big surprise because I saw a penguin and some plants. Then I went up the stairs and saw some water. We saw a TV that looked like it was broken but it was actually litter. We also made a cloak.

I had a fun time! Tessa Keenan – 6 years



The mirror that's not a mirror!







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Kaitake Kindergarten

Through the generosity of St James Hall and Oakura Playcentre, Kindergarten was able to reopen on Monday 23 July.

Kindergartens throughout Taranaki and beyond have donated toys, books and games for the children to use while at St James Hall. The Playcentre has made all its facilities available to us and the children are now enjoying the different experiences these have to offer.

Some of the children were initially a little unsure of their new surroundings, but are now happy playing and exploring. The transition has been eased by the addition of a new teacher, Anne Hale, and by parents who have been able to help during the kindergarten sessions. This has given the children a greater sense of security and has helped them adjust quickly to the changes.

We have all been to see how the rebuilding work is progressing at McKellar Street, with the children baking scones for Todd and his team to enjoy. The teachers will take the children on regular visits to the kindergarten building so they can feel involved in the repair process.

The generous support of the community, local and national businesses, and the Kindergarten Associations continues to overwhelm us and we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has given a donation, be it of their time, a gift or money.

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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Is this your photo?

The following photo was found at the Pony Club arena, no doubt blown there by the tornado. If it is yours, contact the TOM on phone 0800thetom to reclaim it.



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Mini-Athletics 2007/08

Mini-Athletics will be up and running again this year. Can you believe it is our fourth year of this great programme? We hope to keep the same format as previous seasons – 2 x 5 week blocks, with one block before Christmas and then starting again when school commences.

Last season we registered 85 children between the ages of 18 months and 7 years old. These numbers are huge and require a lot of energy and commitment to keep it running successfully.

As a committee we are trying to get more parents to take groups on the night. If you feel you can give this a go, please come forward and we will offer training and support both now and on each competition night.

We are thinking of ways to make it easier to manage and still keep the philosophy that it is about developing skills in athletics. A couple of the options we're discussing are: capping

the numbers and breaking the age groups up further. Currently we are grouping 2–3 years, 4–5 years and 6–7 years. The group sizes are guite large and we are concerned that the children are not getting enough time to develop skills in each of the core areas. What do you think about this? If you have an opinion/idea/solution, give any of us a ring (see details below) and we will happily listen!

We are also going to need a volunteer to be the President of the Barbeque Committee. This involves bringing down the sausages, sauce, bread, etc, and organising the barbie roster. I have a feeling there will no shortage of volunteers for this.

We hope to start the season on Monday 5 November at 5.15pm for registration and 5.45pm each week thereafter.

Jo Hill - 752 7899

Melissa Waite – 752 7907

Rose Parker - 752 7288





Gina Fraser Born 9 February 2006, 5 weeks premature and 3lb 1.5oz! Precious daughter of Kevin Fraser and Bob

(Helen) Fleming









Nate Florence Born 18 July, 2006. Home birth. Weight 7lb,.12oz. First child of Luke and Claire.

Proud parents Bruce and Fy Tait.

dogs who are helping him to

Each month TOM profiles the comings, goings and bits in between of life in Oakura and Omata. If you would like to celebrate the life of a newborn, cherish the memory of the passing of a loved one, share an engagement or marriage, then we would like to feature these people on our Celebrate Life! photo page. Think of it as a permanent historical record that you are preserving for future generations.

Email photos and relevant details of births, deaths engagements, marriages or any other celebration from last year or this year to kim@thetom.co.nz or phone 0800thetom for more details

If you would also like to feature your Celebrate Life! TOM person on our website for \$10, contact bob@thetom.co.nz



"I kicked the rugby ball. I bent my leg high. Jason Eaton showed me how to kick." By Max, aged 5.



Madison and McKenzie put a new twist on the "Three (or four?) Rs".

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AMY CHRISTIANSEN is advanced | dip. beau



Action in the New Entrants room

Madison and McKenzie are recycling old boxes and things into models to treasure as part of their 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' study in a new take on the old Three Rs. I rather like the fourth 'R' that Phoebe gave us in assembly the other week: 'Repair'. So if you want to be more environmentally friendly, try to 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Repair'.

Auckland adventure

Our senior Year 7 and 8 class is off on their camp to Auckland in September and we wish them many exciting experiences. One highlight will be a tour around the naval base at Devonport. We look forward to hearing all about it on their return - no doubt there will be a report in next month's TOM.

Fuel breaks

We have always been impressed by the lovely, healthy and creative lunches our parents put together, but often children were not getting around to eating at playtimes as they were so busy out and about playing. We decided to introduce a fuel break just before playtime to give them a chance to get a healthy snack from their lunch-boxes to eat before playtime and it has been a great success.

Teachers have taken this time to talk to children about healthy food choices, children have had time to eat and then run, and it has reduced the playground rubbish. We have a feeling it is also going to increase concentration levels and learning during the time between play and lunch, but we will reserve judgment on this score until the fuel breaks have been in place long-term.

Karen Brisco







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Kia ora

It's been great this term to see some new faces popping in to check us out. All of us at Playcentre would like to welcome our new families – Davina and Adam Johnston, Annalisa, Willow and Violette Johnson, Megan, Denim and Rose Holmes, Belinda, Todd and Jacob Philp. Also welcome to some oldies (if I can get away with calling them that!), who have made their way back to Playcentre – Lil and Thomas Logan, Pip and Charlie Johnson, and Feona and Tay Burkett. (I hope our President is organising a good AGM for this lot!)

