

# The Ōākura Post

September 2020



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# TOP Notices

## 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.

## Next Issue

Deadline for content  
Monday 21st September.

Views expressed in The Ōākura Post are not necessarily those of the The Ōākura Post

# The Ōākura Post

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

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Founded in Ōākura, New Zealand  
1st June 2020

**Issue: No. 04**

# Hello from The Editor

This is the first 20 page issue of The Ōākura Post and brought about because of the number of stories, articles and information that has come across the TOP desk. I always knew we had a lot going on in our community and this validated it. I will always welcome your ideas and contributions because this is a combined community effort that strengthens our connections.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

*Tracey*



*Morning Talk Coffee Group on Thursday 17 September is pleased to have Jen Harries as our guest. Jen will share 'World Car Free Day - Go by bus for free' concept with us. Let's Go and Withers Coachlines have come together to offer this opportunity.*

*For more details on the weekly Morning Talk get together see the back page TOP Activities list.*

# 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 15

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



# Kaitake Community Board

**by Doug Hislop**

Well, it certainly looks like the wet weather is going to be around for some time yet. We get one glorious day and then back it comes. I guess we are all looking forward to getting out and tending to lawns, gardens and all the other outside jobs that have been hanging over us for far too long.

The succession of storms coupled with high tides and northerly swell directions has caused a fair bit of erosion along the village foreshore. However, it is nowhere near as bad as it was back in 2008 when we were desperate to hang onto the Tasman Parade road reserve that looked likely to be gobbled up. With no other entry or exit for residents further along on Jans Terrace and the adjoining streets, that would be a real worry.

Luckily the ongoing re-establishment of the dunes has provided an excellent soft armouring solution on the beachfront. While we do have erosion effects from time to time the dunes keep them away from Tasman Parade and the campground.

The sand coming along from the west replenishes and re-establishes the dunes. We have been fortunate to have so many volunteers, especially the school kids, helping with spinifex and pingao planting over the past twelve years or so. With the consistent support from

the Council's parks team, we are managing to keep our beach in a very natural state.

Your community board has been burning the midnight oil since our last report. We have completed the update of the Kaitake Community Plan - a thirty-year vision. It will provide the latest information to Council on community issues and aspirations in and around Ōmata, Ōākura, and Okato. Every three years the Council adopts a new ten year Long-Term Plan.

It sets out a detailed budget for the next three years, and then a strategic outline for the following seven years. It provides an integrated, long-term focus for decisions and activities for the whole Council. This important document provides a basis for NPDC's accountability to the district. It describes what the Council does, and what it is trying to achieve. The Kaitake Community Plan will provide hard data to that process.

The board has also made further submissions to the Council's proposed District Plan. The District Plan includes objectives, policies and rules that manage the adverse effects of activities on the environment with a focus on land use and subdivision activities.

The current plan became operative on 15 August 2005 and its provisions are meant to be re-

viewed every ten years. The proposed District Plan intends to make it easier to know where you can build, where you can do business and the important features in our district that we need to look after for future generations.

We have also been reflecting on the way freedom camping takes place in our district. The Council is currently reviewing its freedom camping bylaw and we are constructing a submission to present to that process.

The updated Kaitake Community Plan states in the Environment section: 'Remove freedom camping opportunities away from all coastal reserves to alleviate mana whenua concerns, avoid pollution issues and other biodiversity impacts.' This was added after much community consultation, including local hāpu and Taranaki Iwi input, and also based on the recommendation of the research project 'An investigation into freedom camping in Taranaki, New Zealand' - Mary Hutchins 2016.

Well, that's it for this issue of TOP. The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at the NPOB Surf Club at 5pm on Monday 21 September.

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 re-emergence of Covid-19 last month came as a shock to many but again showed the importance of taking basic precautions and working together to get through what's been a difficult year.

Around the electorate, I'm hearing a mixture of views on what people think the next twelve months holds for us.

In Venture Taranaki's June 2020 Business Survey, 52 percent of responders saw Taranaki either staying the same or improving. In the context of the Covid-19 impact on business, that is far higher than the rest of New Zealand, where 38.5 percent of people thought things would stay the same or improve. The resilience of Taranaki is an important component of our success.

Let's continue to work on that positive outlook even though this is a particularly uncertain time.

I think we are very fortunate to have a region which produces what people will always need - essentially food and fuel, with excellent support services for those two pillars of our regional economy. Added to that, we have hard-working can-do people who are used to persevering.

There is no doubt that Taranaki is fundamentally a very community orientated region with people who have contributed to make this place "like no other."

Positive thinking can change the way we behave. And I firmly believe that when people are positive, it not only makes them better, but it also makes those around them better. So please support Taranaki. Support our whanau, families, workers and businesses.

If there's something I can help you with, please contact my office  
06 7591363 newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz.



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When I opened the Sunday Star Times one morning at the beginning of 2019, I did not know that I would be 'meeting' someone who would become a big part of my life. It was the picture that drew me in, a topless young bald woman showing the stark reality of breast cancer treatment - her mastectomy scar exposed for the world to see. Not quite what you expect in mainstream media.

At that point I was in the midst of my own cancer experience. During an amazing two months in Tonga in late 2018 (I was running away from adult responsibilities and having a wee mid life crisis - a story for another day) an unexpected (and quite large) resident made itself known in my left breast. The doctor's office was my first stop when I got home and Santa Claus brought me a cancer diagnosis for Christmas that year. Not quite what I asked for and it soon became obvious that all plans to continue my mid life crisis through travelling to more far flung places would have to be put on hold for the foreseeable.

I was in the midst of chemo treatment, the most un fun thing I have ever experienced, when I came face to face with this person who looked like she knew what I was feeling. Breast cancer is not the fun 'pink' experience it is often portrayed as, and most of the time I didn't feel as positive and brave as I felt I should be. I stalked her on Facebook (as you do these days) and reached out and we started chatting.



