



Farewell to Des and Nola Corbett

This month, TOM Okato farewells longstanding residents, Des and Nola Corbett. See page 2.

editorial



As nurses past and present, both Kerry and Milly have an academic understanding of the importance of exercise. Half an hour of physical activity that raises your heart rate and makes you puff on most days of the week improves your general health and fitness, and helps protect you from chronic diseases. What's more, people who are active potentially live longer, and look and feel better. And do we, as exercise advocates, adhere to these rules? No! Like many others, we get lazy!

But wait! Kerry has recently become a triathlete! Well, a baby one, anyway! A few weeks ago she joined 57 other individuals to complete the Contact Women's Triathlon held in New Plymouth. A trier amongst many other triers and a few champions, it was inspiring to take part in an event amongst people of all levels of fitness, who were enjoying the company and the glorious coastal Taranaki scenery, while actively improving their health and, potentially, extending their lives.

So, whether you play a racket sport, run, walk, cycle, swim, dance, participate in a team sport or approach your housework or gardening sessions with vigour, get out there while the weather is still good, establish the habit, and have fun. And if you catch us being idle, give us a nudge!

Have a great month,
Milly and Kerry

cover story Farewell to Des & Nola

For those of you who don't know this wonderful couple, Des and Nola are longstanding members of the Okato community. Des has lived here all his life. Nola met Des and they married in 1950, bringing up their seven children on Oxford Road, Okato.

Over this time, both Des and Nola have played an active part in our community, involving both school and sporting fixtures, supporting their children through their school years and providing the local school with what many know as the Corbett Award. This comes in the form of a commemorative spade, which is used to plant a new tree at the school for the Year 6 child who displays the values of knowledge and kindness throughout the school year.

Des and Nola have made a decision to relocate to New Plymouth and will reside at Jean Sandal Retirement Village where they will be able to enjoy a change in lifestyle.

They will take with them many wonderful memories of our village and the special community in which we live. Nola says, "It is a very close knit community where people know their neighbours. It is just wonderful. It will be a wrench to leave as we will miss the good people and good neighbours."

Des sits back quietly and contemplates, "We have strong links with the community, which will be tough to break, but there are a lot of coastal retirees in Jean Sandal with which to acquaint. There will always be a cup of tea for any 'coasties' that want to visit."

As a community we acknowledge the huge contribution they have given to this village and district. We will miss their faces in the village scene and wish them the very best with their new lifestyle.

By Milly Carr

TOM dates to remember for March issue

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Kaitake Community Board

I hope you are all enjoying summer and have managed to get a break from your usual commitments and spend quality time with family and friends. Since I was elected to the Kaitake Community Board (KCB) in October last year I have attended two KCB meetings and eight council workshops. I am enjoying learning more about Council activities and processes and am looking forward to advocating for Okato and the wider Kaitake community during the next three years.

KCB meetings occur every six weeks and they are usually held at the Oakura Surf Club. However, the next KCB meeting will be held in Okato at 7pm, Monday 28 March at Hempton Hall. I am encouraging Okato locals to attend this meeting, because if meetings in Okato are well attended it will justify holding them here more often.

Members of the public have an opportunity to address the KCB during the public forum section or as a deputation at the beginning of the meeting. I encourage anyone who has an issue to use this opportunity to address the Board. It is always wonderful to hear positive ideas about how the Council could support the Okato community better too. If you would like to speak at the next KCB meeting in Okato please contact me or the Chairperson, Doug Hislop (06-752 7324).

KCB has a Facebook page, which aims to keep the community informed about what's happening in our district and more specifically in the Kaitake Ward. You can also use it to let your elected representatives know what you think about local issues. If you are a Facebook user I encourage you to check it out and invite your friends or maybe even the teenagers you know to check it out too.

