

The Ōākura Post

August 2020



Student Star

Bodhi Danenhauer getting ready to compete in bi-annual competition

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TOP Notices

Māori Pronunciation Tip

A very useful way to remember how to pronounce the 'o' when you see it written in Māori is that it sounds like 'or' or 'awe' or 'oar'. It never sounds like 'oh'.

Noticeboard Placement

Thanks for your suggestions for the placement of the noticeboard.

There are many factors to be considered for its new placement so please keep sending your ideas and thoughts our way. You can email them to the editor or text or phone Tracey.

Website

Know of people outside of the village that would like to be kept updated?

Share the website and at the bottom of the page they can click on a button to subscribe.

Got a burning question?

Send it in and we will endeavour to find the answer.

Got a story idea?

Make contact with us by phone or email the editor.

The Ōākura Post

The Ōākura Post is a free monthly publication, delivered each month to all homes in Ōākura.

Editor & Advertising: Tracey Lusk
06 752 7875 / 027 636 8060
editor@theoakurapost.co.nz
advertising@theoakurapost.co.nz

Design/Layout: Charlie Robertson

Story Writer: Suki Bishop

Proof Reader: Elayne Kessler

www.theoakurapost.co.nz

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Hello from The Editor

The Ōākura Post, the Post, TOP. Many names, same paper. You choose what to call it.

My title is editor of The Ōākura Post, however I see my role as more the coordinator. I gather all the stories from many avenues, those that are written by our team or those that are supplied by groups and organisations. To that end it is important to explain that views expressed in contributed articles are not necessarily the views of The Ōākura Post. One of the things I loved 20 years ago during The Ōākura Messenger and TOM days, and still love about this community paper today, is that it maintains the personal voice. When you are reading the articles it can feel like you are sitting with that person and having a chat. We may not all agree with the comments or points of view of others, however it can generate a discussion and an understanding of something we hadn't thought of ourselves. The quote I will share with you this month is from the book 'Tuesdays with Morrie' and it goes something like this, *'It's not what you take in life, but what you give'*. Thank you to all the contributors and supporters for giving to the TOP community.

Tracey

Horses at High Tide



A wet winter day didn't stop these locals from getting coffee from High Tide on Saturday. From left to right: Pat Hardy, Darryn Moeller and Ang Blair.

TOP Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that every row, column and 3 x 3 square contains all the numbers from 1 to 9.

Solution on page 9

		2		7		4		
1	9			4			5	
					5		8	
			7		3			5
	3	7				1	6	
6			9		8			
	1		3					
	6			5			9	4
		5		9		3		

Kaitake Community Board

Like many others, I do grizzle about that winter weather. But there's much to be thankful for. The wet weather here has not had a horrendous effect on the community that was dealt to Auckland and Northland.

Recently I received an email from a good friend, Kay McManus. She was curious to know what the correct spelling of Matekai was, as I had used 'Matakai' in the KCB column. For 34 years Kay had always used Matekai and she wanted to be 'unconfused' as she put it. I was happy to inform her that Matekai was indeed correct and I suspect I was flat out under the pump and typing furiously to get the column finished and didn't check as thoroughly as I should have. It won't be the last mistake I make. In fact, if there's a wrong word to use in a sentence then I always seem to do it!

Anyway, back to Matekai, my understanding is that Matekai means to be hungry. I'm sure there is a reason why that place has been named that way and perhaps someone can enlighten us all. Now, fortunately, the opposite is true for our native birdlife. There is an abundance of food-bearing trees there that provide sustenance during these wet and windy winter months. Our local Matekai Park hero Graham Churchill tells me tui and kereru winter over in the park, feeding on important nectar sources such as flowering gum, banksias, puriri, and tree lucerne along with the sugar water feeders many residents have hanging in their gardens. Then when plants start budding up in the spring they follow the seasonal succession of flowering or fruiting plants up into the Kaitake Range and on to the Pouakai Range and the mounga itself.

At the moment reliable sources tell me there are over 100 tui domiciled in the park. However, tui are notoriously aggressive so when breeding starts in September the stronger birds will drive the others out of the park so they don't have to share the food for their young. A few breeding pairs will stay while most of the rest will nest up on the Kaitake Range. The kereru, however, can be fairly inconspicuous during the winter months, feeding and then roosting under a thick canopy for sometimes hours at a time. It is a different story in the spring when they begin breeding and there are frequent and noisy display flights by the males. They are certainly there at this time of year, but just not so noticeable.

