

The Ōākura Post

May 2021

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Recycle, Recycle

Recycle is the latest buzz word at Kaitake Kindergarten. We are a part the EnviroSchools programme and we encourage the children to reduce, re-use and recycle.

We have some enterprising youngsters here who have their minds on making paper bricks from our waste paper. We did quite a bit of experimenting with the process to make combustible bricks from our scrap paper here at kindergarten. We have a special box to collect our waste paper which the children fill up each day. All of the children have a very good understanding that we are busy making these bricks to sell to their families for a lot of money so we can buy some new dramatic play furniture.

For the last few months we have been relentlessly ripping up our waste paper or putting our paper through our paper shredder, then soaking this in water. The exciting part is next. We put the wet sludgy paper into our brick shaped press. It is a lot of fun to squash the water out of these bricks – you need muscles to compress the bricks. We dry out the bricks in the sun or in our hot water cupboard... hey presto we have a brick to sell. If you have a source of shredded paper we would appreciate this being dropped off to kindergarten... we can also reuse your waste paper as well.

The furniture that we want to buy is \$3,000 – this equates to a lot of paper bricks – enthusiasm is high!!! So if you have an open fire and want to help our children raise some funds for their furniture please come to the kindergarten and buy some bricks.



The Ōākura Post

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

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*“When the great scorer comes
To count against your name
It counts not whether you won or lost
But how you played the game”*

- shared by Les Lewis

Hello TOP Readers

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to spend time with the longer standing locals of Ōākura, to hear their stories of the village. It is a community steeped in history, it's not just a great beach and desired climate where the rich and famous hang out. I'm joking about the rich and famous hanging out, however there was a period when the community consisted of a lot of wealthy transient residents. These people lived in houses here but many lived their daily lives outside of the village. Many never knew the stories of the people that had grown up here, whose parents worked in and for the community. For me, the conversations with the locals who 'remember when' are interesting, enlightening and important. They are our history and we are our history.

Tracey



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Kaitake Community Board

The goal of returning kiwi to the Kaitake Range is now a reality. A couple of weeks ago, after a ten-year breeding project, the first ten western brown kiwi out of a total of over forty to be released were introduced to their new home, the Kaitake Range. They were released at the back of the Range, close to Pukeiti.

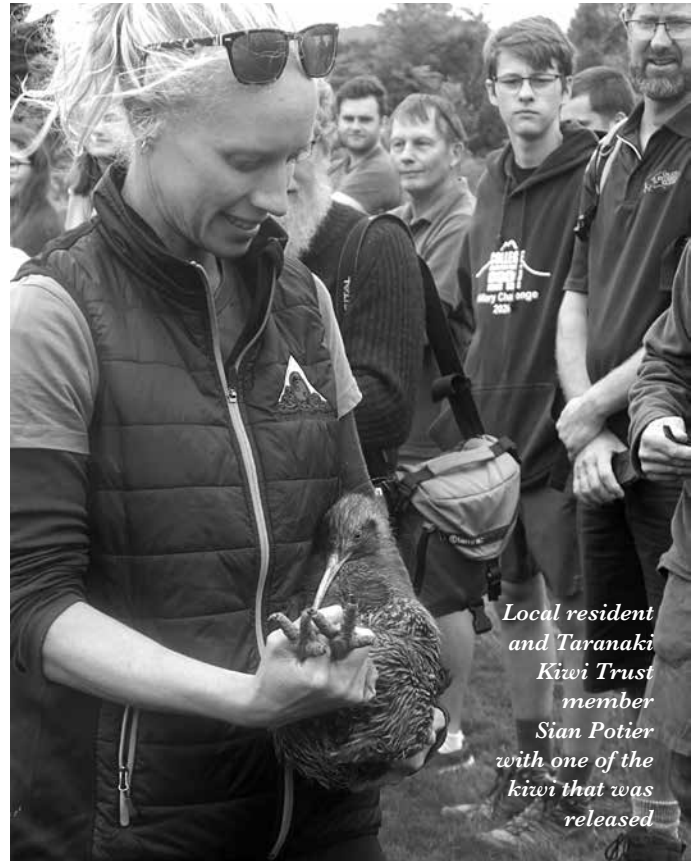
This memorable milestone has been reached due to huge Restore Kaitake community predator control efforts across the Kaitake and Ōākura communities. The first ten kiwi were released in three separate processes. These were hosted by Ngā Mahanga ā Tāiri, and attended by representatives from Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust, Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, Taranaki Mouna Project, Department of Conservation, Kaitake Community Board, Taranaki Regional Council, Ōākura and Kaitake community champions, and students and teachers from Ōākura, Ōmata and Coastal Taranaki Schools.

