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## Sheer Luxury Comes to Oakura

The newest boutique holiday lodge and gift store in Prudence Place, Oakura is the epitome of luxury.

Nikki and Scott are new residents in Oakura and have been busy setting up their home as a luxury guest lodge and specialist gift store. They have devoted their time and energy into creating the finest accommodation they can and the setting just oozes indulgence.

The guest wing features two double bedrooms with fine Italian linens from Bianca Lorene on the beds complete with goose down and feather mattress toppers. Slippers and robes are mandatory. There are two bathrooms, an outdoor bath and a soon to be spa pool. Each room is stocked with a newly formulated toiletry range from Living Nature in KeriKeri. This is a proudly

natural and environmentally friendly product range.

The tranquil setting is resplendent with lush vegetation, picturesque views, sunny deck, swimming pool and outdoor dining area.

The *piece de resistance*, as if amiable hosts, luxurious butter soft beds and

*(Continued on page 2)*

Isn't it great to see people power working. The people of New Zealand have said they don't want Palm Oil in their Cadbury chocolate. I agree, not especially because I am a greenie who objects to rainforests being cut down (though I do object) but because we come from a verdant country where cream flows from our veins (and onto our hips!). Why the diggins would we want our chocolate made from some foreign product that makes the chocolate taste disgusting?



Now Cadbury have swallowed their coconuts and are returning our beloved chocolate to its former glory – no mean feat I would imagine. At least they admitted they got it wrong, hopefully have sacked their PR department and condemned the R&D department to outer Siberia. I was contemplating a Swiss future with my most favourite chocolate being Lindt, though now I may return to the fold and indulge again in Dunedin's quintessential choccy treat. I admit here that the chocolate isn't actually made in Dunedin and probably doesn't even have Kiwi cow in it, but hey a girl is allowed to dream!

Kim

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**Copy and ads deadline – 25 September**  
**Distribution – 14 October**

## TOM OAKURA

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

### THE TEAM

Co-ordinator: **Tracey Lusk** 06 752 7875  
 tracey@thetom.co.nz

Co-ordinator/Features: **Kim Ferens** 06 751 1519  
 kim@thetom.co.nz

Advertising: **Cyril Henderson** 06 753 6885  
 cyril@thetom.co.nz

Feature writers: **Jennifer Gros**  
 jennifer@thetom.co.nz  
**Sharon van Dijk**  
 sharon@thetom.co.nz

Music reviews: **Graham Donlon**

Proof reader: **Elayne Kessler**

Graphics: **Ron Stratford**  
 origin@xtra.co.nz

The TOM Group 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

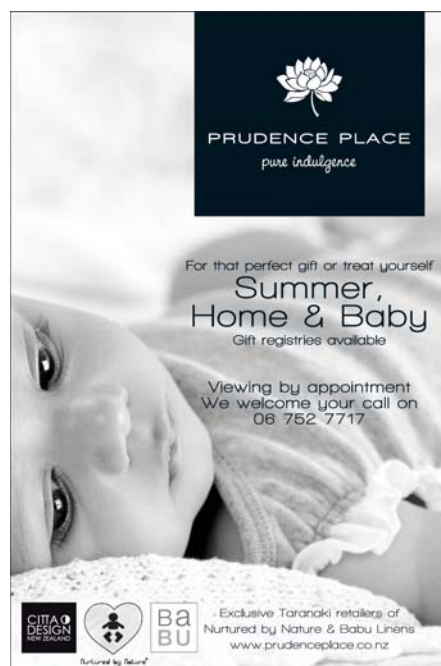
# Sheer Luxury Comes to Oakura

gourmet breakfasts aren't enough, is the soon to be completed Day Spa. This is located downstairs and for the ultimate in relaxation, a local massage and beauty therapist will soothe away all the worries and cares in the world.

Nikki is proud to be able to offer her guests a totally unique experience like no other in Oakura and she says it is the little details that mean the most to her and she delights in providing them for her visitors.

Next month we will feature the Prudence Place Gift Store but in the meantime if you are wanting to purchase beautiful baby wear then contact Nikki to view her exclusive Nurtured by Nature range, the Babu bed linen range and for beach lovers – kaftans, beach bags and overnight bags by Citta Design. You will not be disappointed by price or quality and what better setting to host your own baby registry.

By Kim Ferens



**Shane Herbert - Lawyer**

**Civil Litigation**

**7599119**

from **mayor pete**



NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL  
newplymouthnz.com



Hi folks!

From 4 - 11 September people have been bending their backs throughout the district to help remove rubbish from public places. It's all been in the name of "Keep New Zealand Beautiful Week" when locals adopt a local beach, walkway, park, playground, roadside or other public space to pick them clean of litter. It's this kind of personal ownership and willingness to get involved that makes a big difference in our local landscapes.

Just removing litter from a public space makes it safer to use (no one wants to step on glass or a bottle top), and also more inviting for children and adults.

So I have a big thank you to everyone who has rolled up their sleeves and taken part in this year's Keep New Zealand Beautiful Week! I also want to thank local sportswoman Paige Hareb for making time in her pro surfing calendar to promote the event and encourage people to get involved. As she said to local media, "When I was at primary school we always took part in beach clean-up days and it was pretty fun doing it with everyone, and you also felt good after doing it as well."

Of course you don't have to be part of Keep New Zealand Beautiful Week to help keep your local park, beach or walkway looking great. At any time of the year we can make a big difference just by picking up any rubbish we see when we're out with the family or on our daily walk or run. We are blessed with great public areas such as Oakura Beach and Matekai and Corbett parks (not to mention Weld Road and Ahu Ahu Reserve, and the Kaitake Range). It's a rich landscape and a pretty special part of the country, and we can all help keep it that way. As Paige says, "We should be proud of our country and look after it."

Finally, be sure to give me a call if you have an idea that you think the Council can help get off the ground. I'd love to hear from you!

*Peter Tennent*

Mayor

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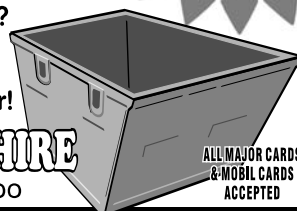
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# Oakura Sewerage Scheme Update

Construction of the gravity reticulation within the township is completed, with contractors now completing minor defects. Apart from landscaping, the booster pump station on State Highway 45 is finished and the Shearer Reserve pump station is in the final stages of construction.