Now back to more mundane matters! During our current community plan review, it has reinforced for me how much the unique character-

Tui in Matekai Park feeds on flowering gum, banksias, puriri and tree lucerne



by Doug Hislop

istics of a community matters to those that live there. It, therefore, follows that people should have some influence over what happens in their local area. That is hardly a new idea but often paid only lip service by our territorial authority decision-makers. During the review, the KCB has worked hard to provide community platforms in Ōmata, Ōākura and Okato. Part of that process was the provision of an online survey. By the time you read this the survey will be closed, but right now, with a week still to go, we have received 215 replies with around 1,100 suggestions to the different survey questions.

The review was being done so that that Council service managers could consider the updated community plan in developing their draft proposed work plans and budgets for the 2021/31 LTP. Council is required to provide the budget funding for the first 3 years of the LTP and stick with it unless an unforeseen emergency occurs. Unfortunately, the deadline was brought forward so we had to scramble around and get in a list of point-of-entry projects before our review was completed.

Here is the list of issues we submitted (in no priority order) that impact on the community:

- Address traffic safety issues within the Ōmata, Ōākura and Okato communities, in partnership with the New Zealand Transport Authority, by implementing interventions that make the highway and adjacent streets safer by reducing opportunities for speeding, aggressive driving and enhancing pedestrian and cyclist safety, comfort and flow.
- Address the need for better trail, pathway and cycleway connectivity throughout the

Kaitake Ward. A network of pathways, cycleways and bridle paths is being planned and developed. Significant non-vehicular connections north to New Plymouth, south to Okato and to Mounga Taranaki are essential.

- Better protection of significant cultural and heritage sites should be addressed throughout the Kaitake Ward. Engage with mana whenua to ensure appropriate pathways to such sites, and signs with relevant heritage information to be provided, along with realistic protection measures.
- Enhance Kaitake-wide waste management and minimisation processes.
- Better management of freedom camping across the Kaitake area is necessary. Address Freedom Camping for New Plymouth District, which will subsequently address the Kaitake community's concerns specifically but not exclusively: meaningful and resourced enforcement/compliance and setting up of suitable and community-approved freedom camping areas.
- Develop an Ōākura CBD Master Plan.
- Develop an Ōākura stormwater network management plan.

We provided further information to support these headline issues and there were further submissions for Okato and Ōmata.

The next meeting of the KCB will be held at Hempton Hall, Okato at 5pm on Mon 10 Aug.

Ka kite anō au i a kotou.

(752 7324 or douglashislop@gmail.com)
on behalf of Paul Coxhead, Paul Veric,
Graham Chard and Amanda Clinton-Gohdes,
who is the Councillor Rep. on the KCB



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Jonathan Young

MP for New Plymouth
National Party Spokesperson: Energy & Resources
National Party Spokesperson: Arts, Culture & Heritage

The 52nd Parliament is about to come to an end, rising on August 6th. A proclamation will be read on the steps of Parliament House on August 12th, which is the first step towards the holding of the general election on Saturday, September 19th.

The dissolution of Parliament will come at the end of a busy time, with the House and Select Committees working extra time to get through as much business as possible.

The lead up to the general election involves a great amount of procedure and protocols to recognise the Crown's intention to preserve the continuity of Parliament.

The next step happens on Sunday August 16th, when the Governor-General will issue a writ to the Chief Electoral Officer directing him to conduct a general election.

Overseas voting opens on September 2nd and Advance voting



on September 7th, with Election Day two weeks later.

This can be an unsettled time, but I want to assure you that if you are dealing with issues that I can help with, then I am available to assist.

Immigration continues to be a big concern for many constituents coming to see me, while the cost of Covid-19 recovery is also a source of unease.

Many people also have spoken about their worries over security of energy supply and that is of great interest to me as National's Energy and Resources spokesperson. We need a broad ranging, balanced supply network making the most of our renewable generation underpinned by clean burning natural gas. You might

be surprised - and alarmed - to know how much coal is being burned at the moment to keep the lights on.

If you have concerns or comments, please contact my office 06 7591363, or newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

The Crows were to Blame...

Like most Kiwis during level 4 of lock-down, Ōākura resident Bridgette Wilson was looking for something to keep her occupied. When the morning coffee ritual was accompanied by some illustrations on her iPad and a funny anecdote by her son enquiring as to whether the crows brought about the "Crow-nah" virus, a children's e-book fell swiftly into place.