I would like to congratulate the 13 people who submitted comments on the proposed neighbourhood open space at the closed Okato Primary School. The Council's Policy Committee and the KCB have both endorsed the Council's recommendation to purchase approximately an acre of the closed Okato Primary School to develop a neighbourhood open space. Council will make a final decision on this matter at the next full Council meeting. The community should also be aware that the Maori Protection Mechanism process must be completed before the Council is able to acquire the surplus land. The development and cost of the ongoing maintenance of the neighbourhood open space will be considered during the 2012/2022 Long-term Plan.

In the next few months we, in the KCB, will be working on our submission to the Annual Plan, which will identify as many projects as we can that could take place over the next three years in our area. We have already identified a few projects, including the upgrade of the walk and cycleway from the end of the Oakura campground westwards, the development of neighbourhood open space in Okato, and the reconstruction of the stonework around the roundabout in Okato.

We are seeking feedback from the community on any relevant issues. Please contact KCB members to let us know your ideas or issues. Submissions to the Annual Plan open on 31 March and close on 29 April 2011. Hearings and decisions will be in June 2011. Remember that individuals and other groups can make submissions to the Annual Plan too.

May you and your whanau have a happy, healthy and prosperous 2011.

Teresa Goodin (06-752 8186 or teresagoodin@xtra.co.nz) on behalf of Doug Hislop, Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette and Deputy Mayor Alex Matheson, who is the Council representative on the KCB.

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Horse Talk

Wanting to know more about the equine world?

Sandy Beardmore and Kate Seed have launched their own business, Equine Worx, which is a consultancy service offering advice on anything and everything equine.

This is a New Zealand-wide service that is tailored to fit your individual requirements. Their emphasis is on providing a quality service, with their philosophy captured in their mission statement of "Quality, gentle and genuine."

The consultancy is unique in that it offers expert advice for each individual, providing the solution that suits the clients and their horses' needs best. Sandy and Kate will pool their knowledge to provide a comprehensive solution.

Both women bring a wealth of knowledge in this industry with Kate having a background of 20+ years. Kate has ridden and instructed at pony club, worked in show jumping stables, stud farms, and racing stables, including working with renowned racing legend, Sheila Laxon. Kate has gained certification in Advanced Equine, Sport Horse Level 4. Currently Kate is enjoying teaching her own children about everything equine. Kate also has a background in personal training.

Sandy has been involved with horses for 30+ years, starting with riding lessons, moving on to ownership and pony club. Sandy has worked in different areas of the equine industry including racing stables, stud farms, agistment properties, and yearling preparation. After working as a qualified vet nurse, Sandy furthered her career at Massey University, studying for five years gaining a degree in animal behaviour, specialising in dogs and horses. At present Sandy owns and runs a pony stud and does hoof trimming.

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If you have any enquiries Kate and Sandy are the ladies to get in touch with.

Check out their website www.equineworx.co.nz or email equineworx@xtra.co.nz

Contact numbers 027 352 1075 Kate, or 027 713 1923 Sandy, Horse Talk

By Milly Carr



Introducing Philip Robertson: Oakura's new pharmacist

Philip Robertson has taken over the reins at Oakura Pharmacy and is finding the small village pharmacy a fresh and busy challenge.

Running a pharmacy is nothing new to Philip, having owned and operated pharmacies since graduating from the University of Pretoria, South Africa in the mid-1980's. His first pharmacy business was in the city of Messina, bordering the Kruger National Park. Marriage and children followed and then the family emigrated to New Zealand in 1997.

They chose New Zealand as the most suitable place to live in peace and tranquillity with its clean, green image. A far cry from what the family had experienced in South Africa where violence, corruption and political unrest are everyday events.

Philip had to redo his pharmacy internship when he settled in New Zealand. This began in Taumarunui and included many other cities from Bluff to up north.