We will be undertaking testing and commissioning of the pump stations over the next two months. Final landscaping of the pump station sites will be left until after the commissioning in case there is any further work required at the sites.

There have been a number of enquiries by the public regarding their connections and decommissioning of septic tanks.

## Decommissioning of Septic Tanks

The following are the minimum requirements for decommissioning septic tanks:

- 1 Septic tanks must be completely emptied by a licensed contractor. This is important, as effluent contains bacteria and viruses that could make you or your family ill.
- 2 The septic tank can then be removed or the bottom holed and the lid/lids broken up and thrown in the bottom of tank. This is to make the tank safe from future collapse and prevent liquid build-up.
- 3 The septic tank must be filled with sand or other inert material. This is to avoid future ground subsidence.

New Plymouth District Council realises that in some situations septic tanks are in hard to reach positions, but for health and safety reasons the decommission process has to be done. Some residents have asked if septic tanks could be kept as a back-up, but this is not permitted.

## Quotes for Private Drainage

Some residents have noted they are receiving high quotes for drainage work. It is recommended that you seek more than one competitive quote for this work. For an example of how much prices can vary, one resident received quotes ranging from \$1,500 to \$4,500 to install a gravity connection and to decommission the septic tank. This demonstrates that it is worth your while to shop around.

## Consideration for Finance from the Council

In some cases the Council will consider providing finance to private individuals to assist with the works required to connect to the scheme. Possible structuring of this financing could include upper and lower limits, upper to avoid individuals taking advantage of cheap finance and lower to minimise administration of the scheme. The Council would need to recoup the costs of finance (i.e. charge interest, but not at a profit). Repayments would be over a set period similar to a table loan, and financing would need to be secured by way of a charge against the property.

## Information Day

An information day to discuss your connection or any aspects of the scheme will be held in October (a date will be advised closer to the time) between 3.00 - 7:00pm at the New Plymouth Old Boys surf lifesaving clubrooms on Tasman Parade. Please feel free to come along and talk to one of our Council representatives. They will be there to answer your questions.

## Contact Person at the Council

If you have any questions regarding your connection to the sewer, please contact Drainage Inspector Rob Campbell on 759 6060. He will be happy to help you with your questions and can meet you at your property if required. If Rob is unavailable, please leave a message.

# Retraction and apology

The July edition of TOM Oakura published a letter to the editor from me. That letter made statements about the New Plymouth District Council's Mayor and officers that implied they had acted unprofessionally, dishonestly or with improper motive in connection with the Oakura sewage scheme.

I accept that those statements were false and defamatory.

I unreservedly retract those statements and I apologise to the Mayor and to any Council Officers linked to those statements for any embarrassment or distress caused to them or their families by those statements.

*Warren Barleyman*



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*Noelle Milam, Suki Bishop, Lloyd Jones,  
Elayne Kessler and Jennifer Gros.*

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**Oakura  
Library**

### Taranaki Children's Book Festival

Much to the delight of 60 enthusiastic school children, Oakura library hosted illustrator Ross Kinnaird and author Toni Rolleston-Cummins on 2nd September. We are so fortunate to have a variety of authors visit so many of Taranaki's school and libraries. It has become a much anticipated annual event.

### Conservation Week 13-20 September

We have a huge range of informative and useful books on the subject. *Green Cleaning for Dummies*, *Pick Preserve Serve*, and *Plants That Poison* are useful household resources.

*A Bird in the Hand: Keeping New Zealand Wildlife Safe*, *Earthkids: New Zealand Conservation Stories, Activities and Games*, *Day Walks of Taranaki*, *Poles Apart: Beyond the Shouting and Who's Right about Climate Change* (Gareth Morgan) offer interesting, educational and sometimes controversial concepts.

Always happy to be of assistance,

*Karen and Vincenza*

## Oakura Ladies Book Club

*by Jennifer Gros*

The Taranaki Festival of the Arts brought one of the book club's favorite authors to New Plymouth. On Saturday morning, 1 August, Lloyd Jones was the speaker at the Spiegeltent Salon Perdu. The Oakura Ladies Book Club was lucky enough to meet the award winning New Zealand author and have him sign copies of their *Mr. Pip* paperbacks. His forum was intelligent and entertaining, and gave the audience insight into the "behind the scenes" work of writing an award winning novel.

The Book Club is currently reading *The Captive Wife* by Fiona Kidman. Set near Mt. Taranaki in early 1800's, the book is based on real events and is a story of marriage, love, duty, and the quest for freedom in a pioneering age. Copies of the book are available at the Oakura Public Library.



# Kiwisport for Kiwi Kids

By Jonathan Young, MP New Plymouth

"Go outside and play" is line taken from one of New Plymouth's outdoor sports store radio adverts. As a youngster I don't remember being told to go outside and play, rather it was the reverse being called inside to attend to overdue homework or some chore that I had been set but remained uncompleted. While the "play" we engaged in wasn't considered to be sport as such, the skills we developed often led us to take up a sport as we grew older.

While many young New Zealanders follow sport they don't necessarily have the opportunity to participate in it. That is why the Government is committed to help more children take part in organised sport at school, after school and during the holidays. It believes that sport is a great way to exercise and it teaches valuable teamwork and fair play skills.

National knows that that is hard for schools to find coaches, referees, volunteers and administrators within their limited funds. The Kiwisport initiative answers the call from schools, clubs and regional sports trust for greater support and investment in sport for children.

Up until now \$5.3 million of the government allocated funds went to secondary schools to fund sports coordinators which mean that currently, primary schools receive no sports funding. Under Kiwisport a total of over \$20 million will be allocated next year. Both primary and secondary schools will each receive \$6 million on a strict per capita basis. Each school will have the flexibility and freedom to spend the money in a way that ensures more of their pupils get access to sport without layers of bureaucracy and heavy-handed reporting.

In addition to funding schools, regional sports trusts will receive over \$8 million of new money next year as part of Kiwisport, on top of the \$18 million they already receive from the Government. This money is specifically targeted for partnerships with schools or groups of school.

The Government will deliver \$82 million over the next four years directly to the frontline. This funding comes from savings that have been identified in social marketing campaigns, websites and tagged funding programmes.

With this injection of funding into sports, in secondary schools in particular, it is hoped that those who have had an involvement in sport will consider a career in such areas as sport psychology, sport medicine, event management and coaching/refereeing.

