

The Ōākura Post

March 2021

Ultimate Frisbee

Owen Ellington reaching for the win on Ōākura beach

PHOTO CREDIT: Denby Scott



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Hello TOP people

'I need you, you need me, together we make a great team'

With the recent change in Covid levels this quote sums it up for me. Once again and seemingly not for the last time, we were all asked to do our bit for our country and each other. I need you, to do your 'bit', so I and those dear to me, get the best chance of not contracting covid. 'You need me' to do my 'bit' to keep you and yours well. Without each other it would be a lot more difficult to achieve. Thank you for watching out for me and rest assured I am doing my best to watch out for you.

This quote is also true for getting The Ōākura Post published each month. I need you to keep getting the stories to me so I can get your message out, and as a community we all benefit.

Be proud of the effort put in so far, we are the envy of the world right now and we all made that happen.

Tracey

The Ōākura Post

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

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Driftwood Corner

*"Kawa is what we do,
tikanga is how we do it."*

Te Reo Māori is the kawa. How Te Reo Māori is spoken is the tikanga. Kawa is the policy and tikanga are the procedures on how the policy is realised.
To put it simply, kawa is what we do, tikanga is how we do it.

- sent in by Barbara Fakavamoeanga

Not on Beach

Please remember that vehicles are not allowed on Ōākura Beach unless they are service vehicles. There are an awful lot of quad bikes and trail bikes that use the beach as a raceway and present a danger to others (adults, children and animals) as well as to themselves. It is a terrible noise issue and also causes pollution. Creatures that live on the beach are at risk of being run over! There are other places to go off-road for these vehicles.

Many thanks, Jane



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Kaitake Community Board

The very exciting news that adult kiwi are soon to be released onto the Kaitake Range reinforces the importance the Ōākura urban trapping project has played in halting predator leakage back into the National Park.

Since August 2018 when we launched the scheme, our community has certainly played its part and made a huge dent in the local predator and possum populations. Both the New Plymouth District Council and the Taranaki Regional Council have also helped us with trapping in our local parks.

On the Kaitake Range, the Taranaki Mouna Project and the Department of Conservation have played an important role too. In early 2018 there were about 60 stoat traps on the 2,400 hectare area. There are now well over 500 laid in trap lines, regularly checked and re-baited with the support of the Kaitake Range Conservation Trust and a large volunteer army. This ongoing work has decimated rat, mustelid and possum numbers on the Range. The Kaitake Range is part of the National Park, previously known as the Egmont National Park and named Te Papakura o Taranaki in 2019. Over a hundred kiwi have been released in the National Park in recent years, and there is now estimated to be as many mating pairs.

Kiwi being released on the Range so near to us is a heart-warming community story we can all be proud of. However, with the release on this side of the park, a further issue arises - dogs. It's illegal under the National Parks Act to take dogs other than guide dogs or police dogs into a national park, even in a vehicle, and dog owners can be fined up to \$100,000. Dog owners who take their pets into the Park do put kiwi at serious risk.

DoC rangers say dogs - and even cats - are being brought into the Park by their owners who are ignoring warning signs. A rise in visitors, particularly freedom campers and motorhome owners, has seen more people ignoring the law. Many visitors walk, bike and run on bush tracks in the Kaitake Range close to Ōākura,



by Doug Hislop

sometimes taking their dogs and allowing them to run free. All dogs, big or small, ugly or cute, are a danger to native wildlife and can sniff out a kiwi with ease.

Many locals also access the Park, but the KCB believes that the folk in our community are responsible dog owners and do not take their dog up on the Kaitake Range. Nevertheless, it's still a timely reminder not to take your dog with you. The kiwi are to be released onto the Range in about three months and DoC rangers will be monitoring tracks and car parks. Anyone with a dog in the Park may face prosecution.

The KCB is in process of setting up another urban-trapping display and workshop in late March to invigorate the project prior to winter when rats are on the move. It is known that rats can produce year round, have a gestation period of approximately three weeks and have as many as five litters per year, with four to eight

young per litter. A rat population can increase rapidly in urban areas where there are abundant sources of food, water and shelter. The number of households carrying out trapping increased dramatically back in 2018 and we need that to continue. We do hope to source a supply of new traps to go inside the wooden boxes as many of the initial ones being used are reaching the end of their useful life. We will keep you posted!