Volunteers from the Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust have played a critical role in bringing predator numbers on the Range to a low level. Those volunteers have literally spent hundreds of hours on the Range setting trap lines and then checking and re-baiting them regularly. Currently, these volunteers manage 18 traplines which have more than 100 ferret traps and 700 stoat traps. Their commitment has been immense.

The rest of the community has played their part as well through the urban trapping project we have been running for the past few years. It is important to stop predator leakage back onto the Range and through trapping in your backyard you are also helping the cause. I have been told a rat can break open a kiwi egg in under five seconds so helping kiwi have a continuing safe habitat where they can thrive is essential. Don't forget as the days become shorter and colder, rats will begin to move into and around our houses to gain shelter, food and water. So right now is the perfect time to re-bait and set your traps, and if you need a trap you can get one from Ōākura School.

If all goes to plan, and as numbers increase, Towards Predator-Free Taranaki will be working hard alongside local landowners to ensure the kiwi are not only protected within the national park but will be safe if they venture outside onto adjacent farmland and lifestyle blocks. While no dogs are permitted on the Kaitake Range as it is in the national park, kiwi would be at serious risk from dogs around the park edges. Already one highly effective dog aversion training has been completed in Ōākura, with more training planned in the area over the coming months. To keep the kiwi safe, we certainly encourage locals to attend the kiwi aversion training in the future.

We are indeed fortunate to live in such a special place, and it is very



Local resident and Taranaki Kiwi Trust member Sian Potier with one of the kiwi that was released

satisfying that we have such a highly engaged community helping to restore, maintain and flourish the biodiversity on the Kaitake Range now and for the future.

Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei – for us and our children after us.

Ka kite anō au i a koutou.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held on Monday 14 June at the Ōākura Bowling Club at 5pm.

Doug Hislop - 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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*From the top to bottom:
Catherine and Ash; Ash with his float for
the Okato 150th Jubilee;
Catherine, Ash and Nona;
Ash with his lifelong friend Ray Rook;
Ash and Nona at their wedding day*

Just call

In March it was my pleasure to sit and talk with Ash Heydon about his award from BP Oil. The stories flowed from one to another, I lapped them up. I was interested and inspired and I told him so. I said I would start with the 'award story' (see page 7 for that story) and then come back for more of his recollections. Little did I know that would not be happening.

At 1pm on Thursday 8 April, business stopped at Heydon Priest, traffic stopped on the main street and a crowd of several hundred gathered on the forecourt to pay their respects to this local legend. Quietly and to music played into a clear and sunny afternoon, Ash Heydon crossed the road from his house to his petrol station for the last time. This time he was carried by his family in the style of a military march, slow and considered, until he reached the forecourt and his casket placed on the bait freezer. This was his funeral and farewell, as per his wishes.

Eulogies were given by his son Evan, daughters Irene and Catherine and grandchildren Heydon and Arnica. Of all the people that could give his eulogy it was his family that were always going to do it best. Everyone could relate to the memories and stories they shared.

Thank you ALL for coming. Thank you to ALL the staff at Heydon Priest Ōākura. Thank you to ALL the caregivers – night and day. Thank you to the village of Ōākura.

It was Dads lifelong ambition to work until he died. In the past 70 years many of Dad's customers and staff have become his working family and an important part of his life. This was his home. He was incredibly proud to still be running his business. During lockdown when it was suggested he should be at home he was quick to remind them he was an essential worker. Brent Anderson (doctor) told him during that first lockdown to 'Go home, the village wants a big day when you die.' We knew Dad would rather die from Covid than spend four weeks at home by himself.

Ash had owned the Oakura Garage since 1951 and was bought, Ash recalled, for about 2000 pounds. He shook hands on the deal with Jim Priest and 'paid him off' over time. In 1954 after his marriage to the lovely Okato local, Nona Fox, they worked tirelessly alongside one another and started building a business. This was to continue for the duration of their time together.

It was in 1953 when Ross Priest bought into the business that it became Heydon Priest. Between the three of them they concentrated on their own areas of specialty. Ross looked after the garage side, Ash the transport, and Nona managed the shop and office work. The business quickly expanded as opportunities arose and among them included transport and logging. In 1958 they built the first forklift to operate in Taranaki for service in the Ōmata timber mill. By this time the logging operation was

by Tracey Lusk

becoming big business and they became the largest logging contractors in Taranaki. Ross Priest withdrew from the business in 1975 but the name remained.

Sadly when Nona unexpectedly passed away Ash was left to continue their dream without his darling companion. He did not want this new way of living and working but he did it. It may take a village to raise a child, but this village in recent years also raised and supported Ash. The kindness from his staff and customers has been humbling to watch. For years Dad lived in what we called 'the golden triangle' – home, work, Butlers for dinner, home.