However not every school leaver is suited to further academic studies and it is a concern to the Government that those in the 18-24 age group make up a third of those on the Unemployment Benefit and that is why we have announced our Youth Opportunities Package. It is designed to create opportunities for young people in work, education and training. Under Jobs Op the Government is backing businesses that create work opportunities for young people. We are asking firms to provide up to 4000 young people with an entry-level job for six months and we will pay a \$5000 wage subsidy for each placement.

Under both Kiwisport and Job Op every young New Zealander will attract significantly more funding than under the current system. Most will be substantially better off.

## Jonathan Young



MP for  
New Plymouth



National

For constituent appointments, please  
contact my Electorate Office in  
New Plymouth

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[jan.mason@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:jan.mason@parliament.govt.nz)

## Update from the Big Red Truck

### Greetings from all at the Big Red Truck

Did you know that in October this year the Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade will celebrate 40 years since its inception? Recently we held our annual honours night, but this year combined it with a 40 year celebration of the Brigade. Three of the surviving foundation members, Frank Day, Peter Newton and Jimmy Priest were with us to celebrate. Also there was Ron Smith, Chief Fire Officer of New Plymouth at the time.

Service honours were made to:

Senior Fire Fighter Craig Scott, 19 years service

Chief Fire Officer Matt Crabtree, 11 years service

Qualified Fire Fighter Al Rawlinson, 7 years service

Fire Fighter Andrea Leadbetter, 3 years service

It must be noted that it took Andrea 4 - 4 ½ years to get this certificate, since a woman in the Fire Service is not allowed to participate in training whilst pregnant. Well done Andrea, you have two lovely children and we are all proud of your achievement.

Fire Fighter Ross Bennett, 3 years service

Fire Fighter Tran Lawrence, 3 years service

Special mention goes to Senior Fire Fighter Chris West who is to receive his Long Service Good Conduct bar for 28 years service. Well done Chris. It is a privilege to have you in the Brigade.

Thank you to Matt and Jan from the Terrace Takeaways for your kind donation of a fridge to the Brigade.

On 26 September the Oakura Fire Brigade will once again be hosting the 6th annual Toughest Fire Fighter competition. Please come and support our Brigade on Butlers Lane (behind Butlers).

On a serious note; this is just a reminder that the Oakura Fire Brigade is here to serve you and your community. If you have a fire, no matter how big or small, please call 111 for the Fire Brigade. We are not concerned if you think you are wasting our time. We would rather be safer than sorry.

All the best and stay safe.

Mel Breeze (Sec)

# Val Deakin Dance Theatre –

## Forever Bubbles!

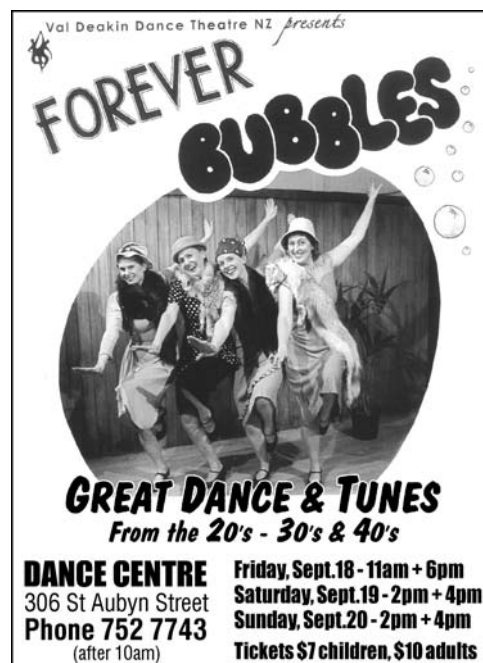
Soap bubble, bubble gum, bottles of bubbly and three very different historical recordings of “I’m Forever Blowing Bubbles” provide an effervescent sparkle to the Val Deakin Dance Theatre’s humorous ballet *Forever Bubbles*. It will be showing at the Dance Centre, 306 St Aubyn Street, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday September 18, 19 and 20.

*Forever Bubbles* is a light-hearted look at New Zealand in the 1920’s, 30s and 40s, a slice of Kiwiana from the “housewife’s” point of view. The ballet is a humorous and satirical look at “women’s place in the home” with commentary on social programming from the promise of “sure to rise” and soap powder commercials to the sway of fashion in clothes. It’s a look at how women’s role in society has changed. The radio and gramophone give accompaniment to three decades of washing, ironing and cleaning with dance crazes of the time, Aunt Daisy’s handy household hints and some of the great musical hits of the various eras.

The cast will include some of the Dance Theatre’s most experienced and versatile performers. They include Jane Roseman, Donna Kelly, Shelley Prestney (returning from Thailand to take part!) and Inge Vink. They are four of the five original creators of the work. Also dancing will be Catherine Donlon who says, “It’s such great fun! I am looking forward to dancing in the whole work as up until now I’ve just had the pleasure to be in several shorter excerpts.” Kristina Rodgers and Annabelle Weston, two younger members of the Dance Theatre, will complete the cast.

Harry Brown enthused over the work saying, “Essentially fun, it sparkled with the imaginative choreography and skilful presentation that has become a hallmark of the Val Deakin Dance Theatre Trust.” *Forever Bubbles* was also a great hit when performed by the Dance Theatre on their 2006 tour to England.

Tickets for this family friendly dance work are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. Special family and group discounts are available. For more information or tickets contact Val Deakin Dance Theatre, 63 Messenger Terrace, Oakura 4314 or phone 7527743.



## VW Nationals

*Johnathan Whitehead and Brian Goodhue dressed in their best VW dress as they headed to the 2009 VW Club Nationals in August.*



# Waireka Cemetery Gets a New Frontage

Progress is continuing to be made at Waireka Cemetery with the removal of a section of forestation and fencing on the roadside. This clearance has provided the cemetery with half a dozen or so car parks. A new post and rail fence has gone in, with two pedestrian gates that make access in and out of the cemetery effortless. Signage has also been replaced.

A subcommittee of the Friends of Waireka Cemetery, Sandra Lewis, Bill Donald and Jon-Paul Heather, have met with council officers regarding the species of plants to be used as hedging. The result is a selection of large and small natives including cabbage trees, matipos, grisellinas and corokias. Students from Omata School helped plant these, making it a real community effort. John and Lynda Matthews have donated the plants and this is very much appreciated.