At our last KCB meeting, members considered the agenda item regarding the heritage protection and public access to the Weld Road Headland in response to concerns raised by Heritage NZ about ongoing damage to the archaeological site. The preservation of the headland comes under the jurisdiction of the Historic Places Act 1993 (Section 2a) and the Resource Management Act 1991 (Section 6f).

The KCB will support the Council resolution to:

1. Restrict public access to Weld Road Recreation Reserve for the protection of Hauranga Pā archaeological site, as required by the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.
2. Proceed with the preparation of detailed design, costing and initial stakeholder consultation for a 150m long shared pathway between Ahu Ahu Road and Lower Weld Road around the base of the Weld Road Reserve Headland.
3. Consider the shared pathway once detailed costings and Resource Consent considerations are known.

The provision of an alternative pathway will depend on a Council funding decision, and will ultimately rest with the elected members around the Council table. As this issue hasn't been addressed appropriately since 2005 it is certainly time for the Council to now provide a positive outcome for everyone.

Ka kite anō au i a koutou.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at 5pm on Monday 22 March at Hampton Hall, Okato.

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

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The World of Science

by Eva Hilliam

My eyes were opened to the huge world of science and technology over the course of two action-packed weeks during January this year.

I was fortunate enough to receive a scholarship from one of the local Rotary Clubs, New Plymouth North, to attend the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum for 2021 at the University of Auckland as well as Massey University (Auckland Campus) and Auckland University of Technology.

I was situated in the newest student hall at the University of Auckland, Waipārūrū Hall, with 173 other Year 12 students from around New Zealand.

The main focus of the forum was to attend 15 different 3 hour long modules over the course of the two weeks. These modules were run by PhD students, university lecturers, lab assistants etc.

My top 5 modules would have been biomedical science, biological engineering, microbiology, psychology and sport science. For biomedical science we were in one of the medicine school labs where we all got to individually dissect a sheep's lungs, heart and throat section, learn about how it all works and the key features which allow it to work so efficiently.

For biomedical engineering we were taught about the different medical devices that students were creating, in particular a fully functioning artificial heart! There was such a diverse range of modules which taught me many different things, and I am so grateful for this experience.

We had to attend early morning activities starting at 6:30am each morning and I was able to use the City Gym on the AUT campus for this.

I was part of 'yellow' group and we played four games of volleyball throughout the 2 weeks



Top: Eva Hilliam, Isabella Sanger (Otago) and Emilee Wilkinson (Wellington)

Right: Year 12 students with Eva in the centre



against other colours, which was a great team bonding experience and allowed me to get to know other people really well. We may not have been the best at the volleyball game itself but we definitely had the best team spirit of all! I have made such amazing friends from all over New Zealand and it was an experience I'll never forget.

If you are a year 12 student and are looking to study a science or a technology degree at any university in New Zealand, I would highly recommend applying for this forum because it is life changing! There is not a lot of publicity about it so go looking for the opportunity of a lifetime rather than waiting for it be handed to you.



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Dr Carey Martin

MBChB DipObs DipPaeds DipHSc FRNZCGP FACNEM MPHed BSc

Dr Susan Oldfield

MBBS DipO&G DFFP MRCP FRNZCGP MACNEM



PHOTO CREDIT: Denby Scott

Ōākura Classic Beach Ultimate Tournament

Over Waitangi weekend Ōākura Beach was alive with activity, one being the Ōākura Classic Beach Ultimate tournament. This was the sixth year running for it to be held here.

Tournament director, Ben Pollard had this to say about the sport of throwing a plastic disc.

What is ultimate frisbee and when/where did it originate?

Ultimate, also and originally known as ultimate Frisbee, is a low-contact team sport played with a flying disc (Frisbee). Ultimate was developed in 1968 by a group of students at Columbia High School in Maplewood, New Jersey. Although ultimate resembles many traditional sports in its athletic requirements, it is unlike most sports due to its focus on self-officiating, even at the highest levels of competition.