## The Big C Word

by Belinda Tran-Lawrence

Helen King is a former Stuff journalist who lives in Auckland and is passionate about telling the stories that are important. She is also a woman who loves running with an idea and making it happen, I soon discovered. Over lockdown she mentioned that she wanted to produce a video series about life after breast cancer - this soon developed into the idea of a podcast where the real, and oftentimes unlovely, stories of those going through and impacted by cancer could be told. I jumped at the chance to be involved and from there things have snowballed somewhat.

The C Word: Kiwis Talk About Cancer is a

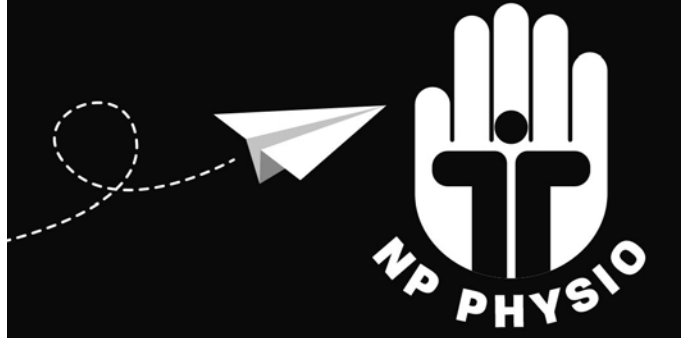
weekly podcast - I record from my kitchen in Ōākura and Helen from the studio of an Auckland community radio station. The funny thing is we have never actually met in person! We talk about the things we wanted to hear when we were in the depths of cancer treatment, and the things we think other people should know and be talking about. Often we go off on tangents but they're interesting tangents!

If you are interested the podcast is now available on all the main platforms - or you can listen online on the Planet FM website. Check out everything we are up to on our Facebook page and please do drop us a line to let us know what you think.

Ngā mihi nui.



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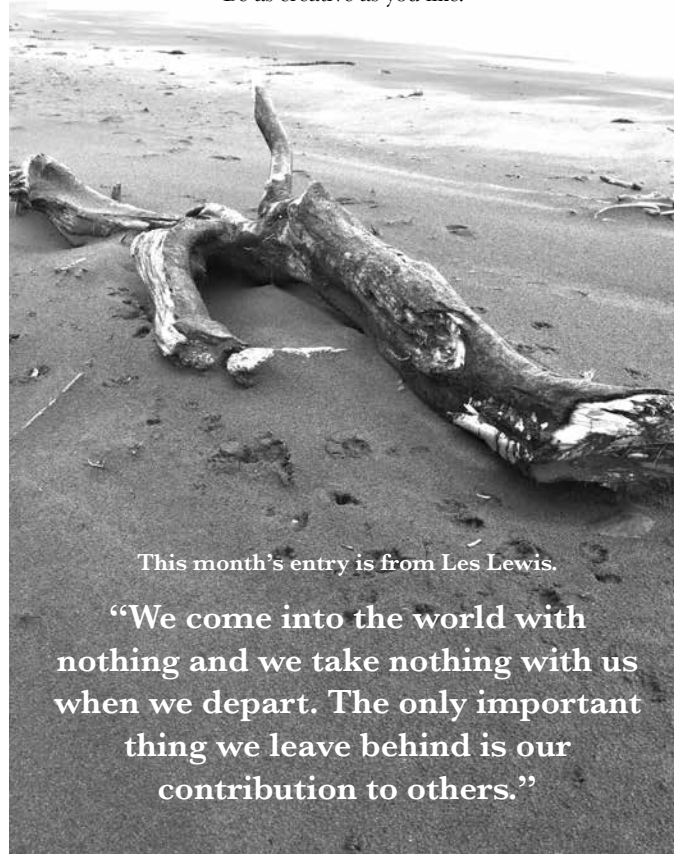
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# Driftwood Corner

This corner is for quips, quotes, jokes and the like that come our way. Send your favourite to our email address or phone/text it through. We would like your driftwood images for future issues. Send a photo or artwork and maybe it will be in print. Be as creative as you like.



This month's entry is from Les Lewis.

**"We come into the world with nothing and we take nothing with us when we depart. The only important thing we leave behind is our contribution to others."**

## You asked and we found the answer

**Many of our readers have been asking about the Village Mews development on the Main Road.**

*We asked Hayley Bennett and Amy Cunningham (Paul Cunningham's daughters)*

After 40 plus years since it was bought, the site between the church and the fish shop has been a hive of activity since late last year. This development, envisaged by the late Paul Cunningham, designed by the team at Boon and brought to life by Chris Bell and his team, is evolving daily. When completed it will comprise 6 luxury 3-bed-room townhouses and two commercial buildings.

The townhouses, which include elevators, central heating and 3 decks, are split over 3 floors with a double garage on the ground level. In total, the townhouses are 270 square metres (excluding the deck areas). They will be sold upon completion and already they have attracted a lot of interest.

Filling the commercial buildings is a bit like a challenging jigsaw puzzle. Finding the best fit for Ōākura and securing tenants that complement, rather than compete with, Ōākura's existing businesses is a key focus. This development will add to the heart of Ōākura's main street, a place where locals can congregate, eat, drink, relax as well as access and utilise various services.

Despite Covid-19 setbacks, the apartments are still on track for completion in early January and the commercial buildings in May. For more details, you can contact thevillagemews@gmail.com

## Lemonwood Breads - *warm crusty and delicious!*

With such a focus in recent times on nourishing, additive-free, wholesome breads, we wanted to tell all the locals about how we make our breads. We do a 'slow dough' style of ferment which means mixing up our doughs in the afternoon with a minimum of yeast so that the dough can slowly create its own yeast overnight.