Regarding the mowing of the cemetery, the plan is to let the patches of microlaena grass get established around the hilly section of the cemetery and eventually this area will require only minimal mowing. For the more accessible sections of the cemetery, the New Plymouth District Council mowing crew will visit regularly and mow the flatter parts of the cemetery.

There is also interest in looking into the value of registering the cemetery with the Historic Places Trust. This would provide interested persons with information on the history of the site and its burials via the Historic Places Trust website.

By Kim Ferens



Jeremy Bennett and Rebekkah from NPDC demonstrate how to plant the new specimens.

Bayly Ireland and Tony Waghorn planting at Waireka Cemetery.



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Once again the Community Board has been busy dealing with local issues as they have arisen, and there have been quite a number.

As the result of a deputation at the last Community Board meeting where a resident raised a number of concerns to do with the sewerage project, we asked council to provide an update on the sewerage project and the concerns. The Community Board believes it is important that all residents have access to correct information and don't rely on speculation and hearsay before deciding to engage a contractor to carry out work inside their boundary. That information can be found elsewhere in this issue.

The Board also agreed in principle that council proceed with the process for the sale of the now surplus Okato Water Reservoir Property at 109 Oxford Road, Okato.

Following consideration of any submissions received, council will decide whether or not to go ahead with the sale.

Richard Sheldrake and Christine Frey from the Farmers Market Taranaki Trust gave a brief presentation at the Community Board meeting on what the Farmers Market was all about. They would like to bring the market to Oakura on one Saturday each month from November through April for local growers to sell their produce. They are currently seeking a suitable location for the market and asked the Community Board for assistance. It was agreed that they would meet informally with the Community Board members prior to the next meeting to discuss possible suitable locations. They will report back at the next meeting with their options. If any folk have suggestions or queries about the establishment of a farmers market, please talk to a board member prior to the next meeting.

The Oakura School roll continues to expand, and with an increasing number of vehicles transporting children to and from school each day there is a safety issue for children crossing Donnelly Street. The Community Board recommended the creation of parking restrictions to support school children's pedestrian movements before and after school each day. The area referred to is adjacent to the new Kea crossing in Donnelly Street. Kea crossings provide children with a safe place to cross the road. They are installed around many schools so school patrols can control traffic and safely guide children across the street. Parking restrictions are to prohibit parking on the north side of Donnelly Street for 27 metres from the Hussey Street corner, to prohibit parking on the south side of Donnelly Street for 13 metres from Hussey Street and also to prohibit parking on the west side of Hussey Street for 11 metres from the Donnelly street corner.

Recently two classes (totaling more than 60 students) from Oakura School joined the council Parks and Reserves team to plant out the dunes in front of the Oakura Motor Camp. This was a great learning experience for the children as the sand-binding plants (spinifex sericeus) help to stabilise the dunes and manage erosion. The day was successful, and the kids did a great job in planting about 5,000 plants.

As part of the Open Space Strategy council is undertaking a study to help understand current and future demand on our district sports fields to assist future open space planning. The study involves working with regional sports organisations and clubs to obtain information about how sports fields are currently used. To collect the data, questionnaires are being sent to the sports organisations and clubs requesting general information about what they do and their use of sports fields.

**The next Kaitake Community Board meeting will be at the NPOB Surf Club on Tuesday 22 September at 4pm.**

Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer (752 7050), Mike Pillette (752 7059), Al Rawlinson (752 7178) and Deputy Mayor Alex Matheson (756 8080), who is the Council representative on the KCB.

kaitake community board

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## Oakura Pony Club News

By Diane Alder

On 19 September Oakura Pony Club is holding its annual fundraiser, a Jumping Day competition which will be held at Waitara Pony Club. Our Jumping Day is the first big competition of the season and we often attract more than 100 riders with their horses and ponies. It will be "all hands on deck" to organise this event and we are thankful to the many Oakura businesses that are sponsoring prizes. We will mention them by name next month.

On 26 and 27 September we will be holding a jumping clinic at the Oakura Pony Club. All riders are welcome to attend, and you do not have to be a pony club member. Contact Diane Alder or Paula Harvey to register.

On 13 October we will be hosting a fundraising fashion show at Ballentynes. Tickets are \$10.00 with beverages and nibbles provided. Everyone who attends will receive discount vouchers. Please contact Paula Harvey for tickets.

Finally, our congratulations go to Catherine West who recently learned that she is one of only six New Zealand young riders chosen to be included in the Dressage New Zealand Young Rider Development Training Group. That's an awesome achievement well done Catherine!

For tickets, registration or any information relating to the above events or Oakura Pony Club in general, please contact either Diane Alder 7521008 or Paula Harvey 7535335.



### Greetings all

It's been really quiet on the fishing front over the last two or three months, many not even getting close to the ocean. However the grass seems to be growing a bit quicker, which is a sure sign it's getting a little warmer. Then the question of mowing the lawns or

goin' fishin' comes into the equation. The lawns can wait another day . . .

A few members have recently taken advantage of the few nice days by getting out and catching a feed. Kayakers have gotten Gurnard, Snapper and Kahawai. Surfcasters have been particularly quiet. Alas, just as we were wondering when it is going to pick up, legend Big Snapper Catcher, Shane Dunlop, brought home the bacon with a Snapper a bit over 10kg. This indeed has boosted morale among members in both the Yak and the Surfcasting sections



Shane Dunlop with his monster 10kg+ snapper.

With the evenings drawing out a bit longer now, there is no excuse not to sneak out before dinner or even try a night fish at high tide off the sand in local places. Ahu's, the Motor Camp, Timaru Road by the Ship Wreck or Greenwood Road are well worth surfcasting off the beach on the change of light. Ahu's, Timaru Road and the Fort are easy and safe places to launch your Yak. So get out there and have a crack, as you might be surprised at what's mooching round. Now's the time the Trevs start coming in. These are big powerful fish, and on light line they are awesome to catch. Low tide around mussel rocks are good spots to target these.

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# BMX Girls Do Oakura Proud

The latest news in is that New Zealander Sarah Walker has won the Super Cross World Cup in South Africa. This highlights how well New Zealanders perform in this sport. Readers will be familiar with our own locals, the Sarten family, who also perform consistently well at home and abroad. Nicole and Hannah are not long back from Adelaide where they participated in the World Championships. They have armfuls of trophies to attest to their talents.