How many in a team? What are the basic principles of the game?

We play beach ultimate for the Ōākura Classic – which has 5 players on the field from each team (3 male, 2 female). The total team size is 10 per team with substitutions

allowed between each point. Field ultimate, as opposed to beach ultimate, has 7 players per team. Points are scored by passing the disc to a teammate in the opposing end zone. Other basic rules are that players must not take steps while holding the disc, and interceptions, incomplete passes, and passes out of bounds are turnovers.

Rain, wind or occasionally other adversities can make for a testing match with rapid turnovers, heightening the pressure of play.

Is there an age level it's most suited to or attracts the most interest in the sport?

Age group is varied – for the Ōākura Classic we had players ranging from 14 to 60 years old. The majority of players are in the 17-30 age bracket.

How many teams were in the tournament? Were there teams from outside Taranaki?

Players enter individually and then I organise them into teams of equal playing ability. 25 locals played and 55 from outside Taranaki. The aim is to have 8 teams of 10 players with

all teams relatively equal skill level to promote close games.

Are there rep teams?

Yes. Taranaki sends a team to NZ Mixed Ultimate Championships in November each year. The team is called Taranaki Thunder.

If someone has never thrown a frisbee, is it a technique that can be taught?

Anyone can be taught how to throw a disc – and with a bit of practice new players can be playing to a reasonable level fairly quickly. People who have played other sports such as netball or soccer tend to pick up the positional play and running patterns very quickly.

Do we have any Ōākura locals playing the game?

Yes there were several players from Ōākura in the tournament. Skyler Ellington (Ōākura) has also represented New Zealand in the Under 20 Ultimate division.

Taranaki Ultimate play every Monday night from 6pm at Vogeltown Park. New players always welcome. If you are interested please follow Taranaki Ultimate on Facebook.



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For a number of months now, Law West has 'sponsored' an advertisement stating that "The Sun is the main driver of climate change, not you, not CO₂." We went and asked a **proper climate scientist**, and here is what he said...

"The overwhelming evidence is that recent climate change is caused by human activity and, left unchecked, will dramatically and negatively impact the lives of New Zealanders and future generations."

If the Oakura community would like additional information, please check out:

climate.nasa.gov/causes

ipcc.ch/report/ar5

**Professor James Renwick, Climate Scientist,
Victoria University of Wellington, Feb 2021**

.....



Human activity is the driver of climate change

"The Sun doesn't appear to be responsible for the warming trend observed over the past several decades. CO₂ levels show a very different story."

- NASA

Yes, all of us contribute to this

Yes, it's the CO₂

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Home Work Exhibition

Celebrating home grown creativity and the many talented artists of Taranaki, the Home Work exhibition has just closed another successful show at Puke Ariki Museum. This is the third time Home Work brings together diverse artworks and showcases the amazing creative community in the region.

Local artists were invited to submit new and unseen artworks that embody the theme of 'Tuku Iho', which means celebrating traditions that are passed down through generations.

With this in mind, our very own Rosie Moyes, photographer, author of the lockdown book SEE-19 and a Puke Ariki Collection Digitisation technician, submitted her audio-digital artwork 'Continuum'. She was delighted to be selected, "What a privilege to be included amongst such talented artists." 'Continuum' was recorded at Fort St George and the audio was captured in real time.

The piece is a seven minute continuous loop showing the gradual transition of sand drying and falling into the stream as it flows into the

by Suki Bishop

sea. "Visitors to the show were able to sit quietly in a defined space to absorb the piece," she says.

Discussing how 'Continuum' represents the theme of Tuku Iho, Rosie says, "The sand that is temporarily suspended in space and time gracefully drifts through the layers as the passing of knowledge filters through from person to person, generation to generation. Static sand grains are lodged as if withstanding the test of time, others glint shining out in space. The audio is of waves washing over the sand, water trickling and the hum of wind buffering the environment as struggles in a lifetime."

