



TOM

OAKURA

SEPT '18

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OAKURA

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

Do you have a story of local interest that you'd like to share with the readers of TOM? Phone **0800 THE TOM** or visit **thetom.co.nz**

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

From the Editor



This is the time of year when it's so easy to get excited about the weather. Winter is over and all the signs and promises of a great time indoors and outdoors is exhibiting itself - tee shirts on, winter coats off, early morning dawn chorus, bud burst and colour appearing on every tree, evening fires no longer required, the days are getting longer and the nights shorter, the temperatures are slowly rising and the spring garden is growing gleefully - ah spring - when will summer be here so we can lounge around on Oakura Beach!?

I'm very excited about Pickleball - starting up soon in Oakura - a mash up of a few different racquet sports played indoors so isn't weather dependent - a great way to meet people and be active.

I recently had a business women's lunch with Paula Bennett and I was struck by her exuberance for life, her career in politics, her penchant for cheeky one liners and smart quips and her passion for helping people, women in particular. I can definitely see her as Prime Minister one day. My favourite take home quote was "you own the life you live". I like this saying as it gives ownership to the individual to choose the best life they can live, if you aren't living the life you want then choose something else.

Kim

We are very fortunate in Oakura that we can often make choices that change our life for the better so choose to own the life you live!

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Introducing Mint Lunches...

At Mint Lunches we are all about making nutritious, delicious meals to help you stay healthy. We know the impact food can have – especially if we are eating foods that don't agree with our bodies. Now this can be individually so different that there really is no 'one fits all' approach. Mint Lunches are based on a fairly simple philosophy. We believe in unrefined, whole foods for better health and energy. Instead of focusing on what to 'cut out' we like to focus on what to 'put in' and that is nothing but nutrient dense and fresh foods from good and ethical sources. By simply choosing the more nutritious option, food that has not been refined or heavily processed, you get more sustainable energy and better health due to more essential nutrients, more proteins, more fibre and less 'empty carbs' or food chemicals.

Because we are always choosing the more nutritious option our meals* are all gluten and refined sugar free which means more people will be able to enjoy them. If you asked me what my favourite meal to cook is then that would be a nice crunchy salad with lots of different fresh veges, nuts and seeds, feta cheese, avocado, homemade dressing, kumara chips and ovenbaked salmon. Sounds good? Get inspired on our website or try some meals to get your taste buds onto the right track! We deliver lunches to your work or home, do wholesome catering and have a special deal for family meals.

One of my regular customers told me she loves how satisfied she feels when she eats a 'Mint Lunch' - "it feels like you are nurturing your body and the size of meals are so generous (they look small in the box, then you put them on a plate and your eyes pop out of your head when you see how full the plate is! The ingredients are so fresh and tasty - it's the best lunch option I've come across and you don't even have to cook it!"

Love to hear from you, Katrin Dau

*Some baking contains wholegrain spelt flour and oats.



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Oakura Coffee Catch Up

You are invited and you are welcome to come along to the NPOB Surf Life Saving Club each Thursday morning for an hour from 11am for a coffee and a catch up with other locals and visitors.

I like to call this a morning talk group, you may have a better name. Morning talk reminds me of my primary school days, sitting on the mat listening to other children's news or being the one sharing news. We all benefited then and we can all benefit now from either talking or listening.

Are you new to the community? Do you work from home and need an outing? Do you live alone? Are you a visitor to Oakura or New Zealand and would like to mingle with locals? Do you have difficulty with mobility? This is the place for you, all of us will benefit.

The venue is outstanding and it is very much appreciated that this spot has been made available by the NPOB Surf Lifesaving Club.

Each month there will be a guest speaker who will spend 15 minutes sharing their story or project they are involved in, this will be published in the TOM.

A coffee group for Oakura is a place where anyone can pop in for a cup of tea or coffee and be able to have a chat. It is a place where everyone is welcome to join in on any conversation and not feel like they are intruding. This is not an exclusive group, it is for everyone who enjoys the company of other people. Some days we want to talk and share ideas and other days we can happily listen in on a conversation, all of this is what the coffee group can offer. There is no age barrier, the elderly, babies and toddlers are welcome, diversity is the key. We are enriched by variety.

I would love to meet you there.
NPOB Surf Club, Oakura beach
Thursdays 11-12

Tea and coffee provided

What you can bring: if it suits bring your own mug. A coin donation may be left for the surf club.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.
Tracey Lusk p. 752 7875 m. 027 636 8060

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September Guest Speaker

Morning Talk Group - Glenys Farrant

You may have seen the publicity for Cathy's Dance for Hope and wondered what it is all about. In a nutshell it is a fundraising event and more importantly an event of hope, to help understand the pain and isolation of depression. Cathy was one of our community and for her, life had become so miserable she could not see the hope and she felt her only option left was to take her own life. We as a community take that pain and wonder how we can somehow help others in a similar situation. The Taranaki Retreat on Hurford Road are doing a fantastic job in this area and the funds raised from the dance will go towards building another lodge at the retreat.