This quirky story is about a 5 year old New Zealand boy who illustrates how loving, laughing and learning are the greatest gifts when your whole world gets tipped upside-down.

The story highlights how, with a bit of imagination and a lot of love and support, children may learn and grow in times of adversity. Ultimately this can strengthen ones family unit and prioritising values by simplifying ones approach to living day to day.

Wilson is the former brand manager for FIFA and continues to do work for sports organisations, with her main client being the International Ice Hockey Federation in Switzerland. It is her first children's book.

The proceeds from the \$5 e-book, which took her a little more than three weeks to complete, will go to the Taranaki Women's Refuge.

Bridgette Wilson and her e-book written during lockdown



"It's certainly a difficult time for charities and I feel now more than ever there are woman and children around Taranaki who are in need of help".

There are two ways to purchase the e-book:

- 1) Either use PayPal via: <https://payhip.com/togetherapart>
- 2) Or via e-banking where proceeds go directly to the Taranaki Women's Refuge. Simply email: togetherapartthebook@gmail.com with the subject title "ebook", whereby you will receive instructions on how to make a bank transfer

directly to the Taranaki Women's Refuge and receive a download link to the e-book. "I truly hope the people who initially sought to buy the book but weren't able to, do go ahead and order it this way".

Good news, a little birdie said (perhaps even the Crow-nah bird) that a print version of the book is on its way.

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You asked and we found the Answer

Carol C asked 'What is happening at Koru Road? It looks like an accident waiting to happen.'
Taranaki System Manager Ross I'Anson responded...

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency approved the initial changes to the layout of the Koru Road intersection - the creation of a right turn bay - to make it safer for traffic turning right into Koru Road to reach the new Green School.

Due to unexpected driver behaviour at the new intersection layout causing safety issues, post lockdown we acted immediately to widen the road to allow the shoulder on the left hand side to be reinstated, providing more room for vehicles to pass traffic turning left into Koru Road. We also installed signage advising motorists of the new road layout.

While these improvements have addressed most of the issues, we are still working through further options to make the intersection safe and appropriate for the increase in traffic volumes, including the positioning of the passing lane.

Joy R asked 'Why are there logging trucks coming out of Lucy's Gully?'
Jeff Neems from the Department of Conservation responded...

The removal of unsafe exotic trees in Egmont National Park will have flow-on benefits to the Taranaki community, says the Department of Conservation.

More than 100 eucalyptus trees near the entrance to Lucy's Gully in the Kaitake Ranges have been removed by logging contractors through June and July.

The large trees had become hazardous, with trees and branches regularly falling onto the access road, fences and neighbouring properties, says DOC Taranaki Senior Ranger Dave Rogers.

"The trees were planted as part of an employment scheme during the Depression in the 1930s before the Kaitake Range was integrated into the National Park," he says.

The tree removal is part of the Egmont National Park Management Plan, and is planned to be completed over coming weeks, weather permitting. Additional funding has been secured to expand the work and remove a further 40 eucalyptus trees.

All work on removal of the trees is being undertaken by local Taranaki businesses, with the safe-

ty overseer, logging contractors, traffic management team, haulage company, earth movers and roading team all coming from the region.

Any proceeds gained from the sale of the timber will help offset the costs of the tree removal.

A local forestry school will use the wood debris from the site for chainsaw training. A proposal to distribute the resulting firewood as part of a DOC/COVID-19 initiative to support whānau and hapū and others in the community facing hardship is currently being investigated.

"The planting of these trees back during the Depression of the 1930s helped support local Taranaki people and we wanted to ensure local businesses benefit from their removal," says DOC Taranaki Operations Manager Gareth Hopkins.

For safety reasons, access to Lucy's Gully has been restricted from time to time while the work has been underway. Members of the public are urged to stay clear of the work site while the felling is undertaken.

DOC is looking at options to support native species regeneration at the site with additional planting and weed control.

A Violin Solo for Bodhi

by Suki Bishop

Oākura School student and talented musician Bodhi Danenhauer has won himself a place at the Student Stars Concert next month.

One of the youngest to take part in the competition, Bodhi wowed the judges to secure a solo performance and will be accompanied by the Taranaki Symphony and Taranaki Youth Orchestras.

Bodhi started learning the violin when he was just six years old, having first learnt to play the piano a year earlier.