Hannah came second in the 13 year old girl's Challenge race. She also came 6th in the 13-14 year old Cruiser race, where she was the only 13 year old competing. Hannah has been racing since she was 6 and still has a passion and love for the sport. She suffered two wedge fractures in her back just before the World's, which meant she couldn't practice like she wanted. The fractures have healed well with only the occasional twinge now. That shows how much talent and guts she has, to overcome a serious injury and go on and place second. At the end of the month Hannah is hoping to get into the New Zealand Senior Women's test team.

Nicole came 6th in the 17-24 year old Cruiser race. Nicole says it was a real battle to get into the final and she scraped into the semi final with a 4th place. She said she was very nervous before the race but BMX riding is really suiting her at the moment. She has only been competing for three seasons.

Both girls are very appreciative of their coach Clive Telford who coaches them each Monday night at the Marfell BMX track. They say they are very lucky to have a coach of his calibre.

BMX racing as a sport is relatively small in New Zealand, so when our young people can go and compete overseas against countries that boast tens of thousands of riders, then you know our Oakura locals must have plenty of talent. We look forward to more top results from the Sarten girls.

*By Kim Ferens*



*Hannah (above) and Nicole (right) training at Marfell Park.*



*Hannah (left) and Nicole (right) with their trophies from the Worlds.*



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# GETTING WET!



## A Teenage Rampage

With Spring appearing early this year there wasn't enough snow in August to hold the 'Snow & Surf' or the Secondary and Primary Schools skiing and snowboarding competition on Mount Taranaki.

However there's been moments of great surf and there was a consistent swell running for the 'Ocean & Earth Teenage Rampage' which was held on Saturday August 8th.

It took place on a cloudless day at Graveyards with challenging 2-3 metre waves and as its title suggests it was open to under eighteen year olds from anywhere in New Zealand. I wasn't able to be there but I spoke to Tyler Anderson who said it was extremely well organised by Johnny Lovell and his crew. Kane Rowson did an impressive job on the microphone keeping it all running smoothly and handing out spot prizes throughout the day.

Tyler, who was battling an injury at the time, was placed 4th in the final. Sisters, Casey and Eloise Stevens from our Oakura Club also did us very proud with their 2nd and 3rd placing respectively in their U16 event. Other results follow this article.

Apart from the O&E Rampage, August has been a quiet month for the club. I'm sure as a result of the AGM which was held just before going to print, the new committee will be in full force with the promise of exciting months ahead. Watch this space!

*Tyler Anderson, U18 finalist.*

### Ocean & Earth Teenage Rampage Junior surfing series kicks off!

Saturday 8th August saw the start of the Ocean and Earth Teenage Rampage junior surfing series. The series is being run over three events, and has attracted competitors from all over NZ.

The winners of the divisions were

#### Under 16 Girls

- 1st Alexis Poulter (Raglan)
- 2nd Eloise Stevens (Taranaki)
- 3rd Casey Stevens (Taranaki)
- 4th Lydia Walsh (Taranaki)

#### Under 14 Boys

- 1st Peri Matenga (Mount)
- 2nd Sean Kettle (Taranaki)
- 3rd Paul Moretti (Northland)
- 4th Waretine Wano (Piha)

#### Under 16 Boys

- 1st Tyler Lawson (Hawkes bay)
- 2nd Todd Doyle (Mount)
- 3rd Nat Hughes (Raglan)
- 4th Hemi Porter (Taranaki)

#### Under 18 Girls

- 1st Alexis Poulter (Raglan)
- 2nd Nicola Colson – Koster (Raglan)
- 3rd India Wray – Murane (Raglan)
- 4th Kendra Hartley (Taranaki)

#### Under 18 Boys

- 1st Sean Parker (Taranaki)
- 2nd Christo Gilbert (Hawkes Bay)
- 3rd Michael Mallalieu (Taranaki)
- 4th Tyler Anderson (Taranaki)

**Special Thanks to Ocean & Earth and CSA Surfboards as the major sponsors of the event.**





## Don Sarten – On Needles

Don Sarten, age 76, calculates he's had over 22,300 of them, needles that is. Growing up in Tikorangi, Don missed a lot of school in his first year of primary school because of childhood illnesses. The

decision was made for Don to attend Feilding Agricultural High School as a boarder. At age 14, when Don was hospitalised, he was diagnosed with diabetes. Back then "sugar diabetes" (now renamed Type 1 diabetes) was the term given to the condition. This is where the pancreas does not produce its own insulin, hence the need for insulin by injections to control blood sugar levels.

The doctors are credited with giving Don and his mother sound advice that helped with his early acceptance and responsibility for his condition. All meals were measured for good calorie control. To this day Don has an interest in sharing his knowledge and support with others who have diabetes.

Diabetes has known complications which include blindness, nerve damage and sometimes the need for amputation of limbs when wounds do not heal. Both Don's legs were surgically removed below the knee earlier this decade with five years between operations. With a couple of swings of his legs Don shows me that having prostheses (artificial legs) has not deterred him from being able to live a full life. He faithfully exercises his stumps and uses Vitamin E cream every day to deter the 'rubs' that followed his first amputation.

Life on his new legs took some adapting to and sometimes Don took a tumble. Winsome, his wife and a registered nurse, recalls when Don was helping clear kiwifruit vines with his stick. "He fell and all I could see were legs and vines going every which way. I wish I had a camera!" Don says if there's one thing he's learned, it's how to fall. "Relax like a baby," he quips.

Although Don is used to his artificial limbs, the couple were aware of future potential complications. When altering their house, they asked their engineer son to install a lift in their 2-storey Oakura home of 20 years. Don has led an active life with sports (rugby and tennis), farming, and gardening. He is a long-time active member of the Masonic Lodge and other community organisations.

As a farmer he would arrive back home for his meals "on the dot", as he is conscientious about keeping the diabetes in balance by regular exercise (he walks for ½ hour most days) and insulin control.

To monitor blood sugar levels, Don tests himself with a small pin-prick seven times a day. "Those are nothing," says Don. He administers insulin via a specialised "needle pen" four times a day. In the earlier days of injecting, Don remembers glass syringes with steel needles and that pig insulin was used. Now synthetic insulin is used and there is a much wider knowledge of how diabetes affects the body.