Come and hear Glenys' story of how the Cathy's Dance for Hope has become a reality and she will also answer any questions you may have about the fundraising event. Glenys will be our guest speaker on Thursday 13 September.

Morning Talk Gathering Thursdays 11am-12am NPOB Surf Club Oakura

Photos for you

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Brave Hearts for Hospice

"I AM SO PROUD OF US" – thus exclaimed Renate Staudinger as we all sat around Sandra Henderson's computer and looked at the stunning photographs that she had taken of us all.

Thirteen Taranaki business women drawn together by both the love of a challenge, and the desire to help our local community.

Bravehearts For Hospice is a slightly daring calendar that is the Bach on Breakwater Café's fund-raiser for Te Rangimarie Hospice Taranaki this year. We are hoping to raise big bucks!!

After the slightly nerve-wracking experience of trying to find 11 women to feature in a 'Calendar Girls' Style calendar (the 12th month is a group shot), I magically ended up with 13 willing women, so this calendar is for 14 months. January 2019 – February 2020. How handy is that?

One of the original willing women had to reluctantly pull out, but as a consolation prize – she offered a donation of \$1000 to go

towards the marketing and printing costs of the calendar. As she pointed out, she knew from personal experience that these events came at a cost and she hoped that this would help to make this idea an outstanding success.

While I was disappointed – both for her and for our calendar (she's quite gorgeous), it suddenly occurred to me how we could multiply that 1000 buckaroos!! NZ House & Garden – that's how!! Read by thousands of women just like us – I felt pretty sure if we could get some coverage in there we'd be well on the way to making this our best fund raiser ever.

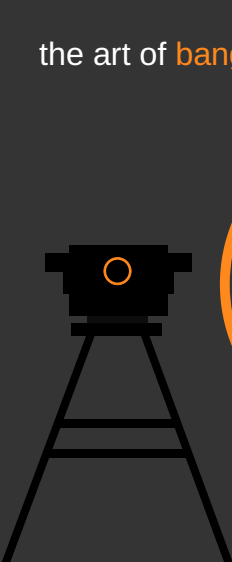
So under the astute eye of Andrea Leadbetter, her girls at TGM Design have created a masterpiece of advertising for us. A postcard to go in all the subscriber issues for the lower North Island. That's 7500 people reading about it – and then posting the card on to a friend – potentially 15,000 women simply yearning for a copy of that calendar. So we've done it. The postcard features the image of the cover girl from the calendar and it'll be in the October issue.

Now at the photo shoot, when we had a show of hands for who wanted to volunteer to be on the cover. No one raised a hand. NO ONE! In the end it went to a vote and as I had organised the challenge, then they all felt it was only fair that I should have the reward of fronting it (Front it – turns out that's a pun!) I've got to confess here that I never gave a thought to how it would feel to be seen in a state of undress by a lot of people – not hidden between the safe covers of sympathetic cardboard.

What is better than seeing yourself on the cover of a tasteful but slightly risqué calendar? Seeing someone else on that cover that's what! But while it feels slightly embarrassing – it is quite a nice photo!

You will be able to buy these calendars locally at various places (like Oakura 4 square, Bach on Breakwater, Lemonwood Eatery just to mention 3) from October for \$30 each or online at www.braveheartsforhospice.nz for \$35 posted anywhere in NZ. We hope you support and enjoy our efforts.

Barbara Olsen-Henderson



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Kaitake Community Board

Hi folks, I begin this column by repeating one I first wrote for TOM back in September 2008. I believe it's appropriate to do so at this point, as well over 400 submissions were recently received by Council relating to the private plan change application for a large tract residential development on rural land on the outskirts of our village. This is what I wrote then.

'I really love this place. I've lived here since 1970. My wife Peta has longer and stronger connections than me, stretching back to 1950. Our kids have grown up here. They are well gone now, but delight in coming back whenever they can. This is a familiar story for many long-term residents and some of you certainly go back a great deal further than us. The beach brought us here, as it has brought many others who have followed. Generations of neighbourhood kids have grasped the superb personal learning opportunities provided by the local environment. They do move away, but all retain a deep affection for the place.

What do have we in common? Political persuasion? Not likely. Similar employment? Not really. Keeping up with the Jones's? No way. Living the suburban dream? Never! Lifestyle? Oh yes. Our place, beaches, ocean, surf, and proximity to the ranges and mountain are treasured. An informal lifestyle where folk can just be. Community? Well, that certainly used to be important but

Times are changing. We have escalating conversions of farmland to residential subdivisions. Population/development pressures. Development threats as the New Plymouth urbanisation sprawl intensifies and sewerage reticulation comes along. What are the risks? Will there be growing polarisation between developers and environmental interests and what about private property rights versus public access? Will loopholes in the Resource Management Act be used by to manipulate local zoning laws? Maybe piecemeal solutions, short-term thinking and no long-term planning will become the order of the day.

Surprisingly enough these issues are the same the world over. The closer the seas come to people, the greater is the damage. More and more of the narrow strips of land along the world's coasts - and their habitats - have been ruined by a host of poorly planned and badly regulated activities. The pressures are particularly exacerbated as more and more people and businesses demand oceanfront properties. They are attracted by what's there and help destroy it through their arrival.