The family finally settled in West Hamilton where Philip set up a pharmacy in conjunction with a new doctor's practice. Philip's two sons, Ivan (now 18 years old) and Juan (now 16 years old), attended Hamilton Boys' High School. Juan is currently completing his final year at high school while Ivan is studying medicine at Auckland University. A change in family circumstances has meant selling the thriving West End Pharmacy and Philip is now settling into life in rural Omata.

Philip's love of pharmacy began back in school when he had a passion for physics and chemistry. After leaving school there was a compulsory stint of military service in the South African Defence Force artillery division, and after two years Philip left as a commissioned officer. Philip is an ex Gunner and would love to get together for a 'Tiddler' with other ex Gunners while here in Taranaki. They say there is nothing like a group of old soldiers reminiscing together!



Our new pharmacist, Philip Robertson outside the shop, along with outgoing and now part time pharmacist Colleen and Sarah, Pharmacy Technician and Health Products Manageress (right).



In his spare time Philip likes to spend time with his sons sailing, fishing, tramping or sightseeing. Philip also has a keen interest in photography. He has joined the local photography group and plans to have his camera out as much as time allows.

In the meantime Philip is excited about his new beginning and is looking forward to working with the community to enhance the well-being and health of its members.

By Kim Ferens

Caitlin Henry comes to Oakura Pharmacy

Oakura Pharmacy's newest staff member is Caitlin Henry from New Plymouth. Caitlin is looking forward to working as a retail assistant in Oakura Pharmacy and has previously worked at Rodney Wayne Hairdressing Salon. Pop in and say hello to Caitlin, she is enjoying meeting all the regular customers who visit the pharmacy.



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TOM okato Sports

Okato Pony Club

Okato Pony Club had a very successful Sports Day on Sunday 20 February.

The weather was great, which encouraged good entry numbers on the day. Everyone had a fun day. There were show jumping, show cross, games, flat classes and an obstacle course.

Results - Show Jumping

Lead Rein

1st Allie Quinn, 2nd Stephanie Beardmore, 3rd Jorja Sole, 4th Rose Holmes, 5th Aiden.

Beginners

1st Ariana Dingle, 2nd Maddison Smyth, 3rd Stella Webby, 4th Ania Manwarring.

Juniors

1st Erin Barrett, 2nd Phoebe Livingstone, 3rd Kate Logan, 4th Georgia Strachan, 5th Ashley Cahoon.

Intermediate

1st Teagan Gaudan, 2nd Georgia Bryne, 3rd Jessica Gibson, 4th Ashley Butler, 5th Anna Lacey.

Results - Show Cross

Lead Rein

1st Allie Quinn, 2nd Jorja Sole, 3rd Stephanie Beardmore, 4th Aiden, 5th Rose Holmes.

Beginners

1st Maddison Smyth, 2nd Stella Webby, 3rd Ariana Dingle, 4th Ania Manwarring.

Juniors

1st Isabella Hibell, 2nd Phoebe Livingstone, 3rd Georgia Strachan, 4th Ashley Cahoon, 5th Julia Brophy.

Intermediate

1st Teagan Gaudan, 2nd Georgia Bryne, 3rd Anna Lacey, 4th Jessica Gibson, 5th Ashley Butler.

Upcoming Rallies

Wednesday, 9 March 5-7pm: Twilight Rally

Saturday, 19 March 10am-12noon: Day Rally

Anyone is welcome to come along.

If you're interested in finding out more about the Okato Pony Club, please phone Carrie Brophy on 06-7524 458.

Okato Tennis Club

Okato Tennis Club Quiz Night will be held on Friday 25 March at 7pm at Okato Squash Club courts at Okato Domain.

Teams of 4-6 people are invited to participate. Cost is \$10 per player. To register a team or for any information phone: Celia Gawler 06-752 7819, Maree Moffitt 06-752 8107 or Noeline van der Poel 06-752 8200. Register your team soon as there are limited spaces.

Spot prizes, raffles and donated items will be auctioned. Supper will be served and a licensed bar operating. All proceeds go towards building a rebounding wall at Okato Tennis Club.