Don and Winsome have been married for over 50 years and the couple have five children. Meals for the family were the same for everyone. Winsome learned early on the value of food

and particularly the effect of carbohydrates on diabetes. They have one son whose diabetes was discovered when he was 17 years old. The Sartens attribute their son's ability to adapt to his own condition to his familiarity with his dad's diabetes

With the help of a GP that is up to date with the condition and a diabetologist in Auckland that Don sees annually, his diabetes is well-controlled. Recently Don was awarded the Sir Charles Burns Memorial Award for achieving 61 years as a diabetic. The presentation was made by the President of the North Taranaki Diabetes Society, Ron Dravitski, on behalf of Diabetes New Zealand. The award recognises good control of diabetes in a person for 50 years or more. Charles Burns is recognised as the first resident doctor in New Zealand to administer insulin to a patient in 1923.

For more information on diabetes go to [www.diabetes.org.nz](http://www.diabetes.org.nz) and watch for Diabetes Awareness Week in November.

By Sharon VanDijk

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# Women See Themselves in Whole New Light

By Jennifer Gros

Luna House taught three workshops in Oakura over one weekend in July that helped local women see themselves in a "whole new light." A full weekend focusing on "Conscious Menstruality," "Illuminating Your Menstrual Cycle" and "The Alchemy of Menopause" had the attendees enriched and enlightened. The presenter of the workshop was Jane Catherine Severn, Psychotherapist, Intuitive Therapist and Menstruality Educator. This was a rare opportunity to spend a weekend with Jane, the creator of Christchurch's Luna House. Attendees were so thrilled with what they learned at this workshop that the women plan to bring Jane Severn back for a follow-up workshop in the upcoming year. For more information on Luna House, go to [www.lunahouse.co.nz](http://www.lunahouse.co.nz) or contact Belinda Willis at [belinda@surveyors.net.nz](mailto:belinda@surveyors.net.nz).

Carey: This course on "conscious menstruality" provided a small group experience where the structure and meaning of women's menstrual cycles was explored. The actual experience of our cycle is often lost or resisted. This course provided a process where we could connect to the natural and rhythmical nature of our cycle, respect it, experience it, and appreciate it with meaning . . . This course provided fundamental meaning for me as a woman and that meaning ran deep . . . I am more at peace, more understanding of myself, more forgiving.

Jacqui: This made so much 'sense' to me on every level and has given me a deeper understanding and passion for the cyclical nature of the feminine spirit.

Carmen: The workshop was very successful in helping me to deepen my understanding and awareness of conscious menstruation, and to reclaim the powerful connection between myself, my womanly cycle, nature's cycles and other women's experiences.

Connor: This workshop allowed me to open to what I knew in my cells but had not understood fully or had the words to express. This moved me deeply so that I may fully embrace my feminine nature and know the special gifts of being female. A missing piece of the story moved through me to create a newly satisfying wholeness.

Belinda: This was the most enriching and validating experience I have had on this earth. I really encourage every woman to attend this [workshop] next time. It is about the history (or the *herstory*) of menstruality over the ages and what our cycle in its four stages is trying to teach us. It is a celebration . . . I cannot imagine not knowing this (information) now.

Aileen: To all the women of the world . . . this workshop will bring you awareness and opening to new ways of understanding for you and all of the ladies around you.

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"A great way to socialise, meet new people, exercise, feel confident and have fun and a laugh at the same time!" says Denise Fenner, an Occupational Therapist residing in Okato. Cathy Stewart, a registered nurse was pleasantly surprised and enjoys the session with Mariam her daughter. For another regular, Kathleen Adamski, a lavender farmer who walks five times a week, says she enjoys the sessions to "improve her overall mind and body coordination," while isolating and exercising other muscle groups that she otherwise would.

"No! you don't have to bare your bellies". In fact we are all fully clothed in our sessions. You also don't need any prior dance experience. Just come with a smile!

The art of belly dancing originated from the Middle East and other Arabic influenced regions many years ago. Performed by nomadic ladies or Gypsies, the dance is a celebration of life, embracing femininity and womanhood. Benefits of belly dancing are both mental and physical. Belly Dancing tones the arms, strengthens and tightens the abs and improves flexibility "In our sessions, we emphasise muscular "isolations", focusing of moving various muscles groups independently."

Originally from Singapore, Rosalina used to hire Bellydancers as entertainers for events while working as an events and marketing manager. She was intrigued by the subtleness of the dancers; strength and coordination that she decided to pick up this dance form herself and never looked back. As a keen dancer since the age of eight, she took belly dancing up to tone up and relief menstrual cramps. She would like to keep sessions small and up to maximum of eight ladies.

"I might open another session if there is enough interest." she notes.

Our bellydance for fitness sessions are held every Thursdays evenings from 7.15pm to 8.45pm at Oakura Boardriders Club.

"Give it a go! If it's not for you, at least you tried it once and your first session is on me." she says. Contact her at 752 1262 or [raizel@5thelement.co.nz](mailto:raizel@5thelement.co.nz)

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## Farewell to our 4 Square Friends

It is with much sadness that we wave au revoir to our friendly 4 Square owners Tim and Anna Carmichael.

It doesn't seem that long ago we were all clutching our wallets in dread because the Lims were leaving and now it's the turn of Tim and Anna to leave. They have been in Oakura for just over two years now and it seems like they have always been there. We will miss you guys, you have been a big part of our lives. Tim readily admits they spent about 100-110 hours a week in the store each, but he says they are leaving with a sense of pride. Pride in what they are leaving behind, happy well trained staff, customers who are friends and a store that has continued to grow since they took it over – absolutely no regrets, oh apart from not having enough time to relax and socialise more in the village and the province. Anna laughs when she says they were told they were coming to a 'fishing village'. Tim describes it as a unique place – one of the few if not the only place left in the North Island where everything is available in the village for a beach holiday including the beach. Thank goodness it hasn't been over developed. They feel very fortunate to have started their first business in such a nice area.

So Tim and Anna are off to Wellington as the new owners of the Island Bay New World. It's a bit bigger than our 4 Square with 75 staff and eight check out counters, but I reckon these two lovely people will make a real go of it and we wish you all the best.

Next month we will profile the new owners of the 4 Square – Steve Butland and Marlies Butland Delfos.

By Kim Ferens

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# Oakura School Dune Planting

On 29 July two classes (60+ kids) from Oakura School and the New Plymouth District Council held a dune planting in front of the Oakura motor camp. This was a good learning experience for the children. The sand-binding plants (Spinifex Sericeus) help to stabilise the dunes and stop erosion. The day was successful and the kids did a great job planting approximately 5000 plants.