Our local coastal environment exists in a constant state of change. Climate, waves from the Southern Ocean, volcanic activity over many thousands of years have an influence on our coastline. Yet it is the effects of human activities that have proven to be the most contentious. Many of us realise that it is important to manage the effects of human activities within the coastal settlement areas of our district so that the natural and physical resources of the surrounding coastal and rural environments are not depreciated. But are there enough of us who really care? Can we just leave it to a few 'watchdogs' to protect what we came here for in the first place?

Our environment is under threat. We need a carefully managed plan if we are to retain the values that are so important to us rather than play catch up, trying to return something unique to its original state. Well, we do have that overarching plan in the NPDC Coastal Strategy and drilling further down we have the specifics of the Oakura Structure Plan. Both were developed over time with significant effort. These are the route maps to control the residential and business development here. But these plans need helmsmen. Can we rely on council officers to be on top of all the local issues or do we have to manage those ourselves? Who will secure our preferred future? Can our wider community unite and become that relevant again?

As stated, I wrote that ten years ago. It seems that particular theme back then is the theme of many today. That is, indeed, reassuring. It seems there are many locals who aren't happy about the possibility of our community's sustainability being plundered by what is commercially viable to a single developer. I am convinced their collective response hasn't been brought about by a shallow 'not in my backyard' shout, but rather by taking a reflective step back to look at the big picture. The bigger picture that the local community helped develop in the Oakura Community Engagement Project Report - 2014/16, and the subsequent 2017 KCB Community Plan - a thirty-year vision. The fact that a number of folk stepped forward and garnered local support to oppose the application supports that view. There were some who have said, 'You can't stop progress.' Yes, we all know progress is impossible without change; but those who cannot change their narrow viewpoint cannot and will never change anything.

In this instance, I believe the community has explained itself clearly. We understand that in Oakura one can live beside the store, behind the store, five minutes from the store or nowhere near the store, and it is easy to imagine the different age groups and personalities that would prefer each alternative. In this way and others, our village provides for an array of lifestyles. In the proposed development, there is only one available lifestyle: to own a car and to need it for everything.

Where to from here I hear you ask? Well, submissions have now closed. Council officers will summarise all submissions (a Resource Management Act requirement). That summary will be publicly available, possibly by mid to late September. Then there will be a period for further submissions (10 business days) where those with specific interests or concerns may submit e.g. adjacent landowners etc. A further submission can only be made on what someone has said in an original submission so you cannot bring in new information. After that period, and further scrutiny by officers, there will be a public hearing held. This will be presided over by an independent and qualified Hearings Commissioner. The Commissioner's judgement will then arrive on the agenda at the Council table for Councilors to make a decision.

Well, that's it for this TOM issue.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at the NPOB Surf Club at 4.30pm on Monday 3 September.

Ka kite ano

Doug Hislop (752 7324 and douglashislop@gmail.com) on behalf of Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead, Graham Chard and Roy Weaver who is the Councillor representative on the KCB.

Timebank Taranaki

TimeBank comes to Oakura

Recently TimeBank Taranaki held an orientation meeting at Oakura Hall and a handful of people turned up to explore how TimeBanking would work in the local community. A few weeks prior Okato held a similar orientation meeting and that community embraced the concept.

TimeBanking works along the lines that every person has talents and gifts to share with their community that are of immense benefit to another. TimeBank's mission is to connect people who have gifts, skills and knowledge and a willingness to share them for the benefit of others; TimeBank is a "give and take" system managed through the use of computer technology and the Internet that will strengthen our community in a positive way.

Everyone's time is equal - no matter what type of work is undertaken, one hour always equals one time credit. 1 = 1. It really is that simple.
Equally valued - we all have something to offer. Every person and every skill is equally valued.

Perhaps the most valuable thing about Time Bank is the connection people can make either within Oakura/Okato or further afield into New Plymouth - especially valuable for new settlers in the village who maybe struggling to make friends or find services.

TimeBank started in New Zealand in Lyttleton and formed in New Plymouth in 2012 where the membership is more than 300 members. The TimeBank story begins in the USA in the 1990's in response to government spending cuts but really the concept of giving time to another has its roots in every strong community - TimeBank has just formalised the process.

I can see from personal experience that TimeBanking is an empowering process - making connections with another person and exchanging your time and skills for the benefit of another can actually benefit the whole community and no money has changed hands so people are being valued not currency.

Laurie Silver is the Taranaki TimeBank coordinator and can be contacted at timebank@taranaki.gen.nz if you would like some more information on TimeBank. Alternatively look up the TimeBank website www.taranakitimebank.nz

By Kim Ferens



The body transformer

JBT group team training are every Monday and Wednesday morning for 1 hour at 6am at Oakura Hall - for all levels of fitness. Circuit training for all, targeting your core, strength and fitness.

If you have injuries we will work around it to get strength and more flexibility. Best time to train is winter as when summer arrives you will be much fitter, confident, stronger and faster.

If you want to transform yourself then contact JBT Joe The Body Transformer for a group session or a personal training session now.!!!