Susan Henderson (ph 06-752 4456).



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Glen McDonald
REGISTERED ELECTRICIAN

Locals step out of comfort zone

Locals challenged themselves in the Wells New Plymouth Half Ironman and Frontrunner Half Marathon.

Our editorial this month talks about getting out and exercising, for fun, to meet challenges and for your health. On Sunday 13 February, a number of locals competing in the Wells New Plymouth Half Ironman and Frontrunners Half Marathon did just that. Here are the official results, and some comments on the events.

Half Ironman

A 2km swim out from Ngamotu Beach was followed by a 90km cycle to Rahotu and back and a half marathon (21km), on a circuit that encompassed a section of the Coastal Walkway and St Aubyn St. Conditions were little short of perfect for the swim leg, with calm water and the sea temperature a balmy 22°, but the cloud cover disappeared during the cycle leg and a stiff breeze blew up round the coast, making conditions challenging on the return trip to New Plymouth. By the time the run was underway for most of the competitors, the temperature had risen to an energy-sapping 27°, which resulted in the majority of the competitors walking up the hills and at least one being carried off by ambulance.

Individuals

Brohn Torckler earned special congratulations for his impressive performance — he completed the course in 5.11.28, 19th of 91 competitors and 1st in his 50–55 year old division.

Dave Lilley, in his first (and perhaps last) half ironman, finished in 6.31.34, 62nd of 91 and 2nd of 3 in his 60–65 age group. He may not have won any official prizes, but he sure takes one for the understatement of the day. “.....,” he said after crossing the finish line, “that was hard.” Workmate Pete Morgan, who cycled in the team event, conceded that Dave’s performance precludes him from being referred to as “Old Man” forthwith.

Teams

Just Short of a Gallop: Julie and Daryl Neilson, and Vaughan Redshaw are a reasonably seasoned triathlon team who, according to Julie, enjoy the competition as well as the camaraderie and fun of these events. Julie swam, Daryl cycled, and Vaughan ran the course in 5.58.16. They were 25th home of the 39 teams entered and 11th of the 18 mixed teams, to be narrowly beaten in an ‘internal challenge’ by New Plymouth Old Boys Legends.

Okato Vets: Denise Fenner swam strongly and although Pete Morgan and Jon Taylor were disappointed in their performances, which may have been affected by the searing heat, they plan to be back next year to do it all again and perhaps prove a point. They came in at 6.23.33, 33rd of the 38 teams and 14th of the 18 mixed teams that started. Team supporter, Di Klever, was at the finish line with Baby Jessica. She said that the team had found it extremely hard in the heat and that she’s really proud of them all.

Half Marathon Walk

Unfortunately, due to an error in cone placement at a turn-around point, the half marathon course was about 700m short. While it may be assumed that the run along the Coastal Walkway was an easy one (as well as short), there were some nasty hills to be conquered.

Shelley Hooker put on a great performance, finishing in 2.26.15, 12th of 77 competitors overall and 6th in her division.

Anna Goble wasn’t far behind Shelley, crossing the line in 2.27.44, and was 14th finisher in the same division.

Debbie Fisher, arriving at the finish line in 2.30.26, was just one place behind Anna, in 15th place of 77 overall, and came a creditable 9th in her division.

Sisters Barbara Fakavamoeanga and Gloria Hofmans arrived cheerfully arm in arm at the finish in a time of 2.48.52, officially in 45th and 46th places out of the 77 competitors and 33rd and 34th in their division. Their older sister, Tryneece, had a heart attack in August last year, and this motivated them to get fit and be good role models for their family and friends. They are hoping that next year, Tryneece and their mother, Lola, will become actively involved in the event!

Congratulations to everyone on their performances and more importantly, well done on getting out there and giving it a go!