In the final show there were 57 different pieces from new and emerging talent to more well-known established artists in Taranaki. Over 140 pieces were submitted and the final pieces were carefully selected by Puke Ariki curator Laura Campbell alongside noted artists Reuben Paterson and Ngāhina Hohaia. This impressive display included sculptures, ceramics,

photography, jewellery, textiles and paintings. Rosie says, "A diverse collection of pieces were on display. The impact of colour and different media created a thought-provoking show. It was great exposure for all the artists and a privilege to be displayed in such a great gallery space."

Running alongside the exhibition was a series of artist workshops and floor talks. A huge blank canvas mural by artist Dside was created for children to colour in during their school holidays. Puke Ariki welcomed children to 'forget everything your parents taught you... we WANT you to come and draw on our walls!'. The end result was a mural alive with colour.

Throughout the show, eight artists' studio visits were displayed through VR (virtual reality) headsets. This put context to their creative spaces and processes, as viewers were invited to hear about their artwork and working style. These are still available on the Puke Ariki website <https://pukeariki.com/museum/exhibitions/archived/home-work-taranaki-art-2020/>. Best of all, if you don't have a VR headset you can still watch them on any device.



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Fire Extinguishers are probably the most common form of firefighting equipment that you will see on a daily basis. How familiar are you with using one?

Unless your workplace has specialist chemicals or metals in use, it is likely that the two extinguishers you will see are a Co2 and a Dry Powder extinguisher. Here's how to identify them and what they are good for:

Co2 typically has a black band and a horn shaped nozzle.

Good for: Electrical fires.

Bad for: Wide open spaces (easily displaced by wind). Small enclosed spaces if you are in the same space (it displaces the oxygen, so ensure that you can always back away from the area).

Beware: The horn gets very, very cold so keep your hands away.

Dry Powder typically has the white band and has a long tube.

Good for: General flammable materials (wood, paper, household materials) and flammable liquids. Can be used on electrical fires but it will damage and corrode circuitry.

Bad for: Electrical equipment (lasting damage)

Beware: Dry powder is messy and will leave residue... everywhere.

IMPORTANT if your flammable liquid is a fat fire on your stove, **COVER** with a lid, chopping board or wet tea towel. Do not use an extinguisher as this will spread the fire.

How to use: Pull the pin, aim the nozzle away from you, test it works by pulling the trigger, then approach the fire and **SWEEP** left to right from the start of the fire, effectively pushing it away from you. Most importantly, ensure you have a safe exit route.

Have a safe summer everybody,

The crew from the Big Red Truck



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A black and white photograph of a man sitting and holding a pair of glasses in front of his eyes. The word 'BOON' is written across the lenses of the glasses. The man is wearing a light-colored blazer over a patterned shirt and dark trousers. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

Shaun Murphy, B.Arch (Hons), ANZIA ASSOCIATE



Rod Smith bowls

Indoor Bowls

We kick off another indoor bowls season on Monday 15th March and are looking forward to a great season, hopefully with less interruptions than last year. For those that don't know anything about indoor bowls, we play through the winter season from March to September at the Ōākura Hall.

The game is essentially the same as outdoor bowls although played indoors on a mat about 2m wide by 7m long. The bowls are about half the size of the outdoor bowls, which makes them lighter and easier to handle. It is a game for all ages and abilities, and is often called the 'game for life'. I started playing at 10 years old and I'm still going strong.

The only requirement is to wear flat soled shoes (no heels). Come along to the opening night 7-30pm on Monday 15th March. We look forward to seeing new faces.

President, Marvin Clough

Ōākura Tennis Club

We have had a hot start to the season with some of our top players busy on court with reps and nationals. Graeme Mitchell, Sue Oldfield and Taylor Mitchell were involved with the Taranaki Christie Cup match against Hawkes Bay played at Pukekura Tennis Club on 23rd of January. Hawkes Bay fielded a strong team with higher S band rankings than Taranaki who was missing some of its key top players.

Graeme paired with Calum Old from Stratford Club and combined well for some thrilling tennis doubles to win convincingly 6-2, 6-1. Graeme and Sue teamed up to have a nail biting close super tie win in the combines 1-6, 6-2, 11-9. Taylor and Sue were out ranked in the singles but Taylor teamed up with Jorga Symes from Okaiawa to win 5-7, 6-2, 10-8 in a nail biting super tie breaker. Taranaki lost 17-7 overall but performed well as the underdogs.