We have enjoyed some lovely sunny days running around the back field kicking balls and rolling down hills. I have tried this myself; however I don't recommend the hill at the Bowl of Brookland!

The children have been having lots of tactile experiences recently with different types of fingerpaint and clay. We have explored painting, other than at the easel, for gross motor skills. We've been painting large boxes, inside and out, paper covered tables, rocks and the fence with water. (Painting with water is a great one for home for those who are not keen on multicoloured decks.)

Something new that I tried with the littlies was collage on clear coverseal. The children were fascinated with the stickiness of it and it was easier to manage than collage with glue. I laid a strip of it (sticky side up of course) on a table with a container of small bits of paper and wool pieces. Some of the older children joined in as well.

The new mat for the baby area is on its way at last. I'm looking forward to working on this area with the littlies. It tickled me to see Catherine Rielly-Leadbetter strutting her stuff at centre today. She's has been coming since she was born with her

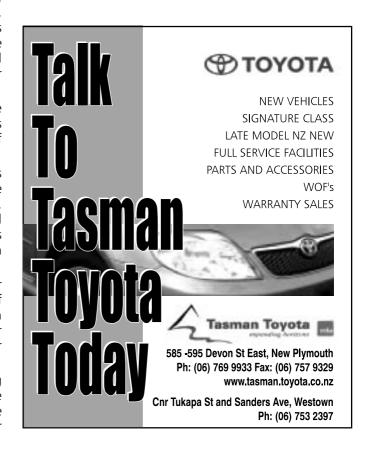
brother James and father David. Catherine is now one and walking around exploring a whole new world of independence. Go Catherine!

Playcentre is a great way to meet people in your community, make friends and learn about children. Our session times are Monday and Wednesday from 9am to 12pm. For more information, phone Melissa Newton on 752 1056.

See you there!

To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.

THOMAS EDISON



UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

ASD – Try to identify what triggers my meltdowns

"Meltdowns, blow-ups, tantrums or whatever you want to call them are even more horrid for me than they are for you. They occur because one or more of my senses has gone into overload. If you can figure out why my meltdowns occur, they can be prevented. Keep a log noting times, settings, people, and activities. A pattern may emerge."

This quote is from the book *Ten Things Every Child With Autism Wishes You Knew* by Ellen Notbohm, mother of a child with Autistic Spectrum Disorder or ASD. Ellen continues by saying try and remember that all behaviour is a form of communication. When words are hard to find, behaviour tells us how the person with ASD perceives something that is happening in their environment. Obviously it is important to keep in mind that persistent behaviour may have a medical

cause, such as food allergy, sleep disorders or gastrointestinal problems, as these can all have a profound effect on behaviour.

There are many reasons why a child with ASD melts down, but being bratty, stubborn or spoiled are very rare. Always remember – behaviour is communication. Even a child whose verbal skills are adequate in an ordinary setting can 'lose his voice' during stressful moments. A child whose verbal communication is limited sometimes cannot find the words quickly enough in a stressful situation.

As you try to work out your child's triggers, remember, whatever the underlying cause, it is likely that your child can't articulate it. Lack of motivation is not always the reason for non-compliance. All the motivation in the world may still require patient, sustained instruction. The cause of the meltdown is not always clear cut, but our ability as parents or teachers to identify our child's triggers is the first step in helping the child to identify them himself. Self-regulation can then follow, which in time leads him or her further down the road to successful independence.

Next time my topic will be "If you are a family member, please love me unconditionally".

Karen

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SEE PAGE 2 FOR CONTACT DETAILS

CLUBS AND GROUPS CALENDER

Mini Groovers:

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

Playcentre

Playcentre, Donnelly Street Monday and Wednesday, 9am to noon.

St John's Omata:

Morning worship 10am 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

St James Church Oakura:

Morning worship 10am 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Kung Fu:

Thursdays 6-7.30pm for 12 years and over. 454 Plymouth Rd, phone Joanna Smith-Holley 752

Kick Boxing & Self Defence:

Mondays 6-7.30pm, for 12 yrs and over. 454 Plymouth Rd, phone Joanna Smith-Holley 752 1016.

JKA Karate

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

Yoga:

Oakura Yoga - Tuesdays 7.30-9.00pm, Oakura Hall. Phone Sarsha 752 7977.

Oakura Meditation Group

Zen Bhuddist based - all welcome. Ph Tove Jensen-Monroe 752 1350. Email tovissm@mac.com for details. Monthly, evenings.

Oakura Art Group

Tuesdays 9.45am to 12 noon, February to late November

St James Church Hall. Contact Pat Smith on 752 7515.

Senior Citizens:

Meet Tuesdays in St James Church lounge for cards and bowls. All welcome, phone 753 5705 for enquiries.

Indoor Bowls:

Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Rex Ward 752 7849.

Country and Western Club

Every 1st and 3rd Friday from 8pm Contact Betty West, 89 Wairau Rd, Ph 752 7816

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The latest REINZ statistics have just been released for the month of July 2007, according to the statistics below the total number of properties sold in New Plymouth for the month of July was 67. Of the 67 properties sold Harveys Real

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Market Facts - Median Sale Price

REINZ

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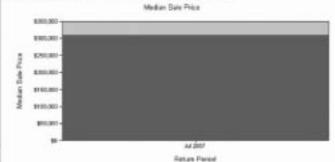


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