Story by Kerry Lilley



Pete Morgan, Denise Fenner and Jon Taylor line up for an Okato Vets team photo before the Frontrunner Half Marathon.

Picture by Nick Fenner.



Dave Lilley crosses the finish line in the Half Ironman event. Picture by Nick Fenner.

Aiming high at Coastal Taranaki School

Congratulations to Meisha Davies who recently gained a scholarship in Physical Education. Meisha attended weekly timetabled lessons with her teacher and mentor, Karla Ralph. They were able to discuss issues relating to Physical Education such as Hauora, health promotion, obesity, the fitness industry and crazes, performance improvement programmes, government initiatives, biomechanical analysis, motor skill learning and sports psychology. They used past papers to prepare for the external written examination.



Meisha Davies and Karla Ralph (her teacher DP, HOF PE and mentor).

Meisha receives a monetary award to help with her university studies in 2011. She is studying a Bachelor of Business extramurally through Massey University, majoring in Human Resources, and Exercise and Sports Science.

Meisha is interested in the fitness industry and her university studies will complement a personal instructor training course she is attending in July. She is determined to use her time effectively in 2011 to decide what sector of the fitness industry she will choose a career in.

As head girl of Coastal Taranaki School Meisha had an extremely busy year, she also held down a part-time job and took part in a variety of school activities. All of this hard work has paid off as she has completed a highly successful senior year.

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Arthouse in March

What bounty we have for your viewing pleasure at Arthouse this month!

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Certified Copy

At Cannes Juliette Binoche took the Best Actress Award 2010 for her role in this tantalising film. She plays a nameless woman who lives with her son in the south of Tuscany. A British author arrives to promote his book, entitled *Certified Copy — a treatise about originality and copies in art and in life*. She's a journalist who writes about books and offers to take him on a tour to a nearby village so they can talk.

Over the course of an afternoon, they drive into the sun-dappled country, lunch, and wander the galleries, discussing love, art and life. But what is the nature of their relationship? Have they met before? Are they a couple or perfect strangers?

"An exceptional film that plays with what is real and what is imagination... impeccably photographed, philosophically provocative... A delight." (Empire Magazine)

"Juliette Binoche drives the movie... earning her Cannes Best Actress status with every second of screentime."

(French and Italian with English subtitles)



Juliette Binoche.

News

- Arthouse Mums & Bubs \$12 sessions are every Tuesday and Thursday at 10am, under fives completely free.
- There is a \$5 discount for anyone cycling to Arthouse Cinema, any session!
- Special discounted sessions are available to schools for the National Theatre's King Lear, a masterpiece with a famous director and lead actor filmed live in London. Playing on 8 March. For further details and prices contact francois@arthousecinema.co.nz.
- Watch out in early April for our 10am School Holiday Sessions.
- Coming soon! The Surfing Film Festival in conjunction with the Girls Dream Team World Tour.

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Carpe Diem

Best practice prepares a graduating student to meet the challenges that life in the 21st century will present them. We hope and expect them to be confident, resilient, tolerant, emotionally intelligent and educated to their potential.

The Year 13 class at Coastal Taranaki School, 2010, have left us to forge a path for themselves and pursue their dreams. They graduated from a school enormously proud of their achievements and attributes.

A large number of our students have been able to leave for tertiary education. Three have won scholarships — a successful combination of hard work and mentoring enabled them to do so. Coastal Taranaki School has traditionally experienced small, student-focused Year 13 classes allowing us to tailor courses to suit individual needs.

Meisha Davies (Head Girl 2010) has just been awarded a PE scholarship allowing her to continue her studies at Massey University. This scholarship is awarded to the top 1% of students in New Zealand. Meisha is thrilled with the close mentoring she received from Karla Ralph (our Deputy Principal and Head of the PE faculty). This mentoring and Karla's dedication to her studies have secured her rise to the top.

Rebecca Gibson has won a \$4000 scholarship to assist her in a Journalism course at WITT. We look forward to seeing her work in print.