I get up early every morning to continue developing the dough, adding any grains and seeds that I want to use in each batch, and then shaping them to rise again in time for our early customers to buy it fresh and warm when we open. Whilst we make a variety of loaves for our menu selection (think sunflower bread, light wheatmeal loaves, banana and raisin bread), the ones we sell to take away are our Rustic Brown Oat and Molasses loaves, our Long White Stecca and our gluten free Rustic Brown.

The gluten free loaves are made on Wednesdays and Saturdays and the others are made every day. The gluten free in particular is a delicious moist, dense and tasty loaf – a far cry from any gluten free breads you buy in the supermarkets. Ours contain various flours including organic brown rice flour, organic buckwheat flour, tapioca flour and potato starch, and it's 'rusticated' with additional linseed, pumpkin seeds, chia seeds, fennel, maple syrup and molasses.

It's really delicious and you might like to try it if gluten free is your thing. (It needs to be noted here that they may contain traces of gluten as we bake in our regular kitchen.) So if eating fresh, warm, flavoursome delicious bread takes your fancy – call in early and get yours straight from our ovens. And if you want heaps – phone and order a couple of days ahead and I'll bake it 'specially for you.

See you in the morning,  
**BARB and the LEMONWOOD TEAM**



**LEMONWOOD eatery - 06 752 7303**



I can't believe how surreal things feel looking back just a few months. For some countries their time in self isolation is continuing but for the majority of us things have largely returned to a "new normal". Whilst here we seem to have been so incredibly lucky, the realization of what happened is, to me, only just dawning.

Memories of these unprecedented times are fading but as I look through photographs I took whilst on my daily exercise the realisation of what was, and what could have been, is humbling.

I felt privileged to be able to record these times so with camera in tow I took to documenting as much as possible of village life in Alert Level 4. Seeing the teddies made me smile in these anxious times, the creativity and efforts of their owners a testament to the widespread community participation in this community spirit.

Now on my daily walks things seem 'plain' I miss seeing the teddies. I had my favourites, for sure, the escapee teddies climbing through a

**by Rosie Moyes**

gap in the horizontal blinds was just one that always made me laugh. Documenting this experience into book form was inspired by my fascination of a 1960 book called 'New Plymouth Observed,' gifted to me by a friend in the UK who found it on eBay. She gave it to me on her visit to NZ saying, "I felt it should come home."

So, I set about compiling my images and designing Oakura SEE-19. (Do you get the pun?) I found wide angled views taken from the roadside, documented our environment and replicated the 'going on the teddy bear hunt' experience as if walking along the pavement on your daily exercise. I've deliberately left images 'unbeautified', leaving everything as is. If your ladder was out on the roadside as you tackled some DIY then it tells a story - sorry, dirty windows and long grass included!

The book has a serious edge too, documenting government guidelines and positive quotes that give a glimpse of the world we were temporarily thrown into like the Four Square and



*Rosie Moyes editing images for her forthcoming book documenting Ōākura*

pharmacy with protective barriers in place and the school closed sign. Photographs of deserted roads, eerily quiet. Could they really have been so busy before? The surfer-less surf of Ōākura beach? Will we see such things again?

For myself, and I'm sure for all of us, we are hopeful we won't, but if we do we can remain positive and images of such times will be a reminder of how things were and how we as a community got through.

Oakura SEE-19 is going to print soon. I hope that you will enjoy revisiting our village bubble.



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# The Road to Zero Possums

I've heard a ton of comments recently about the thriving bird life in Kaitake— everyone seems to have a story of more tūi, kererū or pīwakawaka (fantails).

It's awesome and it's why we do what we do.

It's been two years since Taranaki Taku Tūranga - Towards Predator-Free Taranaki and the Taranaki Mounga Project launched Restore Kaitake, in partnership with the community. It was a New Zealand-first as it set out not to simply control possum numbers but to eradicate them from a 4,500 hectare area including 2,300 hectares of the Kaitake Range, 2,000 hectares of Kaitake farmland and Ōākura town.

With rivers acting as natural barriers on either side of this 'zero possum' zone, the main highway for possums to enter is through a strip of forest at Pukeiti. There we have set up a 'virtual barrier' to stop incursions. Remote reporting traps have been placed every 10m in four lines— using a total of 1300 traps.

Other tools and technologies we've used include cameras, possum detection dogs, thermal imaging monoculars and a 'lean detection network' of about 180 traps within the Kaitake Range itself.

by Toby Shanley

None of this would have been possible without the support of the community including the Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust and other volunteers who have done a huge amount of work. As a community you have also provided us with valuable 'possum intel', which is crucial at the moment.

Ōākura town is now largely possum-free while we are closing in on those remaining in the bush and on farmland.

We're asking locals to keep an eye out for possums or for signs of them— bite marks on bark or possum poo. If you see something, call 0800 736 222 or report it at [www.trc.govt.nz/possum](http://www.trc.govt.nz/possum) as soon as you can. We'll send someone to check it out, often with a possum detection dog.

Finally, remember possums are not the only threat to our native bush. If you haven't checked your backyard rat trap in a while, now's the time. If you don't have one, buy one from Ōākura School for \$10, which the school keeps. Happy trapping!