Like JBT facebook page: [joethebodytransformer](https://www.facebook.com/joethebodytransformer)
Mobile: 021 110 1215



Bob helps Lucy by doing one hour of gardening.



Bob earns one hour time credit.



Lucy earns time credit by helping Ruihi with her shopping.



Bob uses his one hour time credit to learn to play the guitar from Jo.



Suffrage Day marks a significant moment in our history

On September 19th 1893, New Zealand became the first country in the world where women had the right to vote. 125 years on, it's unthinkable that there were ever legalised inequalities based on gender. Certainly in Parliament the balance is steadily improving - and we see that right here in Taranaki where two of the region's three MPs are women.

In the National Party, nine of our top twenty positions are filled by women. That includes three of the top four: Paula Bennett, Amy Adams and Judith Collins, who will all be in Taranaki over the coming weeks, along with Sarah Dowie, MP for Invercargill and our spokesperson for Conservation.

Under the banner 'Women of Influence' their visits are a series of opportunities for local people to hear these women tell their stories and give their insight on the place women are fulfilling in every sector of our society.

In fact Paula Bennett has already stopped off here, enjoying a tour of WITT, the Careers and Training expo and meeting local women. She received an overwhelming welcome and picked up some valuable insights.

National is currently running the ruler over all our policies to make sure they're completely relevant to New Zealanders and having senior MPs connecting with local communities is an important part of ensuring robustness.

I know that there are a number of activities planned locally to mark Suffragette Day and I would encourage you to join in, celebrate what's been achieved in the last 125 years and look to the future with optimism.

If you'd like to find out more about our Women of Influence series, please get in touch with my office. We're excited about the response so far, and hope to see you at some of the events.



JONATHAN YOUNG
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*Jonathan Young
MP for
New
Plymouth*

Oakura is in a Pickle!

Pickleball Oakura gets set to start

Oakura will be the first place in Taranaki to start a Pickleball club. Come along and try it out for free on Saturday and Sunday 29-30 September from 2-4pm at Oakura Hall. Two Pickleball enthusiasts from Auckland are coming to help with the launch. What is Pickleball? it's a silly name but not a silly sport. It is described as a combination of table tennis, tennis and badminton.

It gets its name in part from rowing where a boat crew is selected from the leftovers after other crews have been picked - they are called a pickle crew. So Pickleball got its name because it consists of a few different codes of racquet sports. Pickleball has been around since 1965 in the States where nearly three million play the sport. It is already being played in many cities and towns throughout New Zealand.

Pickleball is easy to learn and is a fast game suitable for all ages and athletic abilities. It provides a great workout while being fun and social. It's played with a paddle and wiffle ball, and uses a net lower than a tennis net.

Two courts are already marked out at the Oakura Hall and a regular schedule with a day time session and an evening session is being organised. After a few minutes of instruction a beginner can enjoy a game with a more experienced player. Check out the Pickleball Oakura Facebook page and NZ Pickleball Association www.pickleball.org.nz and their FB page or contact Elayne on 0279377173.

Elayne Kessler and few other locals have got together to get this new sport up and running in Oakura. The equipment has been purchased, the hall booked so the community only need turn up in comfortable gear, have a quick lesson on the rules and get playing.

Some say Pickleball is very addictive and loads of fun without being hard on the body.

Come along on the 29 and 30 September 2-4pm to Oakura Hall and give Pickleball a go!

By Kim Ferens



On 19 September 1893 New Zealand became the first country in the world to grant women the right to vote.

Our exhibition Hina: Celebrating Taranaki Women opens on 7 September in the Lane Gallery, at Puke Ariki and commemorates the 125th anniversary of New Zealand women's suffrage. An art installation has been inspired by the work of feminist, pacifist and environmentalist Elsie Andrews, one of the exceptional Taranaki women featured in the exhibition. Add your own message of peace and equality to doves made from recycled milk bottles between the 8th and 19th of September at Ōākura Library. All of the messages will be included in the installation to take shape on the Puke Ariki air bridge from 20 September.

Our selection of books celebrating women of all ages includes the popular series Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls, Ms Marvel comics, Women in Sports: 50 Fearless Athletes Who Played to Win, A Glorious Freedom : Older Women Leading Extraordinary Lives and Reaching the Stars: Poems About Extraordinary Women and Girls.

We celebrate Father's Day on Sunday 2nd of September. Stories for Boys Who Dare to be Different: True Tales of Amazing Boys Who Changed the World without Killing Dragons, Looking after your Nuts & Bolts: Phil Gifford's Kiwi Men's Health Guide, and Handy Dad: 25 Awesome Projects for Dads and Kids are some of the titles available for loan. Brand new and on the shelves are Steven Adams autobiography My Fight, My Life and Ndaba Mandela's memoir Going to the Mountain: Life Lessons from my Grandfather.

We are in the midst of improving our public computer and WiFi service - there may be some disruption and we apologise for any inconvenience meantime.

Permian Monsters: Life before the Dinosaurs closes on 9 September – don't miss it!

Abibliophobia: the fear of running out of reading material. Don't let this happen to you! Come in, check out our quick picks and the good reads that have everyone buzzing.