Dylan Wilson, through the Star and Gateway programme, has been given a chef training scholarship as he continues to work at Okurukuru Restaurant. This was made available to only two students in 2011.

William Lower is at Victoria University studying Marketing, International Business, Sociology and Philosophy. Kara Brown is also at Victoria University, working towards a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Business Studies. Tegan Brown is studying for a Bachelor of Science at Waikato University, majoring in Earth Science.

Joseph Doyle is taking a golf scholarship in the United States. Nicola Simpson has travelled to do a Diploma in Christian Ministries, and Raven Pearce has moved to Wellington to pursue Travel and Tourism.

Preston Hartley won a place in an Animation in Auckland course after submitting a folio and has his sights set on working as an animator for Weta Workshop in the future.

Our students all had a busy year. Many had responsibilities within our school as well as part-time jobs. They have all been able to enjoy mentoring and programmes designed to help them meet diverse and commendable goals. For a small school we have reached great heights and will continue to do so.

The old Okato College motto 'Carpe diem' is obviously not forgotten, as our graduates leave us having seized every opportunity for themselves in our new school.

Sharleen Valentine



From left, sitting at back William Lower, Ashley Downes, JD Linn, Meisha Davies, Rebecca Gibson, Raven Pearce, Mrs Richardson, Preston Hartley, Tegan Brown.


On ground, Kara Brown, Nicola Simpson and Joseph Doyle.




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Okato Playcentre

We have already welcomed five new families to Okato Playcentre this term. We are a very active centre at the moment with over 25 children in regular attendance at our sessions. We have lots of lovely babies, a big lot of three year olds and a nice mix of other ages. We are also lucky to have a dedicated team of mums and dads keeping the centre rolling along nicely.

Our busy three year olds are entering a fascinating phase of imaginative role-play, often using our dramatic areas, such as the play shop and kitchen. In keeping with this, we have made verbal communication a key goal so our children can develop useful words and phrases for interacting, sharing and negotiating while they play together.

Our theme for the term is Extending Summer Holidays, which has lots of scope for fun outdoor activities. We have just had a Pool Party at the centre with paddling pools, waterslides and sprinklers. A garden hose transformed our big fort slide into a slippery hydroslide, which was a big hit. Following that, we had a morning at Pitone Rd beach splashing in the stream, making sand castles and sliding down the sand banks. We also collected a pile of beach treasure ready to make a giant beach collage.

Other fun summer stuff we have lined up includes a picnic and swim at Okato Pools, a bush walk, blackberry picking, juice making, iceblock making, water play, tepee building and pup tent fun. To top it all off, our families are going on a beach camping trip to a farm near Urenui. Yes, pre-schoolers in tents for a whole weekend! Will let you know how that goes...

Okato Playcentre has play sessions for 0-6 year olds on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Visitors are always welcome — just come along and join in! Phone Kerry on 06-752 8095 with enquiries.



TOM Babies

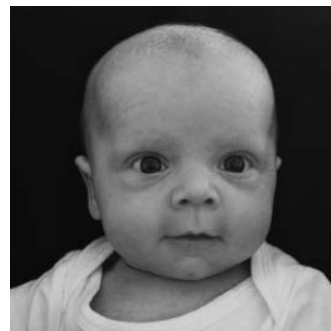
Monte Fisher

Monte John Kelvin Colter Fisher was born at Taranaki Base Hospital on 22 October 2010. His mother, Jaclyn (a committed, stay-at-home mum), and father, Daniel (a mechanical fitter for Fitzroy Engineering at STOS, Oaonui), chose his given names with care: Monte means "Man of the Mountain", because they have high aspirations for him, John is for Daniel's father, Kelvin is for Jaclyn's father, and Colter is a Gray family name, chosen for Jaclyn's grandad, Lloyd.