Congratulations to Sammy and Daniel Lewis, Cooper Ferguson, Luke Barrett and Taylor Mitchell on their selection for the Junior Rep squad fixture in Manawatu on February 13th and 14th.

Len Adamson, Chris Davies and Kim Carr travelled to Nelson to compete in the seniors nationals. Kim was runner up in the mixed, and Len and Chris had some tough draws but also had a few wins. I'm sure there was some good tennis and some good after match socialising, and enjoying the Nelson area as well!

Big thanks to Chris Young and the sponsors he has brought on board: Healthspace, Insure Taranaki, BP Oakura and Blacksand.

Jackie Keenan 027 673 2900



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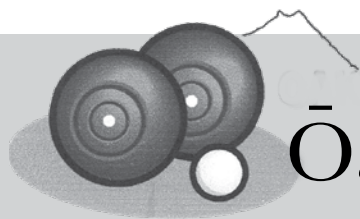


Ashlee making tacos for Tacos Rancheros under Barbie's watchful eye



Ella on kitchen duty carefully lifting out Rhubarb and Apple Crumble Muffins

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Ōākura Bowling & Social Club

Club Championships

The pairs championship is down to the semi-finals with Steve Muller and Don Hinton playing Kevin Fleming and Rod Smith, while the other game will see Andy Shearer and Ray Haslip take on the incumbent champions Jim Priest and Paddy Mullin. Good bowling to all.

The club singles (senior & junior) championship will also be played on Sunday afternoons throughout February and March. All members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club while watching some of Ōākura's finest bowlers in action.

Interclub Tournaments

Ōākura is well positioned to challenge for both the Gilmour and Avery mid-week Cups. The club is leading the Gilmour and running second in the Avery with two more games to play. Thanks go to selectors Roy Phillips and Paul Coxhead for orchestrating such excellent results.

A perfect 10 pts from 10 pts in the last round paved a bronze path for the Ōākura Orcas to finish 3rd in the highly competitive Barry Agnew 1st Div pennants competition. A great club effort and well done to all the participating bowlers.

Ōākura fell just short when it competed in Taranaki's premier interclub competition, the Bill Smee 1st Division Final played on Sunday 31st January. It was a fantastic result for the Club to finish in the top 4 of this prestigious event, reinforcing that Ōākura can more than hold its own against Taranaki's biggest clubs.

Taranaki Open News

The Taranaki Open Fours tournament was a tremendous success, with Ōākura receiving high praise from the contestants for both our great service and hospitality and the high quality and good performance of our green. Well done to greenkeeper Wayne Robinson, organiser Andy Shearer and all the match-day helpers for a fantastic job.

Well done to all the participating Ōākura bowlers, but special mention goes to the quartet of Kurt Smith, Steve Muller, Wayne Robinson and Jim Priest who qualified for post section play with 6 wins from 8 games. In the last 16 the Ōākura boys were matched up against a New Zealand living legend and current Black Jack selector, Peter Belliss. After a tight start where points were evenly won, the Belliss skipped four, found their range and ended the hopes of the Ōākura team progressing further.

Club News

Congratulations to Kurt Smith in making the Taranaki 8 yrs and under rep team to take some of New Zealand's best young bowlers in the Hex Tournament, which was played at Palmerston North. A fitting reward for some great bowls played by Smith throughout the year.

Hats off to Paddy and Philly Mullin whose horse, Waisake, stormed home to win the prestigious Wellington Cup run over 3200 at Trentham. It was a very popular victory amongst the punters at the club and it was celebrated in fine style.

The Underarm Bowler

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Surfs Up!



*Finals: left to right, Simon, Ricko, Tyler, Mitch
Below: Gail, Peta, Cathy, Helen*

Gezz how lucky are we, the hot muggy days and the clean water. Waves for everyone. Beach has been pumping with people. We really do live in paradise and lucky to have our own bubble compared to what the rest of the world is going through.