***Toby Shanley is the Project Manager for Towards Predator-Free Taranaki, which is working with Taranaki Mounga Project and the Kaitake community on Restore Kaitake.***

## Towards Predator-Free Taranaki Restore Kaitake

Seen a possum in Ōākura-Kaitake?  
Report it online at  
**[www.trc.govt.nz/possum](http://www.trc.govt.nz/possum)**  
or phone: **0800 736 222**



**Mark Stewart - 24 yrs service**  
*Chief Fire Officer*



**David Reilly - 24 yrs service**  
*Deputy Chief Fire Officer*



**Rowan Oldfield - 15 yrs service**  
*Senior Firefighter*



**Seamus Breeze - 15 yrs service**  
*Qualified Firefighter*



**Ross Bennett - 13 yrs service**  
*Qualified Firefighter*



**Roger Duncan - 7 yrs service**  
*Qualified Firefighter*



**Sheldon Prichard - 5 yrs service**  
*Qualified Firefighter*



**Fergus Robertson - 5 yrs service**  
*Qualified Firefighter*



**Aaron Murphy - 4 yrs service**  
*Qualified Firefighter*



**Mark Town - 2 yrs service**  
*Firefighter*



**Lizzie Beveridge - 2 yrs service**  
*Firefighter*



**Beccs McDonald - 1 yrs service**  
*Recruit Firefighter*



**Karley Maetzig - 6 mths service**  
*Recruit Firefighter*



**Andrew Butterworth - 6 mths service**  
*Recruit Firefighter*



**James Page - 6 mths service**  
*Recruit Firefighter*



**Chris West - 40 yrs service**  
*Ops Support*

## Meet the Crew from the Fire Brigade

Hi everyone. Apart from our regular training, recently at the station we've been internalising some complex situations in our heads.

Reviewing the internal culture of the brigade as well as the public perception of the Fire Service is a great opportunity for us to bond as a brigade and to look at the direction we want to head toward as a crew and as effective members

of our community. One area that we thought to improve on was our public profile within the village. We have some ideas to get out in the community more and are looking forward to putting those into action in the coming months.

We also thought it would be a good idea to put some names to faces. You may recognise some old faces but there are plenty of new additions

to the Village that have joined up recently. If you have time on your hands you could cut us out and play an attractive game of 'Guess Who' firefighter edition.

So here we are! it's not 100% of the crew, just the ones that crave media attention ;-)

**The crew from the Big Red Truck**

*This page is kindly sponsored by the Norton Moller Family, trading as Ōākura Farms Ltd*





### Calling all green-fingered gardeners! We are having our first ever seed swap on Thursday 1 - Saturday 3 October.

We're asking for donations of vegetable, herb, flower, native and heritage seeds or any spare seedlings you've potted up. Please drop off donations at the Library before Wed 30 Sept.

If the seed swap encourages some related reading, we carry NZ Gardener magazine and the books 'Kiwi Backyard: inspirational landscape design ideas and plans for your own backyard', 'Good Dirt', 'The Grower's Cookbook: from the garden to the table' and '100 Best Native Plants for New Zealand Gardens'.

**Crackerjacks:** Mark your diaries for the first Thursday of every month at 10am. Crackerjacks is a great way to meet other whānau in a relaxed atmosphere, and perfect for tamariki to get the wiggles out, listen to fun stories and rhyme and join in a craft.

**Writers group:** Second Tuesday of every month at 10am. Don't be shy! If you ever thought of writing now is your chance to chat with like-minded adults in a supportive environment.

**Justice of the Peace service:** Lynn is here every Thursday from 10am - 12:30pm.

Library services may change in line with the Government's COVID-19 Alert Level announcements, please check the Puke Ariki website for the latest information.

**During Alert Level 2:** If you are visiting us please follow physical distancing rules, provide your details for contact tracing, use the hand sanitiser provided when you enter and leave, use contactless payment options where possible and if you are feeling unwell please stay home.

Sorry if you have to wait - we're watching our visitor numbers and thank you for your patience and understanding.

## Be ready for Bee Cards

A new 'tag on, tag off' card-based ticketing system is on its way for Taranaki's Citylink and Connector bus services, and passengers can act now to ensure they reap all its advantages.

**The new Bee Card is now available online at [www.beecard.co.nz](http://www.beecard.co.nz) and comes into use on 19 October.**

Taranaki bus passengers can look forward to these Bee Card features:

- Online balance checks and top-ups, including auto top-ups.
- Online access to transaction history.
- Online cancellation of lost or stolen cards to protect balances.

The Bee Card can also be used on bus services in other non-metropolitan regions.

The cards will be free for a limited time, but passengers need to top up a minimum of \$5 to get started.

The Bee Cards will replace the existing Citylink and Connector smart cards, and passengers are encouraged to use up existing balances before the switch-over but you will be able to transfer left over balance from 19 to 31 October.

# Catch the Bus for **FREE** On World Car Free Day

Let's Go and Withers Coachlines are providing **FREE BUSES** On SURF45 for World Car-Free Day on Tuesday 22 September.

Recently the #40 bus service from Ōākura to New Plymouth was cancelled due to low patronage. Withers believes the future of travel is moving to an 'on demand' concept, a service which passengers are picked-up and dropped-off according to their needs. It becomes more user-friendly, improves connections to transport hubs, and has multiple destinations. It is a concept that has been successful around the world and they can see it being suitable for Taranaki and the rest of New Zealand.

Catching the bus has many benefits for the individual and for the community - time to yourself, less stress on parking and congestion. It saves on travel costs and is an essential community asset which adds to the sustainability, accessibility and strength of our coastal community. Let's not forget that taking a bus produces a fraction of the greenhouse emissions of driving a single occupancy car.

Transport is increasingly looking at multi-modal options. This means not just relying on one type of transportation (ie the car) all the time and riding the bike, e-bike, scooter, escooter, rideshare or bus to transition to more sustainably focused transportation. Try the FREE BUS, it might surprise you how easy and relaxing it can be.

The service on World Car-Free Day will operate for one day only from Ōkato, Ōākura and Ōmata through to New Plymouth's CBD, and return. Withers has also agreed to do a lap of town so you can get on and off the bus where you work.