All four babies born to Plunket families over the past year have been boys and Jaclyn, who is President of the local Plunket group, is confident that Monte will have a great bunch of mates to grow up with.

"Monte is a farmer in the making," she adds, "and the John Deeres are waiting!"

By Kerry Lilley



Max Sole

Max Clinton Sole is a cruisy kid, according to his mum and dad, Michelle and Clint. He certainly started out that way, entering the world via water birth at Taranaki Base Hospital on 1 September 2010. His grandparents, all former locals, are Carole and Max Sole and Maureen and Warren Reid. Max was welcomed with much excitement by his three older siblings, Corbyn (9yrs), Jorja (7yrs) and Ellie (4yrs), who love him to bits.

By Kerry Lilley



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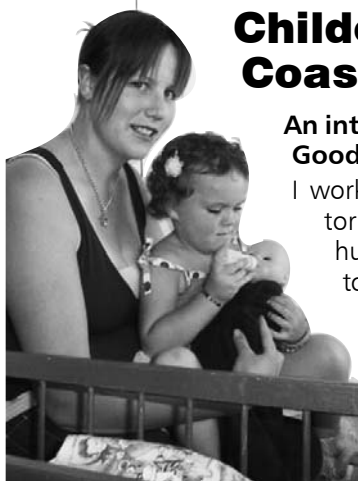
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Childcare on the Coast

An interview with Samantha Goodin



I work as a Home-based Educator for KidStart Barnardos. My husband and I recently moved to rural Okato on Pitone Road with our small farmyard of animals. Our dream is to head down the self-sustainable track learning about and growing vegetables and fruit aplenty. We love this country living

as we raise our two wee girls, Emma (04/07) and Beca (04/09). I strive to be an inspiration to my children while providing a fun, happy, safe environment and supporting the growth and development of all children in my care.

What motivates you?

The kids! As a child I remember spending time with my mother as she completed everyday tasks and it is not until I reflect on this now, that I see lessons she taught and respect that I gained for her. I'm a believer that quality learning takes place for children when they are involved in the happenings of a home. It's priceless to see the excitement kids get when the seeds they planted grow or the baking they mixed is cooked, and to have the opportunity to provide these moments — well, what a dream! I can see how home-based care is well suited to younger children as they learn to find their place among a peer group. It shows how the situation is special when the children relate to each other as siblings would. Every child I have cared for has taught me something — they are all so unique and you can see the bond being created as you care for them. It is a very special feeling to me.

Why KidStart?

Firstly, any family can use this service and it is affordable. To me it is important to be part of a supportive, positive team while providing care and nourishment to children of our community. When working with children in your own home you still need to have the security of a team environment. Our Visiting Teacher pays monthly visits to my home to see the children in care, and keeps in contact with parents to ensure the service continues to run efficiently. Having another set of eyes overseeing the practice is a reassuring thing for parents as well. I, myself, am a mum and the way I run my service is how I'd like to see it run if I was entrusting my children to someone else. Children in care also tend to become one of our family so it is personal for me to ensure a triangle of trust if problems should arise. The team are very approachable, it is great to know that at the end of the phone someone is ready to listen, help and offer suggestions or guidance if required, and they provide ongoing professional development to keep me up-to-date.

Can you talk us through a day in care at your home?

Sure — children in care have their own special box for personal belongings at our place, once Mum or Dad has been kissed goodbye there is generally a rush to the window to wave as they leave. Breakfast is then completed and children have some play time — either something structured or free play depending on what the needs of the children are. Morning tea is around 10am when the kids are ready for some fuel, and then we continue on with

their interests or focus on baking or gardening depending on the weather. We clean up the toys or tools used before lunch, when we all sit down together at the table. After that we have some quiet time reading books, doing puzzles or continuing with their interests. Afternoon tea is around 3pm depending on when pickup is. The day also alters to accommodate sleeps, other drop-offs, pick-ups or playgroups and we spend a day in town at times.