On picking up the violin he says, "I thought it was really weird!" He had to practise

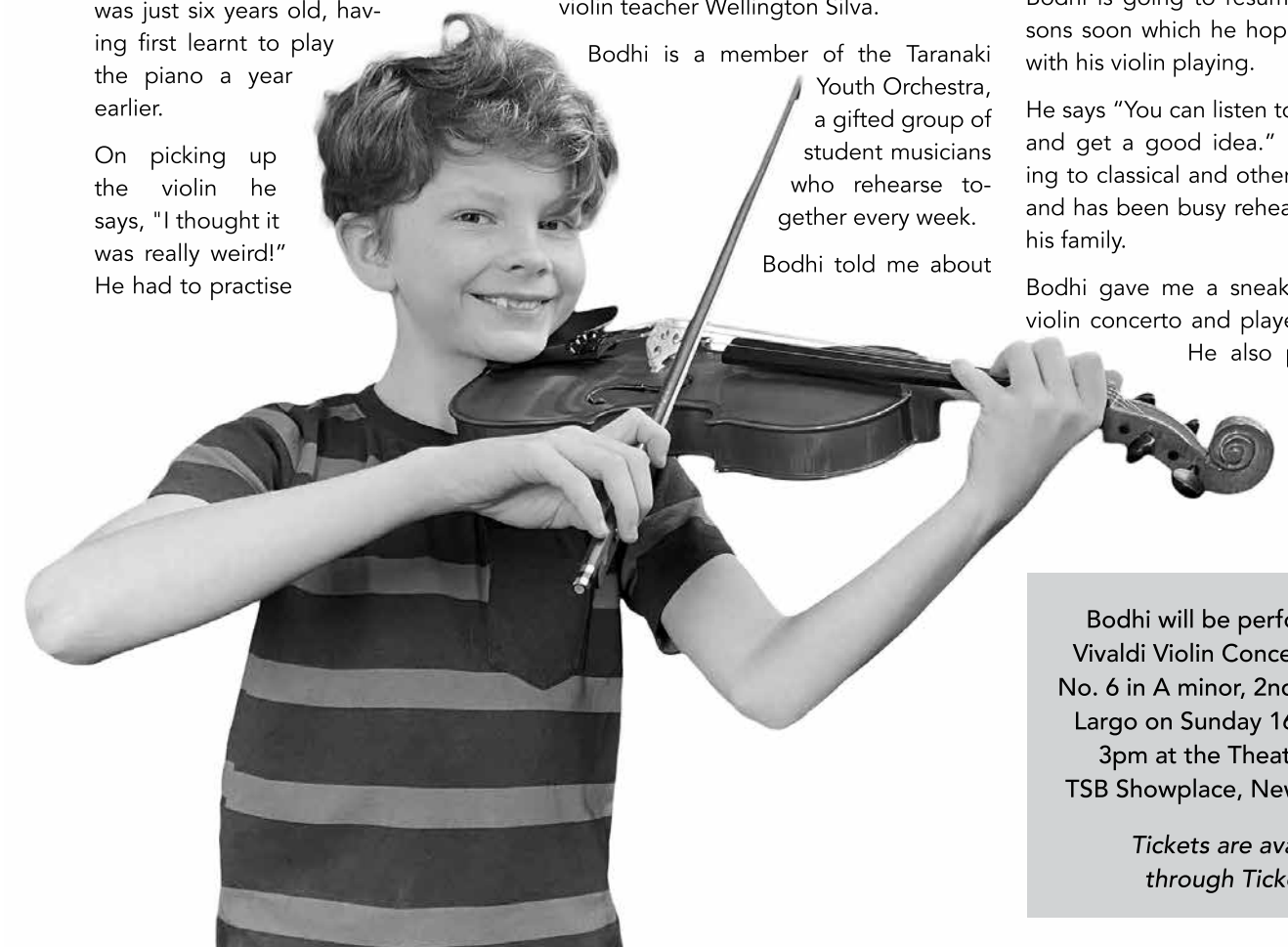
his finger movements a lot to strengthen them and says he could only play for a few minutes before they hurt. "I started with a quarter-size violin and it's now a three-quarter size."

Bodhi is now ten years old and he practises the violin almost every day. Weekly lessons are in New Plymouth with his violin teacher Wellington Silva.

Bodhi is a member of the Taranaki

Youth Orchestra, a gifted group of student musicians who rehearse together every week.

Bodhi told me about



one of the senior violinists. "Sometimes he sits next to me and when I make a mistake he points it out and always encourages me". Bodhi is in the second violin section so this is really helpful.