Ōkato to CBD New Plymouth			CBD New Plymouth to Ōkato		
Ōkato	7.00am	9.00am	CBD	2.15pm	5.10pm
Ōākura	7.20am	9.20am	Hospital	2.25pm	5.20pm
Ōmata	7.30am	9.30am	Ōmata	2.35pm	5.30pm
Hospital	7.40am	9.40am	Ōākura	2.55pm	5.50pm
CBD	7.50am	9.50am	Ōkato	3.05pm	6.00pm

Hospital is on request. Registration is essential and we encourage you to book early as space is limited. Please go to [www.withers.co.nz](http://www.withers.co.nz)

Catch the bus in to New Plymouth and join NPDC Let's Go's lunchtime Car-Free Day event from 11am to 1pm on Queen Street, Central City, New Plymouth, where you can:

- Bike to make your own smoothie with Enviroschools.
- Learn about Let's Go and up-coming projects.
- Try out an e-scooter or e-bike.
- Sign up for the Fresh Air Challenge then spin the wheel and be in to win great prizes!
- Ditch the keys and get your doughnut reward doughnut.
- Join the Car Free Day pledge and you can be in to win.

**Bookings are essential. Register at [www.withers.co.nz](http://www.withers.co.nz) or contact Jen Harries 759 6060. Check out Let's Go [www.letsgo.org.nz](http://www.letsgo.org.nz)**

## Have your say on Taranaki's public transport services!

The Taranaki Regional Council is inviting submissions on its *Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2020-2030*, which will guide a review of regional bus services later this year.

Views are also sought on the future of under-used and uneconomic services, concession fares and a transition to low-emission buses.

The Council's public transport services include the Citylink, Connector and Southlink bus networks, and the regional Total Mobility scheme.

Submissions close on 25 September. Go to [www.trc.govt.nz/public-transport-plan](http://www.trc.govt.nz/public-transport-plan)



## Yumi Iwasaki-Schröder

Bachelor of Music, Provisional Member of IRMTNZ

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# CAR FREE DAY

## 22 SEPTEMBER

Join us for a lunchtime event 11am - 1pm Queen St, Central City. For more information on the workplace pledge go to: [letsgo.org.nz](http://letsgo.org.nz)

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# George Newton: 1st Place

Name: George Newton

Age: 17

Years lived in Ōākura: 17

School and year level: FDMC year 12

What are your aspirations for the future? Along with my identical twin brother, we wish to pursue and continue on a creative path in business.

What competition did you enter into? Emergence Award for young Taranaki Artists.

How did you hear about it? Local Artist and friend, Margaret Scott.

What did you submit? My art piece was called colours of composure and was a combination of creating texture and contrast with a palette knife, then adding finer details with a brush on glazed marine ply.

Tell us a bit about your submission: My work was inspired by the raw emotion that is not often seen behind a composed stature.



The painting was built up with layers of bright colour done with a mix of drawing, palette knife and brush work creating texture and interest. The use of texture and bright colour reveals that underneath the cool calm composure we are a mix of feelings and emotions that are often times very well covered up from the eye.

Blue and purple represent the shadows of anxiety which hide in the darkness. Red and orange represent fears facing the spotlight. These two emotions are what hold people back in their life.

How many hours did it take? Two weeks, after school and weekends.

You were awarded 1st place of the secondary school division. Congratulations! How did that make you feel? Really surprised as I wasn't expecting to get a placing.

Will you continue painting? Yes, my dad, brother and I are working on a website to be able to display and sell our current and future pieces.

Any more details you can share? I would like to thank Rhonda from the Percy Thompson Gallery in Stratford along with Margaret Scott for the opportunity to display my art work. Also I'd like to thank my dad for the encouragement and support that he constantly gives to help me bring my creative ideas to fruition.

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# Tataraimaka Gymnastics

A small gymnastics group of 5-7 year olds has been meeting on Tuesdays after school at the Tataraimaka Hall for basic level gymnastics sessions.

We set this up as a very small group to start with as we have limited equipment and resources. In fact the equipment is loaned from a South Taranaki hall that Rachel and I did gymnastics with many, many years ago.

We have a vault, a beam, a set of parallel bars we haven't figured how we will set up and some heavy mats that are a bit tricky to

lug around. We would really like to build this group up to include more children and to try and source better equipment.

We are only doing one session a week for children age 5-7 years, but have been asked if we would coach older children. We also see young ones with great skills that could be advancing their skills quicker.

If anyone is interested in helping us coach some of the older kids and for more advance skills we would be really appreciative.

We would also like to start an adults gymnastics session for those of us who like to keep up our skills.

Our latest mission is to try and source useful equipment such as tumbling mats, crash mats and a beat board. Again, if anyone has ideas we would be grateful.

If you would like to help or you are interested in bringing your child along, please contact Rose on [rosem@realfoodnutrition.co.nz](mailto:rosem@realfoodnutrition.co.nz)

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## Oākura Tennis Club

I'm heading to the snow as I write this but it feels like winter is coming to an end and it's time for tennis! The courts have seen some action over winter with keen players organising a regular hit and we look forward to getting cardio and coaching sessions started in October. Our AGM is on September 15th 7.30pm at the tennis club, everyone welcome.

Love Tennis weekend is the national open day weekend for the start of the new season and is the 10-11th October. Oākura tennis club will be holding an open afternoon on the Sunday 11th October for kids and adults. So come and have a hit, see what's on offer for the season and register. Check our Facebook page for details.

Teams for the coming season will be entered in October so get in touch with Tash Lewis for juniors and Jackie Keenan for adults if you can't make the open day but are interested in playing.

Taranaki Tennis held their AGM in Stratford in August and we voted on some remits to shorten competition day, but these were defeated so the competition format for A grade will remain the same with singles, doubles and combines.