Dad was a unique person. He loved being different. He was unconventional. His sense of humour was irrepressible and it sometimes emerged at inappropriate times. He often thought rules were for other people. Dad was the least materialistic person I have ever known. He had no interest in new things. If something was worn out he either kept using it or he would fix it. Just because his electric jug needed pliers to turn it on didn't mean you should buy him a new one. You worked hard to provide us with lots of experiences rather than material things.

Some of his pet hates were people that didn't answer their phones, answer-phones, rest-homes, television, people being late, being called Mr Heydon – just call me Ash. Some loves were – his shiny patent leather shoes, wearing a tie, eating out, his independence, the morning papers, early mornings.

He gave plenty of advice, most I didn't need, but I continue to pass a couple on, a) the world is full of trickery and b) lend money only if you can afford to give it away.

me Ash



Top Right: 1988, just days before Nona died, Nona Ash and grandchildren. From Left to Right: Ash with grandson Heydon; Ash driving his Dodge during Americana; Mitzu and Ash with the train he made for children to play on

Dad could be annoying, very annoying. 'When you all leave here today, say something nice to someone who occasionally drives you nuts.'

Dad could start a conversation with anyone. He never ever gave up, he didn't hold a grudge, everybody knew him, he was involved in his community, he was proud of Ōākura. He was generous. He was resilient. He had the best handshake. Recently a neurologist asked Dad to squeeze his hand. As I saw the doctor's eyes start to water I noticed he didn't ask Dad to squeeze the other hand.

Ash's granddaughter Arnica has some everlasting memories of his advice.

1. You can never be over-dressed.
2. Animals often make better companions than humans – this may be because they couldn't talk back to him!
3. Any time of the day is a good time of the day to go the casino.
4. Hard work won't kill you, and if it does it will take 90 years.
5. Don't be late.
6. It is always appropriate to comment on other peoples vehicles and driving, like com-

plaints about speed, handling of corners, seat comfort or the unsafe colour of the car.

7. There is more than one way that love can be shown.

Grandson Heydon expressed, on Ash's behalf, his thanks and also his shock that so many of you have managed to use his funeral as an excuse to skive off work for the afternoon. The reduction of productivity in this economy would truly leave him saying 'I am the only one keeping this place going'. True to this, Ash managed to confine his entire dying process all within the confines of the Easter long weekend.

Heydon has childhood memories of holidaying in Ōākura and days filled with looking for Ash. He was notoriously difficult to locate, I would wake up and go to the garage to begin my search. Everyone seemed to have seen him, but no one could tell me where to find him (he's in the workshop, no he's out the back with the trucks, he might have gone to town, ah try the carriage, I think he said something about coffee, or no you've missed him, the tide was early, he's gone to Ahu's). Locating and catch-

ing up to Ash was a game in itself because he waited for no man.

Ash was tough, impossible to beat in an arm wrestle, hard working, visionary, a doer and if you spent enough time, beneath a very tough surface was endless kindness, generosity and empathy which was evidenced by his willingness to support many people in society who were doing it tough or living rough.

Dad was aiming to live until he was 100 (I wasn't sure if that was a threat or a promise). He wasn't ready to die. On 31 March he told me it was time he got off that walker and got cracking- he still had projects to finish. Dad spent his 93 years not just alive but actually living, and spent just 3 days dying. 33,945 days in total and as you said in your own words 'I haven't wasted any of them.'

Reminiscent of village funerals of the past, the congregation followed the casket as it was carried to the Oakura cemetery where Ashley (Ash) Heydon was laid to rest by his beloved Nona.

Dad you work here is done, time for a day off. Yes, you did die with your boots on, you truly deserve to now rest in peace.

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🌍 Earth to scale.

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The Woman behind the Green Door

Providing holistic remedial therapies



Molly Barbara Hair has come home to Warea, Taranaki bringing her vast experience in the medical field with her. Having studied nursing at Taranaki Base Hospital, multiple studies in massage therapies in Australia and yoga teaching in Australia and Bali, Molly's multiple certificates in complimentary therapies is impressive.

Remedial Therapeutic Massage

Reduces pain, muscle tension, stress and increases circulation and freedom of movement. Great for anxiety, back pain, headaches, injury recovery, stress and tension.

ZenThai Shiatsu

Shiatsu is a treatment in which you wear soft loose clothing and lie on a traditional futon. Pressure is applied along the Meridian pathways using thumbs, palms of hands, knees and feet to encourage the flow of energy. Thai massage is movement based, blending stretching, joint mobilisation and pressure. The blend of Shiatsu and Thai provides a treatment which encourages freedom of movement, clarity of mind, calms the nervous system, relieves pain and invites vitality and good health into your life.

Lymphatic Drainage

This is a gentle treatment to assist in releasing wastes and toxins held in the body.

Hot Stone Massage

Relieves muscle tension, stress, anxiety and increases circulation.