*Oakura School students planting in the dunes at Oakura Beach.*

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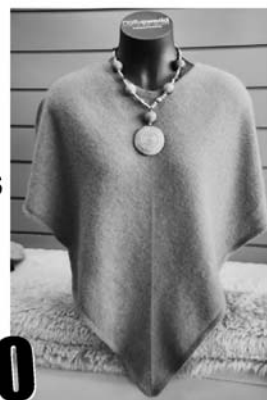
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## Market Day

On Saturday 19 September from 9:00am-1:00pm, Oakura School will be hosting their very first Market Day. This day will include a book stall, a clothes stall, cakes and sweets, the ever famous sausage sizzle, a toy stall, a produce stall, a Bric-a-Brac stall, refreshments, a bacon & egg sandwich stall and more!

This is one of the Friends of Oakura School's fundraising events that support our school in so many ways. Meika Watson-Burrows, head pupil at Oakura School, commented, "I'm really looking forward to the Market Day and it will be great fun to see what people come up with to sell."

Thank you to all the volunteers that have already signed up to donate their time and resources to this day. We are welcoming anyone who would like to help. It is a perfect way to help the school and will be a really enjoyable day. Please come along and support Oakura School in this event as it promises to have a lot of bargains and fun activities for all.

*By Isla Dunn (12 years)*

## Opening of Room 8

On Friday 24 July all pupils of Oakura School gathered outside Room 8. This newest edition to Oakura School's classes took two terms to build. A powhiri was organised by Matua Dave and Whaia Cath for the official opening. We started off by performing the Haka and singing some songs. The four head pupils then cut a ribbon to open the class and the parents watching went in to have a look.

The new classroom was built because of the rising numbers attending Oakura School. Each class got to have a look in the new room and were very envious of this new space. It even has an interactive whiteboard.



*Our very popular new classroom.*

The pupils of Room 8 were in the gallery for two terms and had to put up with moving their desks and tables for assemblies and meetings. When the day finally came, they spent the whole time moving and organising their new class. The pupils were buzzing with excitement to use the new interactive whiteboard and be taught in such a bright and attractive new environment. Oakura pupils and staff would like to thank all the people who helped make this classroom so great. We are so thankful to have this classroom which has helped to reduce the numbers in other rooms and to help us with our learning.

*By Molly Oldfield (12 years)*

## Writer's Workshop

On 12 August Oakura School's journalists headed off to a writer's workshop at Merrilands School. This was hosted by Vincent Ford, the well known author of young people's novels, who taught us about writing techniques and how to improve our skills.

The day turned out to be very informative. Vince Ford taught us the recipe for writing successful books, how to make a plot, build characters, develop the storyline and write action scenarios. We did a variety of activities including four minutes of writing non-stop, creating two random characters and giving them completely different personalities, and actually doing an action in slow-motion. We then wrote a description of our own bit of an action, e.g. throwing a Frisbee.

We all found it very helpful and we learnt many interesting things about how to write. So hopefully a few more novels will be coming your way shortly in the future!

*Amy Barron (12 years)*

## Wacky Hair Day

On the 13 August all of the pupils of Oakura School participated in a Wacky Hair Day to raise money for the Kids Can Stand Tall Foundation. This organisation supports children in New Zealand so that they can buy raincoats, shoes and other clothing.

Pupils came to school with the craziest hair they could create in hopes of winning the "Wackiest Hair in Oakura School". That day we had mohawks, teased and frizzy hair, hair sprayed all the colours of the rainbow and even students with toys, flowers and little ducks in their hair!



The students brought a gold coin donation to give to the Kids Can Stand Tall charity. Oakura School raised \$343 and sent it to the "Big Night In", which was also raising money. The students really enjoyed this day because it gave them a chance to be creative and imaginative with their hairstyles. Each class has a class councillor. These councillors were split up into groups of two and three and were given a few classes to judge for the wackiest hair. After this the best girl and best boy from each classroom went into the gallery to do a catwalk and show off their crazy hair styles to the rest of the school. Then it was all up to the head pupils to judge the top three boys and top three girls.

All the contestants waited nervously for the end results. For the boys it was 3rd Neihana Kahu, 2nd Sante Cook and 1st Liam McBreen. For the girls it was 3rd Meg Parsons, 2nd Jackie Procter and 1st Bailey Bruckner. All of the students are really looking forward to the next Wacky Hair Day.

*By Jamie Scott (13 years)*



# kaitake kindergarten

## Kaitake Kindergarten

There are exciting new things happening at Kaitake Kindergarten. We would like to welcome to the Kindy fold two new teachers, Shane Ross (full time) and Meredith Harris (part-time).



*The new teaching team, left to right: Eleanor Rumbal, Robyn Lander, Meredith Harris, Shane Ross & Jane Hoskin.*

Shane is a New Plymouth born father of three who has been living in the U.K for 12½ years working in education. We hope Shane is settling in quickly to our new daily routine that has just begun. It is fun listening to him playing with the children and asking them if he has got their name right !!!

Meredith is from Okato. She is a familiar face to most of our children and parents as she has relieved for the Kindy on a regular basis in the past.

The new Kindy times still involve the two daily group sessions, with the addition of a few children being able to stay for six hours a day, four days a week. The children enjoy being able to bring their morning tea and lunch in their lunch boxes and are encouraged to bring healthy food. Our Kindy has a "Healthy Heart Award" and our children are very aware of healthy eating. With spring just around the corner the children will be learning about growing vegetable and flower plants of their own in the next few weeks.

Welcome to the new families who have started this term. Kindy is a fun and exciting place for our young children.

*Kris Roper*

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**"Remember: I sell from the heart because I care"**

## "The Bracelet"

This month you could win a **Pandora bracelet** valued at \$1,767.00 and help support the **New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation**.

Dalglish Diamond Jewellers are donating one Bracelet to be won, and one Bracelet to be auctioned to support this cause. Along with the donation of two bracelets, we are also donating \$1 from every Pandora bead sold between September the 4th to the 19th.

*To be in the draw to win "The Bracelet" all you have to do is make a purchase from Dalglish Diamond Jewellers, and be in store on Saturday 19th September 11.30am for the live draw. The second bracelet which is identical will be auctioned at 11.45am in store.*

This Bracelet has been built up by local personalities in our community. You can follow their stories in store, on line and with More FM's, Waggs and Beth over these 14 days. Highlights from each person's "Pandora Day" will be featured in LIVE's October issue.