Enjoy the spring weather, dust off the racquets and get hitting. See you on court.

**Jackie Keenan 027 673 2900 [grazjaz@xtra.co.nz](mailto:grazjaz@xtra.co.nz)**  
**Tash Lewis 027 775 5440 [tashlewis7@gmail.com](mailto:tashlewis7@gmail.com)**

## Indoor Bowls

We have been busy finishing our club championships along with a social visit to another club. First, the singles championships, with a great turn-out of 18 members keen to win this coveted title. With a round robin style section play there were four people through to the semi-finals. Marvin Clough played Bruce Duggan in one semi-final with Marvin having a comfortable win.

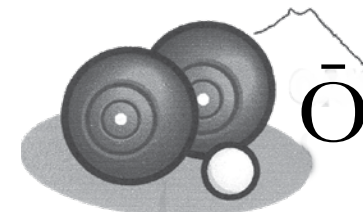
The second semi was closer between Greg Jans and Syd Sharpe, with both playing well. Greg's more consistent draw bowls won out over Syd's mix of wicking off bowls and run shots. The final was a great contest being 8 all going into the last end, but with Marvin winning the singles champ for 2020.

In the novice (a novice being someone who has played for 4 years or less) singles competition, Katie Clough played against Paul Coxhead in the final. Paul is new to bowls this year and put on a great display in the first half of the game, although Katie matched Paul bowl for bowl and ran out the winner over the 12 end game.

Katie also represented the club at the North Taranaki U18 singles district elimination. Luck was not with her on the night and came away not qualifying for the post-section round.

On 17th August we enjoyed our annual visit to Frankleigh Park/Star club. Playing in mixed teams between the clubs, everyone enjoyed a fun night and had plenty of laughs. We look forward to hosting Frankleigh Park/Star next year.

**The President**



## Oākura Bowling & Social Club

### Opening and Club Days

The club warmly welcomes any experienced and/or new bowlers to join with the members for both the Opening day and Club day roll ups (all equipment provided) on Sunday 13th and 20th of September starting at 1pm. These days are a great opportunity for the wider Oākura community to experience the club's friendly hospitality and roll a few down. For those interested in playing this great game it also provides an opportunity to have any questions answered around membership and the upcoming season.

A full bar will be available and afternoon tea will be provided after the bowls around 3.30pm on Opening day. If you require further information please contact Steve Muller on 0211695863.

### Playing Bowls

There is a common misnomer that to play bowls one must sacrifice every weekend of the season to the bowling gods. Yes, there are bowling tragedies amongst us who tend to have withdrawal symptoms if an afternoon is cancelled due to inclement weather, however you can select and organise to play when and where your life schedule allows. A full programme of both club and centre tournaments are provided at the start of the season and, together with the captain and/or

selectors you can choose a bowling program that best suits your availability and lifestyle.

### Special Membership Offer

The Oākura Bowling Club is offering all first-time bowlers a package deal with an offer of \$50 membership fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, use of new club bowls and free coaching sessions.

### Winter Interclub Tournaments

The Oākura team of Roy Phillips, Jim Priest, Peter Murdoch, Colin Roberts and Alan Bridgeman are currently 2nd in the Wednesday afternoon fours interclub competition played in the stadium over winter. Oākura teams have an enviable record in this competition with 9 titles and 2 runners up over the past 13 years.

Oākura has 2 teams in the 10 years and under Thursday night interclub competition. The teams of Adam Collins, Kurt Smith, Bob Anderson, Paddy Mullin, Steve Muller and Paul Coxhead, Craig Murray, Rod Smith and Ray Haslip are both performing well in this high standard competition, and all goes well for the future of Oākura bowls.

### 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 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. The Vic/Sam trophy between Okato and Oākura is scheduled to be played on Sunday 27th of September at the Okato green and clubrooms. It is great to see two coastal teams kicking the season off together.

As winners of the Radius Health Care Saturday Nth Div shield, Oākura will face off against teams from Hawera Park and Opunake on Saturday 19th of September at the Rahotu BC for right to be crowned Bowls Taranaki Shield champions. I know the boys from Oākura are keen and ready to fire. Good luck guys.

### The Underarm Bowler

#### Solution for TOP Sudoku featured on page 2

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



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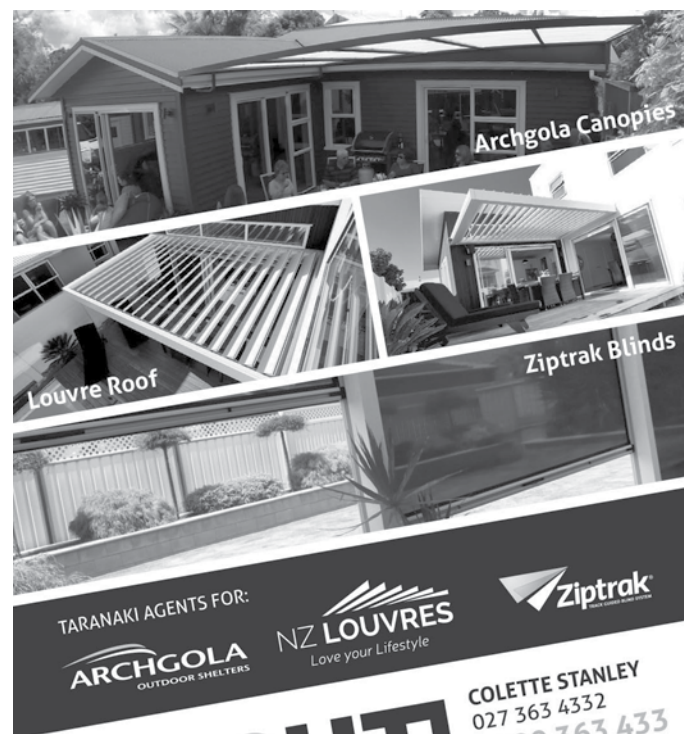
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- \$50 first year membership
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# Kaitake Golf Club

Golfers playing at Kaitake Golf Course are enjoying excellent playing conditions for this time of the year. All credit goes to Domenico Squatriti, Course Superintendent, and his band of volunteers. Many of the stumps left after the removal of a number of old pine trees have been removed clearing the area for re-planting. The remaining wood is being cut up for firewood and available to purchase just by phoning the office.