Cupping

Helps resolve chronic muscle tightness and increases circulation.

Molly brings 40 years of experience into each treatment. Through consultation with the client and assessing their requirements, she creates a unique personalised treatment.

Offering the flexibility of a mobile service in your own home, bringing along her portable treatment table, Molly believes there's an added benefit from leaving your home and visiting her purpose built studio. Situated near Okato on Surf Highway 45, a coastal drive starts the treatment, as countryside replaces suburbia.

Then when you want just a little something more, indulge in a cleansing coconut and lime body scrub or a mud wrap.

Treatments can be half an hour through to one and a half hours and start from \$50.

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70 Year Service Recognition

In October 2020 Ashley (Ash) Heydon was presented with an award from BP for 70 years outstanding service to the Independent Dealer Network.

This is an award that would not be given out often and particularly when many BP stations are not owner operators. Ash believes the way to get this award is 'to live long enough'. He is certainly doing that, he celebrated 93 years on this earth last year. Not only is he living long enough, he is at the station every day, actively involved in the business.

The presentation was made by representatives from BP Oil NZ Ltd at a lunch with staff and his family.

Ash began his career in the auto trade as an apprentice mechanic under Charlie Maxwell at Coastal Motors in Okato, later to be owned by Ray Rook, another coastal institution. After 12 years there, Ash recalls the day he 'got sick of it' and left. With no job and nowhere to go he ended up in Ōākura sitting in the sun 'having a sulk' outside the Garage (same spot BP is now). He asked the 'two old jokers' if they wanted to sell and within two weeks they were gone and Ash was 'in'.

One of the old jokers was Jim Priest, his son Ross Priest returned to New Zealand having served in the war and staying in Europe a further six years. Ash was run off his feet in the mechanical workshop and suggested Ross, also a mechanic by trade, better come and help. This happened and the business became known as Heydon Priest. In time Ross left the partnership but the name remained.

The business has always been a service station, selling petrol and operating a mechanical workshop. The hardware and shop goods came later. The petrol supplier was Atlantic then Europa and in 1972 after 30 years together Europa was bought out by BP.

Ashley Heydon was born in Kaponga. He grew up in the township and lived beside the dairy factory where his father worked. Ash's memory as a five year old, going to school across the road from his home, was the kindness shown by another boy who bought a pencil to school for him as



he didn't have one. Ash has had a full and busy life personally and professionally. He and wife Nona, who he said was 'everybody's sweetheart' sadly passed away in 1988 after 35 years of marriage. Together they ran the many enterprises they were involved in.

Much of this Ash tells me is because New Zealand at the time was wide open for people to do something - if you had the vision you could do it. He is a staunch supporter of local business and his mantra is GO LOCAL, GO LOCAL, GO LOCAL. He has given financial assistance to the school, Kaitake golf club, Oakura Tennis club, Kaitake Rugby club, NPOB surf club, beach carnivals, wearable arts, Americarna, sports groups, fishing plus many other donations.

Editors note:

Ash got to read this story as a draft before he passed away. Apart from clarification of factual information I have not made any changes.

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World Fluro Wave for Mental Health

On Friday March the 19th it was a great turnout of local teenagers, kids and adults that helped create and support our 2nd annual Fluro Wave event at Ōākura Beach.

It was a special and fun evening of people getting dressed up in bright fluro colours for a great cause.

We chatted about mental health, there were spot prizes given out and together we stood hand to hand to create the best Mexican style wave on the beach, it was awesome! We then cooled off with a surf and swim afterwards.

Seventeen countries, from New Zealand to Norway, take part in the World Fluro Event on the same day. It was so exciting to have Ōākura Beach represent New



Zealand. We were also supporting and celebrating a non-profit surf community called OneWave that helps raise awareness of mental health globally by a simple recipe of surf, fluro and salt water therapy and has been running for eight years.

We believe that looking after your mental health is just as important as looking after your physical health. We wanted to show people in our community, country and world that they don't need to face

mental challenges alone. We wanted to raise awareness of mental health and reduce the stigma.

Take care everyone, keep shining, keep smiling and remember to reach out to those that need the support, and never be afraid to ask for help.

See you on the beach next year for World Fluro Wave Event 2022.

**Rosalind McFetridge
& Casey Stevens**



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Pickleball for Kids!

Adults play pickleball at the Ōākura Hall on Wednesday evenings and Thursday morning. Pickleball is a cross between badminton, tennis and table tennis.

One of four regular players, Karina Walters, suggested we have a kids' session over the school holidays. It was advertised in the *Tribe* and on the Pickleball Oakura facebook page as "Come along for heaps of fun, ages 7+".