This is a fantastic cause that needs our community support. We look forward to seeing you and your friends in store at Dalglish Diamond Jewellers for your next Pandora purchase to support the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.

Thank you.

*Bill, Lynnette and the team at Dalglish*



**Dalglish**  
diamond jewellers  
**PANDORA**  
**MORE FM**

# oakura playcentre

## Playcentre grateful for new sunshade

by Jennifer Gros

What a difference a sunshade can make! Australian World Wide Exploration New Zealand (AWE) had kindly donated the money for a new sunshade over the Oakura Playcentre sandpit! Two representatives from the company recently came to Playcentre to cut the ribbon and have morning tea with the children. It was a lovely sunny morning and there was plenty of activity in the sandpit, including a dinosaur dig, lots of diggers and water play.



*Oakura Playcentre children having fun in the sun!*

The Oakura Playcentre is thrilled at the generosity of AWE, especially in today's difficult economic climate. The donation was just over \$2000. Playcentre would also like to thank MI Fluids for their generosity in donating \$200 towards the sunshade pole protection covers.

There have been many new faces at Playcentre, so welcome to the new families who have joined this term! If you and your infant or preschooler are interested in checking out Playcentre, please join us on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9am to noon. Your first three visits are free and then only \$15 to join per term! Located next to Oakura School on Donnelly Street, Playcentre offers you and your child lasting friendships and the freedom to get creative!



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## Shine '09 was a shining success

by Jennifer Gros

Local healing professionals recently gathered at Oakura Hall for Shine '09. Over 30 stall holders were very pleased at the huge turnout of more than 370 people over the two day event. Visitors enjoyed free talks, mini workshops, demonstrations and free samples. There were so many therapies to choose from (sound healing, yoga, Reiki, EMF balancing, massage and more), that many visitors stayed all day! The next Shine will be held in March or April of 2010.



*Lisa Lister  
performing  
Sound  
Healing.*

*Ram from the Sivananda Centre  
doing a Yoga demonstration.*



## 'FARMING FOR A KING'

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E: frank.adrienne@paradise.net.nz

Also

## "Footprints of a King"

– the life of Newton King

\$35 (\$4 postage)

## Okato Lions Club

### Hello Readers

The sun is shining, the grass is growing, the cows are happy. Keeper calves are now out on pasture day and night. This is a good start to our production season.

Lions are active as usual. Currently we are planning our community dinner, which will now be held in the New Year. The guest speaker (a well known Taranaki sportswoman) has been confirmed. We are sure you will all enjoy her presentation.

The new Totalspan bus shelter has been installed on the corner of Main and Minirapa Roads and it looks so good. Lions will be busy over the next few months shifting one or two of our bus shelters to new locations.

We will soon be planning our annual bike ride for Easter weekend 2010. At our board meeting on 19 August we formed a committee for the preparation of our 40th Anniversary on 8 May next year.

We hope to hold a ladies' night at our tea meeting in November.

Until next month, take care.

Lion, Merv Hooker



The new bus shelter on the corner of Minirapa Road.

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## Coming Events

### September

- 10 Playgroup in hall 9-11 am
- 23 Taranaki Cross Country - Hawera
- 24 Playgroup in hall 9-11 am
- 25 Omata Idol 9am  
Omata Cafe 10am  
School finishes 3pm



## Holidays

### October

- 12 Term 4 begins
- 15 Tennis coaching, all classes
- 20 School Photos
- 21 Jump Rope Display 1:30pm

## Who KNOWS what you want?

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## MITRE 10 MEGA GARDENING

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#### Your September Checklist

**Vegetables:**  
Sow lettuce, radish, carrots, beetroots, silverbeet and peas.  
Plant out cabbage and cauliflower seedlings.  
Prepare to plant tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkin, peppers and sweet corn next month. Plant main crop potatoes.  
Rosemary is delighted to see her asparagus has again sprouted and the first picking is going into the pot as we speak -yum!

**Flowers:**  
Topdress spring flowering bulbs with bulb food.  
Sow seeds of most hardy annuals.  
Don't the magnolias look beautiful?

**Fruit Trees:**  
Plant passionfruit vines in a sheltered site.  
Apply an all purpose fertiliser like Thrive to strawberry plants.

**Lawns:**  
Sow new lawns. Re-sow thin or bare patches.

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## OAKURA CLUBS & GROUPS

### Auric Magnetic Energy Self Healing Workshops

Mondays 10am-12 noon & 6.30-8.30pm, at the Oakura Boardriders Club. Phone Ingrid van Amsterdam on 752 1232 for more info & registration, or email: [movetowardfreedom@xtra.co.nz](mailto:movetowardfreedom@xtra.co.nz)

### Bellydance

Every Thursday at Oakura Boardriders Club. 7.15 to 8.30pm. Contact Rosalina at 027 739 1380.

### Country and Western Club

Every 1st and 3rd Friday from 8.00pm. Contact Betty West, 89 Wairau Rd. Ph 752 7816.

### Hurford - Omata - Oakura Rural Women

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

### Indoor Bowls

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

### JKA Karate

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

### Mini Groovers

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

### Oakura Pool Club

Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm @ Butlers Reef over winter. Ph Stu 752 7407.

### Okato Squash Club

Monday Club Night.

### Omata Playgroup

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

### Playcentre

Playcentre, Donnelly Street.  
Monday and Wednesday, 9.00 to noon.

### Plunket Coffee mornings

Wednesday, 9.15am to 11.00am (please arrive before 10.00am). During the winter months, held at attendees homes - please contact Bob Fleming 752 7048 or Fe Burkett, 752 1132, or Claire Florence, 752 7889 to find out where.

### Senior Citizens

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

### St James Church, Oakura

Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

### St John's, Omata

Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd Sunday of the month.

### Tai Chi ACC Classes

St James Church, Weds 10.30am. Ph Joanna Smith Holley 752 1016 for details.

### Volkswagen Club

Events range from car rallies, the YMCA climbing wall, camping, BBQ get togethers and sharing good family times and knowledge.

Contact Brian Goodhue, the El Presidente 752 1290, email [podsnail@xnet.co.nz](mailto:podsnail@xnet.co.nz)

### Yoga

Tuesday 7.30-9pm with Sarsha ph 752 7977.  
Saturday 9-10.30am with Keith ph 752 7050.

Please phone 0800 THE TOM with any changes to your listing.

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