The concerto competition is only held once every two years. His violin teacher recommended he audition for a spot at the concert which was delayed due to the Covid-19 lockdown. Bodhi was thrilled to have this opportunity.

Bodhi is going to resume his piano lessons soon which he hopes will help him with his violin playing.

He says "You can listen to the right notes and get a good idea." He loves listening to classical and other music at home and has been busy rehearsing in front of his family.

Bodhi gave me a sneak preview of his violin concerto and played it beautifully.

He also played a lovely Irish jig with a huge grin on his face. What a talent!

Bodhi will be performing his Vivaldi Violin Concerto Opus 3 No. 6 in A minor, 2nd movement, Largo on Sunday 16th August, 3pm at the Theatre Royal, TSB Showplace, New Plymouth.

Tickets are available through Ticketek.

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Tell us a bit about yourself. How long have you lived in Oākura? What is your occupation?

My name is Warren Barleyman, I was employed as a Radio Operator on an oil rig based in Melbourne, Australia where I worked a 28 day on 28 day off roster commuting inbetween Oākura and Melbourne. I have lived in Oākura for 40 years

You weren't in Oākura during lockdown, can you share your experience of where you were, what you were doing and what impact that had on you and your family.

Part of my role as a Radio Operator is to provide travel logistics for all the personnel from all over the world who work on the rig.

During early March I was rostered on the rig but during that time the rig was in transit from Singapore to Melbourne (where it had been receiving an upgrade for a new client/contract) so I was working from home, attempting to bring in the necessary crews to meet up with the rig in Melbourne and begin the new drilling campaign.

Each day I would log into my e-mail only to discover all the travel arrangements I had made were no longer applicable as Covid began to have more of an impact on international and Australian domestic travel.

To state the obvious - this was unbelievably challenging!!!

I understand you had to be in quarantine, can you tell us how that was.

As NZ and Australian borders closed I made a decision to travel to Melbourne and remain there in my rostered time off (until the borders reopened) to enable me to remain employed.

Quarantine Questions

Oākura locals abroad during lockdown



My wife and I drove to Auckland (as NPL domestic terminal was shut) and I boarded a flight with 14 others to Melbourne.

Upon arrival we were ushered through Covid screening/customs etc and given our hotel location for the next 14 days of isolation (I got the Crown Promenade so was pretty happy).

During the journey in the bus from the airport to the hotel I received a message saying that the company I worked for had lost the drilling contract the rig was coming for so things were not looking good.

During my 14 days I was not able to leave the hotel room at all so I developed a programme including an exercise regime, reading time, Netflix, TV documentaries etc.

Food was delivered 3 times a day via a chime at the door - you are either vegetarian or not - those are your choices.

Deliveroo (an online food delivery company) etc could be ordered. I found the diet a little low on fibre so began the mission to set up an account with Countdown... 6 hrs later I had made my order including priority delivery - minimum spend \$50.

There was a guard outside the room 24/7.

14 days locked in a hotel room would be very challenging if you were in any way depressed/anxious and or had small children to entertain!!!! - I was fine.

On my release day I found a barber open - had a haircut and indulged in some great Japanese food, then prepared myself for 28 days on the rig (my company still required a crew on board while it worked its way through options to mothball the rig).

I travelled to work on a boat the following day - trip approx 2 hours - then was lifted 35m in the air from the boats deck onto the rig to begin my 28 day swing. During the 28 days on the rig we were notified of impending redundancies for all crews.

What is life like for you now, has it changed since Covid?

Life for me personally has changed little, apart from now not having a job!! - we in NZ have "dodged the bullet" .

Solution for TOP Sudoku featured on page 2

5	8	2	6	7	9	4	3	1
1	9	3	8	4	2	6	5	7
7	4	6	1	3	5	9	8	2
9	2	1	7	6	3	8	4	5
8	3	7	5	2	4	1	6	9
6	5	4	9	1	8	2	7	3
4	1	9	3	8	7	5	2	6
3	6	8	2	5	1	7	9	4
2	7	5	4	9	6	3	1	8

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Ōākura Library

Please note our Winter hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
 11am - 5pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
 9am - 1pm

Crackerjacks takes place every first Thursday of the month at 10am, please join us for a range of stories, rhymes, crafts and songs. Lots of fun for the tamariki and a great way to meet other parents and caregivers.

Remember we have a JP here every Thursday from 10am-1pm. If you need to have your signature witnessed, make a declaration, or have original documents or copies certified, a Justice of the Peace



Olivia, Stevie and Natalie Barry showing off their jumping jacks from our school holiday programme. The smiles say it all!

will be on hand to help.