Paddles, balls and nets were all provided, and within minutes of opening the door there were balls flying into, under and over nets. There was a great turnout and the two courts were filled with players. The whistle blew every seven minutes so some players sat down and were replaced with those who hadn't just played.

Everyone got plenty of court time and had smiles on their faces.

Here's what the kids had to say:

I like it and it's fun and easy.

It's hard serving and hitting back at first but it got kinda easier.

I think it's good for being active.

It's kinda like tennis but a different ball and racquet; also like ping pong with a bigger net.

And the adults who were observing said this:

It's a great sport for kids, don't have to be as strong as for tennis.

The kids are loving it, find it a lot easier than tennis as an introductory sport.

It's a social and fun sport, looks like my son made a new friend.

Overheard while leaving with their parent:

"Can we play again tomorrow?"

Note: This was a special session for kids. For information about the regular adult playing times see the 'TOP Activities' on the back page.

Dear The Council and All Adults,

We walked on the beach. It was a sunny day. We were all feeling happy. Then, when we saw rubbish on the beach we decided it wasn't really fun to pick up rubbish. But we did it because we wanted to clean up the beach. We found hundreds of rubbish, one hundred and one sixty pieces of plastic in one afternoon. It makes us so sad.

Every one should pick up their rubbish. We're feeling really sad. We are sad because the creatures might eat all this plastic and die. Imagine if it killed all the sea creatures and we only had people left on this planet?

PICK UP THE PLASTIC

We have to protect the ocean because we don't want the sea animals to die. The fish, the dolphins, the turtles, the orcas, the sharks, the penguins, the seals, they will all die if they eat the plastic dropped by the sea. The tide comes in and the rubbish gets washed into the sea and the animals might eat it. They might think it's food but if they eat it they will die.

We see the school kids picking up rubbish on the beach sometimes. But we all see all the plastic that is on the shore. The tide sucks it up and the fish eat it all up.

PLEASE LISTEN

All of our families are going to do it. We want you to pick it up too. We don't want the fish to die. We think people who throw rubbish on the beach should go to jail.

Please help the fish and all the sea creatures.

Thank you,

From the Sophia Preschool Kids

Libby
Oliver
Isa
Matal
Max
Mylan
Jae
Archer
p/n/w
Jack
Cully

Please read this letter. Written by four-year-olds who want to share with adults their passion for the ocean and their urge for us to change our ways in regards to the amount of rubbish we create.

**Nga mihi, Ana (Sophia Preschool Kaiako)
and all the Tamariki**

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REAL ESTATE**

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

Sponsored by Rational Humans of Oakura, contact at earthtoscale@gmail.com



Ōākura Fire Brigade

It's not every day that you get to raise one million dollars, but 1103 steps, 51 flights of stairs and 358 meters of elevation later and that's precisely what the Ōākura Skytower team and around 1000 other firefighters from around New Zealand will be likely to raise again this year as part of the Auckland Skytower stair challenge.

Mark Town, Lizzie Beveridge, Bex McDonald, Ross Bennett, Roger Duncan, Ferg Robertson, Aaron Murphy and team ring-in, professional firefighter, Blake Marston, have been participating in multiple, humbling, near-death experience (well, not for Blake) training sessions over the course of the past two months to get in shape for the stair climb to raise money for Leukaemia and blood cancer research.

Each of the firefighters have done the event before so there should be an element of calm this year as we all know what to expect. But let's

be honest the toilet paper runs in short supply on the morning of the event as we prepare ourselves for 12-20 minutes of hard slog climbing the Skytower with our breathing apparatus and full firefighter's kit on, all of which weighs an extra 25kg and comes with only a limited air supply to rely on to get us to the top.

It's a nice view from the top if you haven't gone cross-eyed from physical exhaustion. Of course a highlight is cramming yourself in a lift with 20 other extremely sweaty firefighters to get back down again, making you wish that you still had enough air left to put your mask back on. You do however, get a good sense of what it feels like to be a staple in a firefighters' calendar.

Please help the team fundraise and come along to Butlers on May 11th, 6.30pm for Bingo! Or visit <http://bit.ly/OFB2021> to place a donation.

Best of luck to the team, we hope you all make it back alive.

The crew from the Big Red Truck

Ōākura Library

What's new at Ōākura Library?

May is NZ Music Month and we'll be joined on Wednesday 19th May by Ōākura School music students and their teacher, Sam, to share their love of music. See you there, 1pm - 1.30pm.

Regular programmes

Crackerjacks - join us for music, rhyme and storytime for under 5s. Thursday 6 May, 10am - 10.30am.

Book Group - Love sharing your favourite reads? Come and join other book lovers in a relaxed and friendly environment. Thursday 27th May, 7.30pm - 8.30pm.

Writers Group - Share feedback and support other poets and authors. Tuesday 11 May 10am - midday.