What hours are you able to offer?

I'm completely flexible to the requirements of parents looking for care, so long as it fits in with my guidelines of a maximum of four children in care, and no more than two under two at one time. The only requirement is a minimum of 9 hours care and I do have a commitment to picking up and dropping off Emma at preschool.

So how do interested parents get in touch?

Contact KidStart today! Call Pat or Paula on 06-753 3484 or 0800 KidStart. If you would like to know more about being a Home-based Educator they'd love to hear from you too.

Barnardos

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Community Hall available for hire

Did you know your local community hall is available for hire? Halls are local, great value for money and can cater for a broad range of activities, meetings and social functions.

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okato clubs & groups

Bellydance Group Okato - St Lukes Church Hall, Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm. Contact Rosalina 06 759 1739.

Care and Craft

Get together Thursday fortnight at St Luke's lounge. 10.30am - 2.30pm. Contact Thea Fisher 752 4290.

Coastal Garden Circle

Meet every third Monday of the month. Contact Rae Hooker 752 4086.

Highway 45 Craft

Meet weekly on Monday mornings 10am - 12noon at members' houses. Contact Iris Putt 752 4182.

Historical Society

Meets quarterly in the Community Trust Hall. Contact Iris Putt 752 4182.

JKA Karate, Okato

Monday and Wednesday 6pm - 7.30pm in Coastal Taranaki School Gymnasium. Contact Nicci 752 4529 or 027 259 6223.

Kaitake Community Board

Teresa Goodin, ph 7528186 or teresagoodin@xtra.co.nz

New Zeal Church

Service 10.30am, Sundays at St Luke's Hall. Contact Angela and Kevin McFetridge 752 4993.

Okato Bowling Club

Club day held every Sunday at 9.30am onwards. President Bruce Peacock 752 4538, Secretary Fiona Liddall 752 4509, Contact women's section Lauren Bright ph 752 4874.

Okato Co-operating Parish Women's Fellowship

Meet bi-monthly, first Wednesday of the month in St Luke's lounge, 1pm. Lorraine Whittle 752 4359. Harvey 752 4568.

Okato Fire Brigade

Weekly. Monday night trainings, 7pm - 9pm. Contact Barry.

Okato Lions

Contact Merv Hooker, ph 752 4086.

Playcentre

Main Road, Okato (over the Stony Bridge). Tuesday and Thursday, 9.30 - 12.30pm. Contact Rachel 752 4463.

Playgroup

St Luke's Hall, Main Road Okato. Wednesday morning, 10am - 12 noon. Contact Julie Moore 752 4277 or Danelle 752 4916.

Plunket

Meet bi-monthly at St Paul's Church Hall. Jaclyn 752 4872.

Pony Club

Contact Carey Brophy, 752 4458.

Probus

Meet every third Friday at the Oakura Golf Club. Contact Margaret Hodges 752 1371.

Squash Club

Monday evening club night. Contact Steve Kelly 027 2333 229.

St Patrick's Church, Okato

Daily mass 8.30am. Saturday evening mass 7pm. Inquiries to Steak Goodin 752 8160 or Nora Fox 752 4062.

St Paul's Church

10am services. Congregate first and third Sunday of the month. Contact Jan Putt 752 4188.

St Peter's Guild

Meet 4th Friday of each month. Angela Montgomery 752 7738.

Tennis Club

Contact Maree Moffitt 752 8107 or Raewyn Lawn 752 4466.

Tumahu Golf Club

Roly Harvey 752 4314. Sunday: Mens golf day, Tuesday: womens golf day. Every 2nd Wednesday of the month: mixed golf.

Tumahu Rural Women

Meet every second Wednesday of the month, 1pm at alternate members' houses. Contact Joyce Downes 753 4122.

Warea Tennis Club

Contact Jan Brophy 06 763 8666.

Please contact Milly 752 4425 for any additional listings or amendments.

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