The writers group meets every second Tuesday at 10am in our meeting room. Published authors as well as beginning writers share ideas and feedback.

Our monthly book group meets next on 27th August at 7:30pm. New members welcome. Join a lively discussion about the chosen reading selection.

Charlie and Vincenza

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Ōākura Fire Brigade

A recent house fire in the village is a sobering reminder that, even though a rare occurrence, fire doesn't discriminate. We all must be aware of the dangers in our homes especially with Winter casting its cold, wet weather upon us causing many of us, me included, to literally light a fire in our homes for warmth.

There are many steps you can take to reduce your risks of having to deal with the catastrophic effects of house fires. This month, Fire and Emergency New Zealand is targeting a campaign to our older community who sadly make up 55% of the country's fatalities from house fires.

Please read the tips below and discuss them with your family. We will also be posting these on the brigade social media channels so if you haven't already, give Ōākura Fire Brigade a follow on Facebook. Stay safe and warm.

The crew from the Big Red Truck



Remember the 'heater metre' rule: keep flammable materials at least one metre away from any heat sources.



Check your electric blanket is in good working order before you use it and always turn it off before you go to sleep.



Keep an eye on your elderly relatives, friends and neighbours too. Are they as safe from fire as they could be?



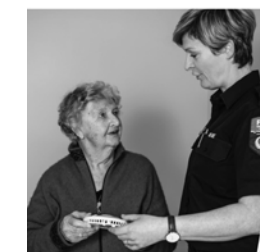
Always empty ashes and ashtrays into a metal bin and pour water over them before disposal. Remember that ashes can take up to 5 days to cool.



Fire moves incredibly fast – a house fire can kill within three minutes. Keep your smoke alarms in working order by pressing the button to check.



Make a household escape plan so you can get out safely during a fire. www.escapemyhouse.co.nz



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Indoor Bowls

As with most sports this year Ōākura Indoor Bowls got off to a slow start with the impacts of Covid-19 delaying our start date till 8th June. With a quickly revised programme we have cracked on with the club championships. First up, the Fours with a short format competition. The resulting winners were Syd Sharpe, Rod Smith and Chris and Sheree Dombroski. Next, the champ Triples with the team skipped by Greg Jans and brother Neville and lead Paul Coxhead winning over Merv Hooker, Bev Kirkby and Gwen Jury. Great to see Paul Coxhead, new to the club this year, getting a win in the club champs. The Pairs was a close fought battle between Syd Sharpe and Neville Jans and Greg Jans and Zena Smith. It was 8 all going into the last end, with Syd and Nev taking out the honours. Clearly Syd and the Jans brothers will be tough to beat in the upcoming singles championship.

Good luck to Katie Clough, our junior in the club, who will be playing in the U18 Singles District Elimination competition in coming weeks.

If anyone is keen to give indoor bowls a go, pop down on Monday nights 7-30pm at the hall, we'd love to see you.

President, Marvin Clough

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Left: Duck and bird in *Peter and the Wolf* (Inge Vink and Laura Sommerville) Right: Previous cast *Peter and the Wolf*

Peter and the Wolf is coming soon

Fantastic fun for all the family is coming with the Val Deakin Dance Theatre's production of *Peter and the Wolf*.

This classic tale is told with inventive choreography by Val Deakin, music by Sergei Prokofiev, spoken narration, mime and colourful and off-beat costumes in a story that will enchant all ages.

The Dance Centre venue is ideal for the show, allowing all facial expressions to be clearly seen and for the audience to be involved in the action. It is also a great introduction to the instruments in the orchestra.

A cast of 13 adults and children, newcomers and experienced performers, will bring this comic story to life.

Performances will be at the Dance Centre, 306 St Aubyn Street, New Plymouth on:

Friday 4th September at 10 & 11 am

Saturday 5th September at 2 & 4 pm

Sunday 6th September at 2 & 4 pm

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for children, with family and group discounts available. They can be reserved by phoning 06 7527743 (after 9:30 am) or by texting 027 6940933.

As previous seasons of the show have sold out, we recommend booking in advance.

Kaitake Golf Club



A fairly wet and chilly July has meant there has been the odd weather affected day; however, members are all still managing to work through the golf programme with their usual enthusiasm. We are lucky that Kaitake Golf Course is able to withstand the elements nature presents and drain quickly.