New to the shelves

Check out our expanding collection of VOX books. They are print picture books that talk! Children simply push a button to listen and read along.

Charlie and Vincenza

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Our team at iderm are dedicated to giving you the best service and environment for your professional skin care. We are extremely excited to announce that we have found the perfect location for our growing team and clientele to thrive.

Thank you Ōākura for your support and encouragement. We are sure the short drive into town is worth the care and professional treatments you receive from our iderm team, and look forward to welcoming you into our beautiful new clinic!

NEW ADDRESS!
56 MOLESWORTH STREET, NEW PLYMOUTH

CAREfirst are investing in the Future of Family in Moturoa

At CAREfirst we are delighted to announce the expansion of the Moturoa Medial Centre to provide GP care to more of the Moturoa community and surrounding areas.

We have purchased the TSB building, which is being transformed into a modern, whanau focused GP practice, carefully designed to meet the needs of our local community.

The Moturoa team of doctors - Sarah Prior, Gillian Churchman and Wessel Brouwer - are excited about providing care in a larger, purpose-built space. In the new space, we'll be able to take on new patients and provide greater medical care, while staying within the community village.

With our expansion we'll be able to provide better access to medical care. It will support our goal of attracting more GP's to our region and ensure improved health outcomes in the years to come.

We are delighted we can continue to house the TSB ATM for the community to access.



Moturoa Medical Centre 751 0390

Well daylight savings has given us a little taste of cooler weather, still some cracking days - enjoy!

Great to follow some of our members competing in the comps around the country, Raglan Pro, South Island Champs in Dunedin, Neon Surf Comp in Pauanui and the Easter Masters National Surf Comp held at Punihos. Congrats to Arianna Shewry taking out the NZ Surfing U18s billabong grom series.

The Taranaki Grom Squad meets every Wednesday at Surfing Headquarters in Fitzroy. This squad is made up of groms from Opunake through to Waitara led by Kane Rowson and supported by parents. They not only teach surfing skills but also prepare them physically and mentally for comps. Having the correct equipment and encouraging them to not only be competitive in comps but to better themselves as well, not to mention keeping these groms busy and frothing for waves. Follow the squad on Instagram.

What a buzz to see our local Niwa Shewry take out the Open Mens at Bowlzilla in Wellington. Massive achievement, we are all so proud of you.

Friday nights have now finished for the year, but keep checking your emails, FaceBook and insta as some exciting events are planned.



NPOB

Surf Life Saving Club

That's a wrap for the 2020/21 Season.

The NPOB IRB team finished off our season heading up to Nationals at Ruakaka. We had four crews competing (in tough, stormy conditions), finishing up 7th overall out of 18 clubs.

Congratulations to the following crews taking away medals.

Under 23 Female Mass Rescue - 2nd

Zoe Honeyfield (driver), Casey Feaver (crew), Isla Robinson & Ellie Dinnison (patients)

Under 19 Male Single Rescue - 2nd

Jacob Whittle (driver), Jack Feaver (crew), Ellie Dinnison (patient)

Our junior season finished up with prizegiving end of March. The kids had a lot of fun with some great yellow and blue themed costumes. Thanks to everyone who came out to celebrate and to everyone who helped make the 20/21 season one for the record books. Sponsors, parents, grandparents, officials, lifeguards, our incredible coaches, our exec and junior surf committees and of course our athletes. Congratulations!

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The top junior awards were awarded to the following:

Dunlop-Barrett Cup

- Overall Junior Club Person

Eva Martin

Eaton Cup - Most Promising Junior

Darcy O'Sullivan

The flags have been put away for the winter but our lifeguards are still volunteering and training. Isla Robinson, George Newton and Louie Newton attended the Taranaki Intermediate Lifeguard Camp mid-April. The camp is designed to develop and enhance junior lifeguards and covers search and rescue, rock rescues, board rescues, leadership, scanning and first aid scenarios.

NPOB were lifeguards at the recent Tri Taranaki Festival held at Ngamotu Beach. It was great to see this going ahead as last year it was cancelled due to the dreaded COVID. Our lifeguards did a great job, the Tri athletes raced all day with the first wave starting at 8am going through until the last wave at 3pm. A great festival with age groups from under 12yrs to 50+ yrs, all with varying range of abilities competing. It was a miserable weather day and needless to say the lifeguards were freezing at the end.

We were also set to lifeguard at the Weet-bix TRY, however due to the water quality at Ngamotu Beach the swim leg was cancelled and the TRY became a run, bike event.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page NPOB Surf Club for what is happening over the winter months. And for those still in the water, stay safe.