Happy reading Charlie and Vincenza



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Māori language week

Join in with lessons, singing and art making this Māori Language Week

For the week of 10-16 September the whole of Aotearoa New Zealand will recognise Māori Language Week. Free basic te Reo lessons and family art are available at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre, and waiata sessions at Puke Ariki. Oakura and Okato residents Lance, Ellie, Isla, Karen, Rosie, Jess, Sarah, and Elaine are all part of the front of house and education staff at the Govett-Brewster, and are on hand to show you around the contemporary art gallery.

Ellie often takes the drop-in family art sessions on Sundays. "For the first Sunday session we'll play ngā mahi whai (Māori string games) and learn new words as we invent a game together, then finish off by making a printed artwork inspired by our own game to take home. The next Sunday we'll make mini dioramas. So we'd love to see you and your whanau come in."

Elaine, who is helping to organise this year's events, says that at this year's basic te Reo classes the focus is on correctly pronouncing te Reo Māori words, especially place names.

"We don't mean to mispronounce, it's often just a matter of hearing someone saying it properly to know how to say it. A classic place name is Tatramak = Tataraimaka. At the te Reo lessons, you're in the same boat as everyone else and we'll all learn together."

On Monday and Friday lunchtimes put a spring in your step and smile on your face with Waiata singing at Puke Ariki. No prior singing experience is needed, and you don't have to be able to carry a tune.

Family Art at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery. Photo by Pip Guthrie





Spotswood College 2019

The world is changing at an exponential rate. With that change comes the challenge of how schools prepare learners to enter society and the work place equipped with skills, knowledge and good character to succeed in a connected global society. How do schools

empower learners to live successfully and contribute responsibly to their communities?

At Spotswood our vision is that our students will leave our school as the thinkers, movers, innovators and creators of our society. Our flexible and personalised learning programs will offer the traditional and be future focussed, preparing our students for a rapidly changing world. We are excited that our curriculum will enhance opportunities for academic and gifted students. Many of you will know that our dedicated teachers have been designing a fresh new curriculum for 2019. Some of the key programs include:

STEAM: Stands for Science Technology Engineering Arts and Maths. The programs will bring together learning from different areas and offer the opportunities to problem solve, create, innovate and design. All the while developing critical thinking and learning skills so students can accelerate into programs in the senior school. An example of a Junior STEAM program:

Spotswood Crime Investigation Unit

Students combine the knowledge of forensic science with the skills of creating magic on the stage. Students will learn the science behind forensics and apply this to a dramatic context - solving the mystery of a criminal mastermind. Students will be collaborating to develop characters, narrative, script writing, costuming and all set within the realm of an accurate scientific context.

All the exciting programs will be available in our curriculum booklets, which will be available in the next few weeks.

Success

Congratulations to our debating teams who excelled at the recent Taranaki inter-school competition, in particular the Juniors who took out the title as best debating team.

Our year 9 maths team placed second (narrowly pipped by FDMC), in the recent Taranaki schools Methanex Maths quiz out of the 16 school teams.

Congratulations to Keegan Joe who will be representing New Zealand in the Youth Olympics in volleyball. He will be traveling to Argentina to compete.

We are currently taking enrolments for 2019 across all year levels, please do not hesitate in contacting the school on (06) 751 2416 if you wish to know more.

Martyn Knapton (Acting Principal)



*Junior debating team (L-R): Mika Doron, Jazmine Murray, Jolee Brougham, Lace Wegman-Hall and Brooke Kennedy
Senior debating team (L-R): Ethan Griffiths, Kelsey Win and Tristan Francis*

Keegan is here in the front of the photo joined by other members of the school team training at the Mount.





September

- 6 Y7/8 Full Primary Cross Country 1pm
- 10-14 Māori Language Week
- 19-21 Year 5/6 Vertical Horizons Camp
- 26 Taranaki Cross Country in Hawera
- 28 Music Assembly 9am
- Term 3 ends 3pm

October

- 15 Term 4 begins
- 18 'Shake Out' Earthquake drill
- 22 Labour Day holiday
- 29 Y6 People Savers first aid course

News and Views

The orchard is taking shape with continued development and we hope to have an official opening later in the year as all the ideas come to fruition! Thanks so much to the dedicated team of volunteers and the children who are now taking charge of different aspects of the orchard and gardens. Tēnā rawa atu kotou!

Parenting and teaching are both complex roles where we support children as they grow, learn and develop. There is growing concern among teachers and health professionals about the sharp and steady rise in mental health issues amongst children. Childhood is such a small part of a person's life span and yet such a significant time for brain and behavioural development. Simple everyday things can make all the difference. I am reassured by the attitude of our parents towards the use of 'screens'. I know parents will all want to give children the chance to have free play, without screens. Benefits abound:

- Ability to observe, problem solve, and make connections = understanding
- Learning acceptable ways to handle difficulty and challenges = self control
- Learning to be patient and wait = boredom awakens creativity
- Learning how to share, negotiate, resolve conflicts, regulate emotions and behaviour = less frustration

We do not need to be a child's entertainment coordinators! What children need, and what they want, are sometimes different things.