The Men's Club Championships for 2020 have been completed. Congratulations to the following members on their achievement;

- Senior champion is Zac Lewis with Jack Van Pehn as Runner up.
- Intermediate winner Clay Jordon with Roger Cloke runner up.
- Junior Men's Champion Norman Lofthouse with Michael Van Pehn as runner up.
- Limited Mens Martin Neild with runner up Ralph Ellicock.

Well done to all the participants. The Men are leading up to The Top Dog competition and we have had a really good response from the Men. A lot happening in the next few weeks

\$5.00 WEDNESDAYS:

We have an open competition on a

Wednesday and everyone is welcome to come along and join in the day's competition. You do not have to be a member so if you want to come along and be part of the competition please arrive any time between 8am and 1pm and it will only cost you \$5.00 for your round.

Competition results reported by the Women's Division Conveners include:

- Nell Dickie winner was Diane Jones.
- Maskelyn Trophy winners were Denise Howe and Maureen Nielsen with Jenny Ross and Joy Greenlees runners up.
- Sally Kwon and Maureen Nielsen won the Midweek Top Dog.
- The weekend Top Dog final will be played early in August.

Kaitake has had an influx of new members since the Covid 19 Lockdown. It is exciting to see so many young new members joining in the club activities. If you are interested in knowing how to join, what support is available or how much it costs contact Denise in the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 752 7665.

The Kaitake Women's Open 2-day 54 Hole

Foursomes tournament is planned for later in October. The dates coincide with the start of the Taranaki Garden Festival and we are hoping this will encourage golfers from outside Taranaki to come and enjoy the splendor.

FLEXI MEMBERSHIP:

We have introduced a new MEMBERSHIP category. This is a special 3 month membership for \$200 only. You can choose the 3 months you wish to play. We have been approached as many players find the Summer membership months not to their convenience. So let you friends and family know about this special membership.

The Chippers are enjoying being back on the course too. Chippers cater for kids 5 – 12 years. Clubs and balls are available as well as a fun coaching program.

Chippers are every fortnight so just come along and join in and get coaching from Paul Haskell and Lina Tung, usually there helping with the kids. We very much appreciate all the help and encouragement they give the kids.

New members are always welcome and more information can be gathered from Denise in the office.



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Omata School Orchard

Omata School is home to an incredible community orchard. The orchard was established in 2017 and the design ideas all came from the students. Our vision was to create an orchard that becomes a 'sustainable, visually enticing, accessible space where children and community can connect with nature and nutrition'.

Bena Denton, a parent who is an ecological landscape designer and the director of landscape company 'Greenbridge', put together a cohesive plan from all the students' wonderful ideas. Over the last three years, the school community and the classes have created and developed the orchard. Each class is responsible for a part of the orchard such as the worm farm, the compost, pruning, chickens, shelter

belt etc so that the students connect with and learn about ecosystems, regeneration and soil science as well as growing, harvesting and preparing food.

Many students also utilise this space to socialise, play, read or just sit quietly. It is a place that supports wellbeing, a place where children and adults can recharge and connect with nature. Parents and grandparents love to help out when they can, and the students sell any excess produce to provide more funds to keep the garden going.

A dedicated team of Garden Club students have intensively worked with Bena every Thursday afternoon to establish and maintain the sustainable food forest. The garden club

students have a passion for the environment, sustainability and learning through action.

The Club is active for a year so they get to experience the garden and orchard through all four seasons after which a new group of students take over. Bena balances the programme in three ways: directly growing food such as vegetables, fruit and unusual foods like pipinos; garden to table whereby children cook or preserve the produce they have grown, for example tomato pasta in summer and feijoa crumble in autumn; and a sustainable activity such as caring for chickens or building a bean teepee. Garden Club member Monica Joyce enjoyed the collaborative approach at Garden Club saying, "What we produce is really rewarding, having eggs.

Ōākura School Puanga Celebration

During the last couple of weeks of Term 2 students at Ōākura School enjoyed learning about Puanga and Matariki. As we do every year, students learnt about how the rising of these stars in the morning sky signify the start of the Māori New Year – Mātahi o te tau. Students learnt about the difference between Taranaki iwi celebrating the rising of the Puanga (Rigel) star rather than Matariki because the Matariki constellation is lower in the sky and more difficult to see in Taranaki. Puanga is also a brighter star and easier to be seen.