Oākura Tennis Club



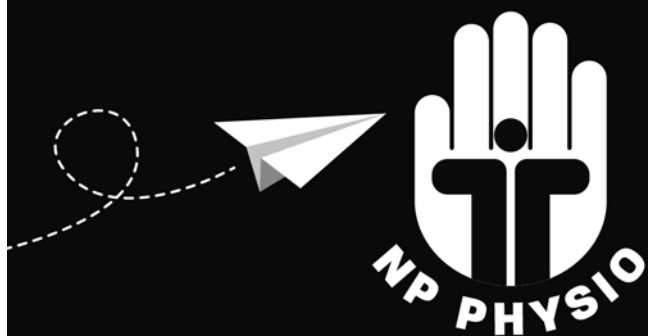
Oākura Tennis Club prize winners

The courts have been busy with finals and club champs all played out and just a few midweek ladies rain off games to be played.

The junior club champs were completed followed by prizegiving on Sunday 11th April. In the Green Grade Division B Rafa O'Sullivan beat Luke Eager and in Division A Austin Fearon beat Noah Stanley. In the big boys youth grade Adi Carmi beat Oli Winstanley in Division B while Division A was a family affair between Cooper and Miller Ferguson with Cooper claiming the silverware for junior boys club champ. Well done to all the kids, there was some great tennis to watch. Adi Carmi received the most improved trophy from the Blitz coaching team. Thanks to Tash Lewis for organising juniors all season and Anne and Gavin for helping on finals day.

Due to demand, tennis coaching will continue next term but cardio is on hold over the winter months. Contact www.blitztennis.nz for any coaching queries.

Movement = Medicine



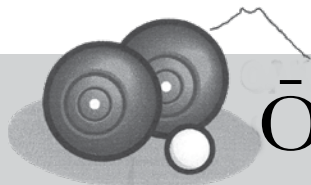
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Ōākura Bowling & Social Club

Club Championships

Junior Taranaki Champs of Champs winner Kurt Smith won the Club's Championship Senior Singles in a high-quality final over Andy Shearer. The game was evenly poised at 12 apiece when Smith found another level and powered home to win 21-13 to lock in his maiden senior singles title. Craig Murray took the honours over Rod Smith in the Junior Singles Championship with a hard-fought 21-19 win. The final was of exceptional quality, played in great spirit and a credit to both players.

Adam Collins, Andy Shearer and Kevin Gray won the Championship Triples in a close 21-19 victory over Kurt Smith, Steve Muller and Mike Vickers. Best friends off the green, Collins and Smith, played tremendous skip bowls but when Collins trailed the kitty with his last bowl on the final end, he secured well-earned bragging rights for his trio. Special mention to Andy Shearer who finally shed his bridesmaids tag for the year with a win in the triples. The future of Ōākura bowls is looking bright and healthy and the club wishes all winners success in Bowls Taranaki's Champs of Champs.

Bruce Jackson and Adam Collins have seen off all challengers and will do battle in the President's Trophy final later in April. The Trophy is a singles handicap tournament played to 15 points with touchers earning the players an extra point. The format was well received by the players and congratulations to junior bowler Norm Lofthouse in reaching the semis.

Interclub Tournaments

Ōākura has retained the Club of Origin tournament played at Paritutu on the 11 April. The team of Adam Collins, Steve Muller, Bruce Jackson and Paddy Mullin were the only undefeated team on the day and were well deserved winners with 4 from 4 wins and a



43pts differential. The tournament ensures that some of Taranaki's oldest clubs can once again relive their glory days. Thanks to Shorty Sanger and Kevin Gray for their continuing sponsorship of this event.


Club News

The highly regarded and fiercely contested Collins Trophy competition will be played at Ōākura on the 25th May and 2nd June starting at 1pm. The format is a round-robin 2x4x2 pairs completion with each game consisting of 6 ends last apx 1 hour. Past President, Mark Collins, donated and sponsored the trophy with the concept that the teams consist of a senior player with a junior and/or non-player.

The Professional Bowling Association will again have a chapter in New Plymouth with all bowling to be played at the Paritutu Bowling Club indoor stadium. The qualifiers for the various competitions will be played over the weekends of 5th 6th 7th of June, 26th 27th of June and the 7th 8th of August.

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Kaitake Golf Club

Men's News

Unfortunately both of our Kaitake Pennant Teams have missed out on qualifying for the quarter finals. Big thanks go out to Boof (Ian Johnson) for his organisation of the teams.

Upcoming Events: In mid May we will be running the Open Mixed Canadian Foursomes. Towards the end of May we will be having the Taranaki 2 Ball Best Ball tournament. On Friday 26th March we had the Harry Blyde Tournament which had around 66 entries.

Really good turn out and seemingly was well organised by Gonzo (Jeff Clement) with a hangi afterwards, a BBQ at the 4th tee and plenty of refreshments around the course.

The boys had a new golf format. It was to tee off the 1st but play to the 2nd green and putt out there. Tee off 3rd putt out 4th and so on. Was attended by around 20 members.