Mikey Christiansen's Memorial Longboard Comp was held over the long weekend, what a blast. Mikey, a founding member of the club, would have been enjoying the different levels of competitors and the amount of entries and spectators. The final was fantastic with Mitch Davies taking the win, shot Mitch.

Billabong Grom series started in the Mount 30/31st with the second comp in Whangamata this weekend gone. Big Congrats to all that competed and a big up to Ariana Shewry for taking the win in the U18 Girls, with Skylar McFetridge placing 4th in the U16 girls and Ana Schafer making the semis. Go GIRLS. Next comp in Piha 27th/28th Feb.

Micro Groms was held in Fitz and Waitara over the weekend, great to see the little ones coming through.

TSSSA Surfing and Interschools year 7&8 are all coming up, so good luck to all those involved.

Don't forget to pop up to the Club on a Friday night, catch up with mates over one of Barney's Burgers and a beer! See yas there.

Rick Christiansen





NPOB

Surf Life Saving Club

Our volunteer lifeguard patrol finishes up on Taranaki Anniversary Weekend. Thanks to all of our lifeguards for giving up their time and helping out over the weekends. This season NPOB has had 16 new lifeguards sit their Bronze Lifeguard award.

If you are swimming when the flags aren't up, please check conditions first. Don't swim alone and parents please always keep your eyes on your kids and be within arms reach. Always remember the beach continually changes along with the conditions.

NPDC have made a few changes around the Surf Club and Boardriders with the road layout, parking and a reduced speed limit of 10km/hr. This has been put in place to slow traffic down and to keep the area safe. The scaffolding around the club was for replacing the old glass in the lifeguard tower. The old glass was ruined with salt to the point where you couldn't see through it. With nice, new clear glass now, the lifeguards can use the tower again and see the beach!

Taranaki Junior Champs was held early February, at the finish of the individual events NPOB was in the lead, with the Twilight Carnival still to come for team events. Hopefully the juniors are able to hold onto their lead.

Oceans 21 is on Feb 25-28 at Mount Maunganui. Good luck to everyone competing and a big thanks to all the coaches, managers and parents for getting the kids ready.

Early March Taranaki Senior Champs are held here, and mid March sees our seniors head to Ohope for Nationals. The IRB team heads to Ruakaka in April for IRB Nationals.

Good luck to everyone competing all over NZ.

For more info on NPOB contact Jaynie McSweeney 027 374 3762



Be Respectful

A concerned resident shared this photo, and quoting "this disrespect to beach environment, this mess is in front of hauranga pa. This behaviour is starting to emerge again". And recently I came upon a similar scene, including broken glass, at the entrance to the beach at the furthest end of the campground. It is concerning being confronted with a danger to unsuspecting beach users.

At TOP we will look into this further, gather information on how to prevent this happening in the future and share guidelines on how to be respectful and careful users of the beach. In the meantime we would welcome suggestions from our readers for the best way to deal with this.

Slowing the Traffic down

We look after about 1,300km of roads and we've been doing work to make some of the busier places safer for all with traffic management, cycle lanes and crossing points. Ōākura residents and the NPOB Surf Lifesaving Club asked us to look at ways of making the Tasman Parade area safer over summer when kids and families take to the beach and the skate park on Shearer Reserve, and traffic increases. Slower speeds can save lives and reduce injuries, so we reduced the speed limit to 10km per hour and narrowed the entrances between Shearer Drive and Wairau Road as a trial over the summer. In liaison with the Surf Lifesaving Club we have now finished the paint artwork on the road and improved the parking. We'll be keeping an eye on how the trial goes and reviewing it to see if we repeat it next summer or maybe make it permanent in the future.

NPDC Transportation Manager, Rui Leitao



PHOTO CREDIT: Miles Wagstaff

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Kaitake Golf Club

WOMENS NEWS

Summer is well and truly here and the Golf Course is looking good. The sunshine brought many women out to play in the Opening Day competition on Tuesday 2nd February. For many it was a time to catch up after the Christmas/New year break and for others a time to start playing competition golf.

The 18 hole women played for the Summer Vase. The winner was Sharon Fisher with a Nett 64, and Joan Gerrard runner-up on Nett 69.