School break time is coming up and you may be running out of holiday ideas. Try providing any of these everyday items to promote free play: big cardboard boxes (appliance boxes are the best), blocks, balls, puppets, cushions, sheets/blankets for inside hut making, dress ups, props, scrap timber (nails and hammer), scraps of fabric, glue, paper and a range of art supplies. The best toys are those that don't do too much on their own. Of course lego and construction sets are great, especially when they are used creatively and don't just make one thing. Your child may go to a holiday programme, or family and friends while you are working, that are offering many of these experiences and more. We appreciate the hard work that all families do to ensure their children get an amazing and rich childhood.

Search: yourot.com/parenting-club where Occupational Therapist, Victoria Prooday, has some useful tips. Those who went to Nathan Wallis's latest round of parenting talks, would have found the latest brain research and its implications for parenting enlightening, as always. I have heard Nathan speak five times now and never tire of hearing the latest research and being reminded of the importance of the first 1,000 days!

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Oakura School

Production

We have started work on the Oakura school production 'Te Wheke, What's in a Name?' with Raeleen and Sarah. The production is to be held on the 25, 26, 27th of September and

the excitement is building across the school with all students busy practising their parts and designing and making costumes. Here are some quotes from the gecko and penguin classes. Karvah McFetridge (age 5) said "I can't wait to perform. My favourite part is when it starts, it is fun." Elise Lewis (age 5) said "I can't wait to perform, I like our dance and my favourite part of the dance is when we switch."

Predator Free Taranaki

As many people already are aware, Taranaki is working towards becoming predator free by 2050 and Oakura is a starting point with a natural corridor (two rivers on each side) down from the Mountain.

Emily Roberts from Taranaki Regional Council came to school to talk to the year 5 and 6's about how they can help in this project. We have started in our own enviro centre. First they did a bio blitz to identify what species of animals, plants and insects



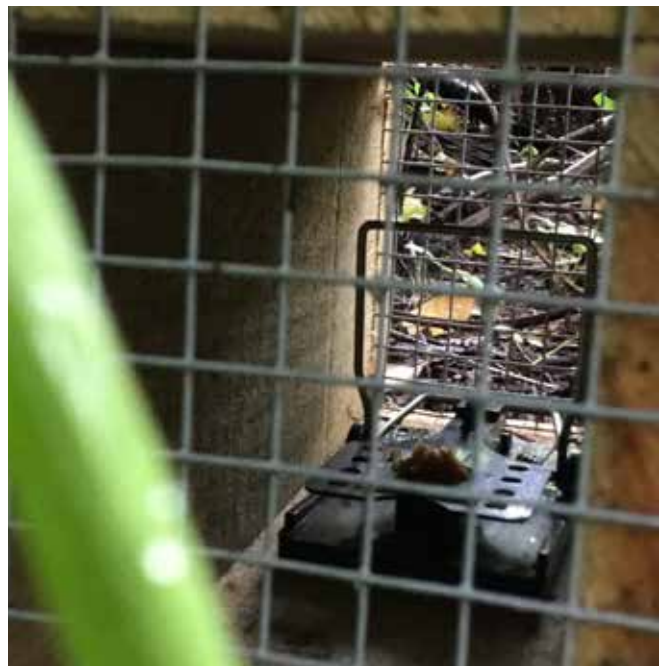
there are in the enviro centre. Working from this data they then identified the predators and set up traps with the help from Emily. There are subsidised traps available from the Taranaki Regional Council for people to use at home to

assist this programme.

"So far our class has caught around 15 rats but nothing else." said Mr Whatt who is keeping records of what is being caught in these traps. Mrs Zieltjes is running a competition at school for students to bring in their tally of the most predators caught in a week at home in the set traps. There are some cool prizes up for grabs.

There was a local information day at Oakura Hall recently where Alex Juffermans and Hannah Dixon from year 6 had a stand to inform the public about how they could help rid the area of predators but also to explain what we are doing at school. "We had heaps of questions about what we are doing and how we are helping." said Alex. Hannah said "It's really fun getting into helping the environment and a bonus is you feel like you are doing your part in helping the programme." If you want to help go to TrapNZ and make an account to help Taranaki become Predator Free by 2050.

Alodie Pickering-Bruce (12 years) and Samuel Salisbury (11 years)



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Oakura Tennis

Winter has been a time for some maintenance projects with the netting being replaced around the outside of the courts thanks to a grant from The TSB Community Trust and Jeremy Pritt from Pritt Landscaping for installing it. To save some bucks a big thanks to the members

who gave up some sunny 'before the rain' Sunday morning play time to help us remove the rusty netting ready for Jeremy. Coach Jaime Simpson came out from town to help out along with Ferg Ferguson and Fletch and Brody (thanks for giving up your golf time), Mark office hands Bridges, Simon blistered finger Spurdle, Graeme and a brief appearance from Jack Mitchell. The courts look a lot tidier and hopefully harder for wires to be undone and mysterious kid sized holes to appear!