Also if you have any spare time and are interested in or looking for voluntary work, we are always looking for helpers on the course whether it be splitting wood or mowing fairways. There is always plenty to do to help around the course. Please give Denise a call in the office 06 7527665.

After the previous Covid19 restrictions were lifted there was a revived sense of appreciation from players for this excellent facility at our doorstep. Players are now making the most of the fine weather and lengthening days.



Two social occasions were held lately and enjoyed by many to celebrate mid winter. Sometimes the best thing about golf is the camaraderie and social events.

Chippers for the 5 – 12 year olds is run on alternate Sunday mornings. Clubs and balls are available. Talk to Denise for more information on this and any other questions relating to Kaitake. The office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## \$5.00 WEDNESDAYS

We run a small competition on a Wednesday from 8am to 1pm and is open to everyone. You don't need to be a member or affiliated with another golf club. This is just a casual competition for everyone. So please consider coming along and joining in with our members. You don't need to book a time, just turn up yourself or with a mate and I'm sure Denise in the office will fit you in with a group to play with. Any further info phone Denise 06 7527 665.

## Mens Competition Results

The Men's Strokeplay competition has been completed with winners:

- 1st Div – Chris Ferguson
- 2nd Div – Raymond Lewis
- 3rd Div – James Crighton
- 4th Div – Martin Neild

Also results for The Foreman Trophy:

- 1st Div – Reece Hannam
- 2nd Div – Raymond Lewis
- 3rd Div – Stephen Ruddlesden
- 4th Div – Martin Neild

## Matchplay results:

**Seniors:** Zac Lewis

**Intermediates:** Clay Jordan

**Juniors:** Norman Lofthouse

**Limits:** Martin Neild

## Womens Results

### Midweek Topdog

Sally Kwon and Maureen Nielsen were winners with Shona Burgess and Sharon Fisher runners up

### Weekend Topdog

Kim Woodward and Janet Dingle were winners with Bronny Gower and Pauline Gray runners up

**The Committee Trophy** was played for and won by Denise Howe with Donna Sharp runner up.

### The Club Captain vs Secretary

**Teams Event** was won convincingly by Kim Woodward's team with Donna Sharp having 45 Stableford points.

*Well done everyone.*



# NPOB Surf Life Saving Club

At the recent Taranaki Awards of Excellence, NPOB proudly took home two of the top awards winning Club of the Year and Club Patrol of the Year. A great achievement for NPOB to be recognised at this level with both awards being won through a collective team effort.

The following NPOB members were also recipients of individual Taranaki awards for the 2019-20 season

## Club of the Year

### Club Patrol of the Year

#### 2019 Michael Taylor Award

New Plymouth Old Boys

New Plymouth Old Boys

Dean Spicer

## Senior Taranaki Champs Overall Points Winners

U19 Female 2nd

Jordan Grylls

U19 Male IRB 3rd

Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver

Top Open Male IRB

Jared Coster & Talor Owen

## Junior Taranaki Champs Overall Points Winners

U9 Girls 1st

Evie Ander

U11 Boys 1st

Ethan Peacock

U13 Girls 1st

Eva Martin

## Top Points Junior Carnivals Overall for the Season

U11 Boys 2nd

Ethan Peacock

U11 Girls 2nd

Maia Dinnison

3rd

Danielle Tewhata

U12 Boys 2nd

Ben Helms

U12 Girls 3rd

Eliya Shlosberg

U13 Girls 1st

Eva Martin

2nd

Hayley Tewhata

U14 Girls = 2nd

Tiani Kensington

Middle of September, taking place over three weekends is the first opportunity for upcoming lifeguards to study and sit their bronze lifeguard award and crewman award.



Central Region - Taranaki  
**Club of the Year**

New Plymouth Old Boys  
2020



Central Region - Taranaki  
**Club Patrol of the Year**

New Plymouth Old Boys  
2020

NPOB has 12 members heading along, with at least another 4 in January. Without lifeguards NPOB could not operate as a club. A big thanks in advance to all NPOB current and up-and-coming guards.

Lifeguards - keep an eye out for lifeguard refreshers, first aid, patrol captains, instructor and rock module courses. Dates should be confirmed soon.

Our 2020-21 junior surf season will kick off mid-November with the first carnival end of November for both seniors and juniors. In the meantime keep up the swimming (or start) and get out on the water when you can. Make the most of our, so far, mild winter.

And of course – keep your social distance and keep washing your hands.

Photo credit: Tran Lawrence



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# Ōmata School

## Resilience

Please don't underestimate the toll that the COVID experience this year has had on us all. We weathered this extraordinary experience over many months, staying positive, being kind and getting through. We have now been thrown back to level two, with the uncertainty of how this will play out over the coming days, weeks and months.

We are 'COVID-weary'; outwardly putting on the energetic, brave face in front of our families, workmates and friends. Underneath we are weary, and a certain amount of anxiety is bubbling beneath the surface. Digging deep is harder than it was. So again, be kind to yourself and be aware we are all feeling this in our own way. Humans are fragile and a little TLC goes a long way right now.