Students developed their knowledge and understanding of Puanga through reading books, writing and listening to stories, creating artworks and singing waiata (songs). On the last Thursday the whole school joined with our buddy classes (tuakana/teina – big siblings and little siblings) and worked together to make kites (Manu) to celebrate Puanga. This is one of the traditional processes of celebrating Puanga to bring pleasure to people in the midst of winter.

Our students loved working with their buddies and it was beautiful to see our school field full of children with their Manu, playing and working together. We also luckily had the presence of Tawhirimatea, the God of Wind, to help our Manu fly successfully.

Natasha Jackson (Deputy Principal)



The Vineyard
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The Bistro's Take-Away Menu

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The Menu

\$20 per portion

Moroccan lamb tagine
Succulent lamb stew with apricots, dates, almonds, spices & served with Couscous

Beef Bourguignon
Melt in your mouth tender beef cheeks chunks with root vegetable and mash potatoes

Our Classic Pork Belly
Slow cooked with mash, red cabbage, apple chutney, jus and scratchings

Why not be different
Roasted Pumpkin & Smoked Mushroom Risotto w Parmesan
Prawn & Green Lipped Mussel Risotto w Parmesan

Bowl of yummy seasonal vegetables \$8

Kids
Spaghetti Bolognese or Mac'n Cheese \$10

Desserts
Rich chocolate brownie w custard \$6
Sticky date pudding w caramel sauce \$6
Classic Pavlova w custard & berry compote \$7.50

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TOP Activities

Ōākura

Ōākura Hall Bookings
Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Bowling and Social Club
Bowling tournaments September through to April. Both mid-week and weekend games.
Steve Muller 757 4399

Dancing in the Dark
Glenys Farrant 027 7530120

Inferno 45- 4 X Bootcamp fitness
Monday and Wednesday 6am, Friday 9am. Boxfit Friday 6am.
All 1 hour sessions. Ōākura Hall.
Graeme 021 536 990

Indoor Bowls
Mondays 7.30pm Ōākura Hall.
Marvin Clough 752 7531

JKA Karate
Jim Hoskin 752 7337

Justice of the Peace. Lynn Murray.
Ōākura Library Thursdays 10am - 1pm. 17 December last day for 2020.

Kaitake Rangers Conservation Trust
Pete Morgan 027 372 5182
morgpt@extra.co.nz

Morning Talk - coffee group
Thursdays 10-11am at NPOB Surf Club. Free tea and coffee.
Bring your own mug if you can. A donation to the surf club is optional.
Tracey Lusk 752 7875

Move It or Lose It- fitness classes.
Wednesday and Friday 9.30am.
Ōākura Hall. Gloria 752 7442

Meditation Group
Kate Evans 027 203 7215

Ōākura Yoga
027 203 7215

Pickleball Ōākura
Ōākura Hall Wed 7.30-9.00pm and Thurs 9.15-10.45am. All skill levels welcome and equipment is provided.
fb page Pickleball Ōākura for further info ekesslernz@hotmail.com.
Elayne Kessler 027 937 7173

Playcentre
Kate Garner 021 254 4769

Pony Club
Tracey Mackenzie 027 3190238
e.traceymackkyle@gmail.com

Pool Club
Meet Wednesday 7pm at Butlers Reef until daylight saving starts.
Sheree 027 3444 723

Probus Club
Brenda Ryan 751 1633

St James Church
Sunday Worship every 2nd & 4th Sun 10am stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Sunday School - St James Church.
Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am.
stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Tennis Club
Jackie Keenan 027 673 2900

Tai Chi Classes
Every Monday 9-10am at Ōākura Hall. Judi 027 268 2601
e.taranakitaichichuan@gmail.com or just come along

Val Deakin Dance School
Ōākura Hall on Friday afternoon - Pre-school dance classes at 2:45, ballet for 5 and over 3:15 to 4:15.
val@valdeakindance.org.nz or by phone 752 7743 or text 0276940933

Tataraimaka

5 Elements Fitness Bootcamps and Kickboxing Fitness classes
Monday to Thursday 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. Barney 027 752 7076 barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Okato

Okato and District Historical Society
Meg Cardiff 752 4566

Okato Lions Club
John Hislop 757 9696

Okato Squash Club
Monday nights from 6.30pm. Everyone welcome.
okatosquash1@gmail.com

Ōmata

Ōmata Playgroup contact Ōmata School 751 2308



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Dr Carey Martin

MBChB DipObs DipPaeds DipHSc FRNZCGP FACNEM MPhEd BSc

Dr Susan Oldfield

MBBS DipObG G DFFP MRCP FRNZCGP MACNEM



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