Tennis court action has been relatively quiet over the last few months. Some dedicated players have been enjoying Linda Street courts in the sunshine and Coach Jaime has been putting the cardio ladies through their paces! It definitely is a good running workout and we get some great tips along the way. Hopefully these tips will help us on game days! Friday morning group adult coaching session is also popular – come along and get some tips before the season starts in October!

Junior's starts with a tennis muster in the last week of term possibly on 27th September – keep an eye on the school notices. Coaching will start beginning of term four so go to <http://www.blitztennis.co.nz> to check out the coaching slots on Thursdays and Fridays or contact Anne Bridges on 027 2431766 or Tash Lewis on 027 775 5440. Be in quick as sessions full up fast! Our AGM will be held mid September, all financial member welcome. We will update on committee members next month. Dust the cob webs off the racquet, dig out some tennis balls that the dog hasn't chewed and head up to the courts for some tennis action – when the rain relents!

Jackie Keenan Secretary 0276732900




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Opening Day

The club warmly welcomes any experienced and/or new bowlers to join with the members for a roll up (all equipment provided) on Opening Day - Sunday 16th September at 1pm. Opening Day is not only for members but also for the wider Oakura community to experience the club's friendly hospitality and roll a few down. A full bar will be available and a scrumptious afternoon tea will be provided after the bowls around 3.30pm. If you require further information please contact Steve Muller on 06 7574399.

Special Membership Offer

Building the playing membership base is an important and challenging issue for any sporting club. The Oakura Bowling Club is offering all first-time bowlers a package deal with the offer of \$50 membership fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, use of new club bowls and free coaching sessions.

Winter Interclub Tournaments

With 7 wins from 9 games the Oakura (under 10 years) team of Kurt Smith, Adam Collins, Bruce Jackson, Bob Anderson, Kevin Fleming and Steve Muller remain in the mix to retain their title in the Paritutu indoor stadium Thursday night competition. With 2 games to go the boys are equal second, only 1 point behind the leaders.

Congratulations to the Oakura team of Bruce Jackson, Steve Muller, Bob Anderson and Ray Haslip that won the Wednesday fours interclub competition played in the stadium over winter. Oakura teams have an enviable record in this competition with 9 titles for the last 12 years.

Club News

Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted in keeping the surrounds and facilities in pristine condition over the winter break and those who helped Alan Bridgeman and Wayne Robinson with the winter green maintenance program. With the right weather conditions, the green will be at its playing best for the upcoming season.

Oakura is running a club raffle to assist in the funding of the continuous renovations of the clubrooms. With community groups utilising the clubrooms, such as Probus, the continuous improvement of the facilities is an integral part of the bowling club's business plan. Tickets are \$5 and with a max of 1000 tickets and \$1800 worth of prizes to be won - the odds are in your favour. Tickets are available to purchase from the clubrooms or from any of our members.

The Vic/Sam trophy between Okato and Oakura is scheduled to be played on Sunday 23rd of September at the Okato green and clubrooms. It's great to see 2 coastal teams kicking the season off together.

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**Every day is a great day
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Special offer for first year bowlers

**Oakura Bowling Club polo shirt
\$50 first year membership
Set of bowls for the 1st season
Coaching sessions**

**Contact Steve Muller
(match convenor) - 06 7574399**



Mens Division News

Our Club Captain has introduced the new local rules he has drawn up to improve the etiquette on the course. They will be trialled for one month before becoming permanent. These rules are supported by NZGA and R&A correspondence encouraging

clubs to develop local rules for safe play.

The Mens competition that was run recently was reported very successful with the new competition being – nett minus your age. Made a change and appeared to be enjoyed by all. We are all amazed at the age of our members. Good on them still going strong. We have 22 players have entered the Shootout being sponsored by Raceway Mowers and Cycles.

Womens Division News

While we have seen glimpses of spring lately, the Kaitake women are looking forward to the weather settling in properly as a prelude to summer. It is certainly more fun playing in the sun than these unpredictable days.

The Women's Committee have started planning for the Kaitake Women's 72 Hole Matchplay Foursomes Tournament to be held in October. Clubs from near and far are advised of the event and we see golfers come to try their hand at the challenges of Kaitake

Results of Tue/Thurs Top –Dog final was the partnership of Debra Johnson and Sally Kwon, they won after 21 holes against Robyn Robins and Joy Greenlees. Well done.

Kaitake Golf Club Chippers

Our chippers are thriving and thoroughly enjoying their golf. Recently the 7 year old Whelan boys joined and they have brought a fresh air of competitiveness to the group. Dominic Barson will continue his monthly coaching with the group. Dominic's time is sponsored by Taranaki Golf and aims to provide the kids with additional coaching.

New players are always very welcome. Chippers ages range from 5 – 12 years. Just bring them along with flat soled footwear, a hat and perhaps a drink. Clubs, balls and coaching are provided. It costs \$40 to join as a member for the year allowing the children access to the course at any time as long as they are under supervision.

New Members Welcome:

New golfers are encouraged to give "golf a go" there is still plenty more days of golf to go before the end of year so come take advantage of this weather and get out into the fresh air and enjoy a leisurely walk and great exercise round the golf course. Age between 19-35 years of year. This is a good opportunity to join at a very special rate. Already many have taken advantage of the new \$10 rate per years of age membership fee to become a full playing member. For example if you are 22 the membership fee will be \$220 per year.