**Karen Brisco - Principal**

## Coming Up

Many events have been put on hold as we ride out the change in levels

SEPT	25	End of Term 3
OCT	12	Start of Term 4



Max, Lincoln and Carter playing the marimbas

## Ōmata Music Magic

Every Wednesday students get the opportunity to get their toes tapping and their hips swaying, with a little support from music teacher Jan Aiello. Whilst level two has put a hold on many activities, it has not stopped music lessons for classes across all year levels at Ōmata.

Every Wednesday, Jan arrives with her car full of extra instruments ready to inspire children's love of music. During level two this has meant travelling music lessons going to each class. The younger students learn to keep the beat, playing percussion instruments and their own bodies. As classes get older, students start playing to the music and by year six, groups of students play complex music with only their instruments.

When students reach year seven and eight, they might be selected to be part of the school marimba group. Every second year, students in the marimba group travel to a marimba festival in

Auckland. They also participate in many other local festivals to show their talents.

Ms Aylward's class has a focus on learning the ukulele, and each member of the class learns several songs over the year and demonstrates a huge increase in confidence. Similar to the marimba festival, the year four and five students take part in the ukulele festival held at the TSB stadium with the band, The Blistered Fingers.

Every Tuesday Matua Gary comes along to take us for Kapa Haka. We learn waiata, haka, karakia and action songs. The sound reverberates through the school as we enthusiastically perform. Everyone loves these sessions and we look forward to performing at cultural festivals in the future.

The magic of music is alive and well at Ōmata!

**by Mitchell Fraser & Samuel Pattison**

## Ōākura School



Hello and welcome to term 3 of the school year 2020 at Ōākura School.

This is going to be our first TOP post of this term! We have done many things during the time we have been back to school, and there will be more things to come.

The Yr 3 - 8 students are going to be doing their annual cross-country soon. Each syndicate has been out training and practising their running around our school. Every student is getting stronger, fitter and faster. Hopefully the Taranaki Cross-Country will still take place in September as it would be great for our fastest runners to be able to compete against runners from other schools.

The Head Pupils have been coordinating our annual talent show - Ōākura Idol. It has taken over a week to get through all of the first round of acts and the semi-finalists will be announced soon. It was great to see how much talent our students have in the arts. They performed plays, instrumental performances, tap dancing items, sang songs and performed comedy skits. There were some really skilful and creative acts. It will be difficult for the Head Pupils to find a winner this year.



Chloe Fisher and Oralea Rodger Tap Dance



Vivi Hale plays the guitar

## Sports Competition

Recently our year five and six students went to Frankley School for a day of interschool fun. The three sports our students participated in were rugby, football and netball. Our school was successful with winning their netball and rugby, although they were disappointed with losing their football game. Of the students we interviewed they all said that they found the competition most enjoyable. Their highlights were experiences such as trying new things and winning, though some lowlights were when they lost or felt that they were clumsy.

## Writing Competition

The Year 8 media leaders created a writing competition for the year 5&6 students. We invited students to write a 100 word story and they had two weeks to write their story. Their story could have been about anything that they wanted it to be; comedy, report, informative etc. We used a range of criteria to judge the stories. Congratulations to Solae Hareb-Hine for winning the competition with her story titled 'Sergio and the Lost City'. Orr Carmi got 2nd with her story 'Whisper' and Bodhi Danenhauer came 3rd with his story 'The Purple Orb'.

*Aiden Hocking (age 12) and Lincoln Phillips-Lim (age 12)*

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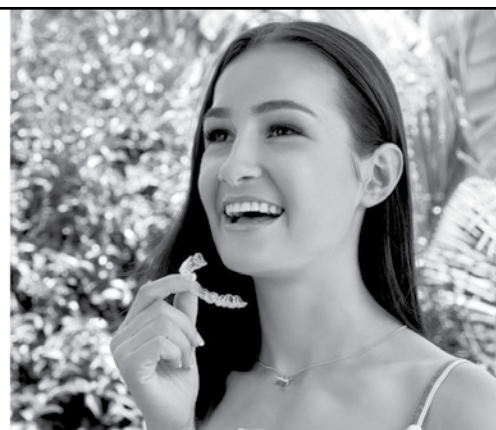
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# TOP Activities

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Bowling tournaments September through to April. Both mid-week and weekend games.  
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**Dancing in the Dark**  
Glenys Farrant 027 7530120

**Inferno 45- 4 X Bootcamp fitness**  
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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 -  
12.30pm. 17 December last day.

**Kaitake Ranges 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.**  
Ōākura Hall, Wednesdays and Fridays  
9.30am. Contact Gloria 752 7442

**Meditation Group**  
Kate Evans 027 203 7215

**Ōākura Yoga**  
Kate Evans 027 203 7215

**Pickleball Ōākura**  
Ōākura Hall Wed 7.30-9.00pm and  
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page Pickleball Ōākura for further info  
ekesslernz@hotmail.com.  
Elayne Kessler 027 937 7173

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

**Pool Club**  
Meet Wednesday 7pm at Butlers Reef  
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Sheree 027 3444 723

**Probus Club**  
Meets once a month at Ōākura Bowling  
club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every  
month 10-11.30am. Contact Brenda Ryan  
757 3537 or 027 748 9698

**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  
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 752 7743 or  
text 027 694 0933

## 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

**Gymnastics Group for children  
age 5-7 years.**  
Tuesdays after school at the Tataraimaka  
Hall for basic level gymnastics sessions.  
Rose at rosem@realfoodnutrition.co.nz

## 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. Ladies morning every Friday  
9.30 - 11am. First 2 sessions free, racquets  
available. Rachel 0204 092 5243

## Ōmata

Ōmata Playgroup contact Ōmata School  
751 2308



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**Dr Susan Oldfield**  
MBBS DipObG GDFP MRCGP FRNZCGP MACNEM



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