The Saturday Women's first competition for the year was the Jocelyn Garcia Trophy. Winners were Kim Woodward and Pauline Gray on Nett 68 with Kim and Janice Farrant on 72. As we had an odd number in the field, Kim played with two partners, so well done!

9 HOLE RESULTS

Summer Cup Holiday Haggie was won by Chrissy Warden, with runner-up Raewyn Bishop.

Opening Day Summer Spoon was won by Jenny Clarke, and runner-up Raewyn Bishop.

Thursday fun day Queens of the Greens was won by Angela Hitchman, Chrissy Warden and Jenny Clarke.

For the last two to three years Kaitake Golf Club has provided opportunities for women to give golf a go. Quick 6 is a shortened form of golf, playing only 6 holes and bringing the tees forward to make the game easier. There are no rules except to have fun.

This year is no different and a new Quick 6 series started on Sunday 21st February for six consecutive Sundays, but there will still be starting places for those reading this now. Clubs and balls will be provided. Anyone interested, contact Andrea Jarrold on 0273587001 or Denise in the office on 7527665.

In the past, Quick 6 has proven successful in attracting new members to the club and offers opportunities to meet new friends.

MENS NEWS:

The Mens Calendar has started and we are having a good turnout, especially on our Wednesdays and Saturdays comps.

Congratulations to Devin Lewis on a Hole in One on the 7th Hole on 6th January 2021.

Shootout has started, so just remember 10 cards minimum and Final not till October 2021 so plenty of time to enter.

If any of the Men are interested in PENNANTS this year please contact Ian Johnson (Boof) 027 607 2114 to be part of the team.

TARANAKI 18 CHARITY CHALLENGE:

We had the SPEED GOLF here at the course on 30th January 2021 and the boys got round in 1hr 5mins. Amazing effort. Jamie Reid, Reeve Barnett, Bernie Smith and Matt Cleaver played speed golf around Kaitake raising money for Kidney Kids charity.

THE LONGEST DAY – 72 Hole in One Day

This was completed by the Fergusons boys and a few of their mates. Well done to them. This was a fund raiser for Cancer. They started at 6.20am and finished around 7pm. Amazing effort, well done to them all.

\$5.00 WEDNESDAYS: We run a small competition on a Wednesday that's run from 8am to 1pm and is open to everyone. For further info phone Denise 06 7527 665

CHIPPERS: Next Chippers Day will be Sunday 28th February 2021. We will be in touch and hopefully we can get some coaching for the kids.

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



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Ōākura School

This year at Oakura School we have been lucky enough to invite three new teachers into our Oakura whānau. They are quickly getting to know our students and community.



Mrs Mills (left)

Nicola Mills or Mrs Mills, is one of our new teachers at Ōākura School in 2021 and is currently teaching in Room 10. However, this is not her first time teaching. She has been teaching for 15 years and recently taught in Saudi Arabia before she moved to Ōākura. She has worked in various other schools in New Zealand as well. Mrs Mills moved here in 2020 before the Covid lockdown with her husband and daughter. Since then she has adopted four new pets - 2 dogs and 2 cats. Mrs Mills loves walking and hiking in her spare time and spending time with her family. Mrs Mills feels that a good classroom should be a place where the children can feel safe, and she enjoys watching children learn and think. She is very happy teaching at Ōākura School and says she has been made to feel very welcome.

Miss Moore (middle)

Georgia Moore has moved to New Plymouth all the way from Cambridge. She is our new teacher in Room 11. Miss Moore moved to New Plymouth in early 2021 and loves it because of its beautiful beaches. Her favourite things about Ōākura School so far are mostly the students and the fact that everybody was so welcoming. Another aspect she enjoys



about Ōākura School is the beautiful view of the maunga one way and the moana the other, as her previous home, Cambridge, is landlocked. Miss Moore loves spending time by the ocean, reading, laughing with friends, and she aspires to learn how to surf. Room 11 may be doing quite a bit of art this year as it is Miss Moore's favourite subject. To summarise her time at Ōākura so far she says, "It has been absolutely, amazingly, awesome!"