Summer Membership – Come And Give It A Go!

1st November 2018 – 28th February 2019

We are offering a special Summer Membership of \$200 for this period. Summer will soon be upon us and we are running our summer membership again so take the opportunity and join Kaitake Golf Club.

Should you want to become a full time member, \$100 will be deducted from 2018 membership.

Phone the office for more information on all categories of membership or contact the Club Captains

Follow us on Facebook for more information or phone Denise in the office, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Phone 7525667

Karen Avison, Kim Woodward, Janet Dingle and Karen Wallace recently played in the Fiji Denaru Women's Golf Classic in Fiji. The two Karens did very well by coming 8th in a field of 52 pairs.



Oakura Community What's On

5 Elements Fitness: 5 Elements Fitness: Bootcamps and Kickboxing fitness classes: Weekdays 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. For more details contact Barney 027 7527 076, barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Body Transformer: 2 x ladies group sessions at 6pm every Tuesday & Thursday evening from my home studio in Koru Rd, Oakura. And 2 x 1 hour sessions at Oakura Hall 6am on Monday & Wednesdays. ph Joe on 021 110 1215

Coffee and chat group: Every Thursday from 13 September, 11am at NPOB Surf Club - locals catch up. Contact Tracey Lusk p. 752 7875,m. 027 636 8060

Dancing in the Dark: Every second Tuesday from 5th June, 7.15pm. A fitness, movement class open to all. Contact Glenys Farrant 027 753 0120.

Fitness Training/Touch: Thursday nights on back field at Oakura School 5.30 pm to 6.45ish. For all age groups - gold coin donation. Contact Lara Churchill - 0275922320

Functional Crosstraining by Nakifit: Saturdays 7.40am. Ph 021 297 5465 or nakifit@gmail.com

Indoor Bowls: Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Contact Marvin Clough ph 7527531.

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

Kaitake Athletics club: Meets at Corbett park at 5pm on a Tuesday evenings during term time To register - athletics nz website and search for Kaitake. Contact -Tash 0277755440.

Kaitake Netball Club - Sundays 2pm at the Oakura School Tennis Courts. Contact Toni Peacock at thowison@hotmail.com or phone 021 661 912.

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

Oakura Bowling and Social Club: Bowling tournaments begin September through to April with both mid-week and weekend games. For information contact Steve Muller on 06 757 4399.

Oakura Meditation Group: - Mondays 8.10pm 37a Donnelly St, ph 0272037215, email kate@shineyoga.co.nz

Oakura Playcentre: 14 Donnelly St, Oakura. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-noon during school terms. Visitors welcome. Ph Kate Garner on 021-254 4769.

Oakura Pony Club: Contact Marlies Butland Delfos ph 0274595962.

Oakura Pool Club: Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm at Butlers Reef over winter. Phone Sheree 027 3444 723.

Oakura Tennis Club: Thursday 9.15-10.15am Cardio Tennis with Blitz Tennis at Linda Street courts, members and non-members welcome. Contact Club Secretary Jackie Mitchell 027 673 2900.

Oakura Yoga: - Shine Yoga Studio, 37a Donnelly St, www.shineyoga.co.nz for days and times, ph 0272037215.

Okato and District Historical Society: Houses a large collection of local family histories and photos in the Okato Community Trust Hall, Cumming Street, Okato. Open to public every Wednesday 10 am to mid day or by appointment. Phone Anne Bolton 7524499 or Meg Cardiff 7524566.

Okato Lions Club: continues to have activities in Oakura, as well as Okato. Meet on the first Wednesday each month, except January, at the Hempton Hall, Okato at 7.00pm, and we do appreciate enquiries from people seeking membership or assistance for funding, projects etc. Contact John Hislop Ph 06 7579696

Okato Squash: Club nights on Mondays from 6.30pm, everyone welcome. Contact okatosquash1@gmail.com for further information.

Omata Playgroup: Meets every Thursday, 9.00am at the Omata Community Hall. Ring 751 2308 for next session date. All parents and pre-schoolers welcome.

Omata Yoga: Wednesday evenings 5.15 - 6.45pm and 6.45 - 8.15pm. Omata Community Hall \$15 per class casual rate, \$80 for 6 class sessions. Contact Annalisa Facer 027 444 8345

Pickleball Oakura: Come along and give Pickleball a go -its free!. Oakura Hall 29 and 30 September 2-4pm. Contact Elayne Kessler at ekesslernz@hotmail.com or ph 0279377173

Probus Club: Meets once month at Kaitake Golf Club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Mike Vickers ph 7527881 or Gwen Jury ph 7527783.

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

Val Deakin Dance School: Oakura Hall. and the Dance Centre in New Plymouth Phone 7527743 or email val@valdeakindance.org.nz

Creating Connections Workshop: Level One Creative Connections Workshop beginning October 22, happening in Oakura - 5 consecutive weeks. For more information contact : FB: CreativeConnectionsnz www.edelbaumlifecoach.com