Miss Reid (right)

Eva Reid/Miss Reid is a new teacher in the Kauri Room. This is not her first time in New Plymouth or, in fact, at Ōākura School as she is a past student! Miss Reid lived in New Plymouth before she moved to Auckland for a few years and moved back again. Miss Reid taught in Auckland last year. To her, a good classroom is a place where everyone can be happy and proud of themselves and their classroom. She enjoys doing things outdoors such as hiking, walking and biking, and loves learning (and teaching) history and social studies. She is inspired by her family and how hard-working they are. Since she started teaching at Ōākura School she says it has been fabulous!

Ella Kitson (age 12)



Coming Up

March

- 8 Taranaki Anniversary
- 9 Teacher Only Day
- 23 Y7/8 Athletics
- 25 Y6 Athletics

April

- 2-6 Easter Break
- 9 ANZAC Commemoration 9:15am
- 16 End of Term 1

Ōmata School Zone Changes

The Ministry of Education has identified that Ōmata School is at risk of overcrowding and have asked the BoT to amend the current zone. The proposed change in zone does not affect any students that are currently enrolled at Ōmata School or their siblings. It would only affect new families wanting to enrol. Effectively the changes mean that most of Whalers Gate at the New Plymouth end of our current zone would not be in our school zone from Term 2 2021.

For further information feel free to contact our BoT Chairperson, Bena Denton, who will be happy to help: bena@greenbridge.co.nz



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TOP Activities

Ōākura

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

Mon and Wed 6am, Fri 9am.
Boxfit Friday 6am. All 1 hour sessions.
Ōākura Hall. Graeme 021 536 990

Indoor Bowls

Enquiries to Marvin Clough 752 7531

Jewellery Making Classes with Sally Laing

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www.sallylaing.co.nz
sally@sallylaing.co.nz 027 664 3511

JKA Karate

Jim Hoskin 752 7337

Justice of the Peace. Lynn Murray.

Ōākura Library Thursdays 10am-12.30pm.

Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust

Pete Morgan 027 372 5182
morgpt@xtra.co.nz

Morning Talk - coffee group

Thursdays 10-11am at NPOB Surf Club.
Free tea/coffee. 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

Music Group, Mini Groovers

welcomes any parents with babies/
toddlers/pre-schoolers. Held every
Tuesday during term time 10-11am at
the Church Hall. Gold coin donation.

Ōākura Hall Bookings

Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Ōākura Yoga

Kate Evans 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.
Elayne Kessler 027 937 7173

Playcentre

14 Donnelly St. Sessions run Mondays,
Wednesdays and Fridays 9am - noon
during school terms. Visitors welcome.
oakura@playcentre.org.nz

Pony Club

Tracey Mackenzie 027 319 0238
traceymackkyle@gmail.com

Pool Club

Wed 7pm at Butlers Reef until daylight
saving starts. 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

Te Reo Māori Lessons

Toni Peacock 021 661 912
thowison@hotmail.com

St James Church

Sunday Worship every 2nd and 4th
Sun 10am stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Sunday School - St James Church

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am.
stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Tennis Club

Cardio tennis Thurs 9.15am,
Group coaching Fri 9.15am,
Development squad Tues 4.30-6pm,
Junior coaching Mon-Wed check

www.blitztennis.nz. Midweek ladies
competition, contact Jackie.
Juniors Tash 027 775 5440,
Seniors Jackie 027 673 2900

Tai Chi Classes

Every Monday 9-10am at Ōākura Hall.
Judi 027 268 2601. Just come along or
contact: taranakitaichichuan@gmail.com

Val Deakin Dance School

Ōākura Hall Friday afternoon - Pre-school
dance classes at 2:45, ballet for 5+ 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

Mon to Thurs 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 okatosquash1@gmail.com.
Ladies morning every Friday 9.30 -11am.
First 2 sessions free, racquets available.
All levels welcome. Rachel 0204 092 5243

Ōmata

Ōmata Playgroup

contact Ōmata School 751 2308

TOP Notices

Website

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would like to be kept updated?
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on a button to subscribe.

Got a burning question?

Send it in and we will endeavour to answer.

Got a story idea?

Make contact with us by phone or email

April Issue

delivered online and on Facebook
from 27th March.

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

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