Ladies' News

The 9 Hole Team have currently won all three of their matches, with both the Weekend Team and the Midweek Team having two wins so far.

Jo Wilson-West and Christine Alexander won the 9 Hole Section at the recent Westown Canadian Foursomes Tournament.

In 18 Hole Golf, the Monnie Hannan trophy was won by Dianne Jones and Helen Beaurepaire, runners up Bronny Gower and

Barbara Crombie. Patterson Trophy winner was Barbara Crombie with Pauline Gray runnerup. Winners of the Askew Plate were Julie Reid and Lorraine Julian. Winner of the Fougere Cup was Maureen Nielsen. Barbara Crombie won the Flo Green Trophy and the Grandmother's Trophy was won by Kim Woodward.

Other winners are: Coronation Medal - Bronny Gower, Aotearoa Cup - Janice Farrant, Veterans Trophy - Shona Burgess and Best Gross Cup - Bronny Gower. Bronny Gower also won 1st Gross in the Bronze Division at the 2021 Taranaki Women's Strokeplay Tournament.

Our latest Quick 6 Programme has again been very successful in encouraging new players to our club. We have been fortunate to have Murray Martin from Taranaki Golf attending some of our sessions with coaching tips.

We now have a new practice net at the end of the back practice green. Non Members are more than welcome to come on out and use it.

You do not need clubs or balls, they can be supplied. Nice introduction to golf. Come and give it a try.

CHIPPERS: Next Chippers Day will be Sunday 10th May. New players are always very welcome. Chippers ages range from 5 – 12 years. Contact the club for more info.

Indoor Bowling

The 2021 season is off to fabulous start with lots of familiar faces returning for another year, and good to see a few new members. We started in March with a couple of club nights including 'bring a friend' and 'coach and learn'.

This is an excellent way to introduce new players to the game. It allows some of the more experienced bowlers to pass on their knowledge around bowl delivery and use of the mat. Easter Monday we hosted a social night with Warea club visiting us. They too have experienced an upswing in new members so it was great to see plenty of mats being used in the hall, and loads of banter between the two clubs.

In April we started our Jamieson Cup competition which is a round robin format played over three nights with only one game of 21 ends per night. This is a real mental challenge to stay consistent over the course of the game. It was great to see the opening games close all the way through with Greg Jans skipped team running out winners over Jim Priest and Dean Baker beating Syd Sharpe after Syd's team dropped six points on the 17th end.

Good news for our youngest member Katie Clough has made the U18 North Taranaki team and will be travelling to Otorohanga for a quadrangular tournament. We wish her luck and will keep you updated on her results.

The President

Lemonwood French Toast Recipe



French Toast with Banana, Fakebacon and Maple syrup

Almond, Date & Vanilla Slush

½ cup chopped dates softened in ½ cup of boiling water

2 cups Almond Milk

1 Tbsp Vanilla essence

1 Tbsp Cinnamon

Mix all in the blender until smooth.

One loaf of Lemonwood Doughnut Bread sliced thickly. Dip each side of the bread into the Almond/Date Slush then fry in Olivani until golden and crispy on the edges.

Layer 2 slices of French toast with sliced bananas, Lemonwood fakebacon and drizzle generously with organic Maple Syrup. Dust with icing sugar and cinnamon.

If that seems all too much work – bring Mum to Lemonwood and we'll do it for you. If you bring this advertisement on Mothers Day we'll give her a complimentary hot drink to go with her meal.

Check out our wonderful line of housemade condiments, our beautiful new Lemonwood KeepCups or simply purchase a gift voucher. The perfect gift for Mum.

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For more information or viewing times, please contact Anjie or Rachel.

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RACHEL HOOPER

M | 027 235 5284

E | rachel.hooper@eieio.co.nz



ANJIE COOK

M | 027 555 4736

E | anjie.cook@eieio.co.nz



Wow, what a journey so far! Nearing completion after so many years in the making, the vision of the Village Mews is beginning to become a reality. We would like to thank everybody in Ōākura for their patience with the congestion on the Main Road during this build and the strain on car parking that this has created. Please rest assured, this will begin to ease in the coming months.

With the residential stage all but completed and the two commercial buildings due for completion in late July, our focus now turns to the landscaping, something we feel very passionate about for aesthetics as well as environmental reasons. We are looking forward to this design coming alive, and with nearly 2,500 plants and trees to be planted, we are confident that the development's aesthetic will be softened and enhanced, while providing a unique green space for residents, visitors and tenants.

In the meantime, Anjie and Rachel, local residents and sales agents with McDonald Real Estate, have been overwhelmed with the interest and inquiry these townhouses have raised. The positive response they have received following the launch and first open homes has been very promising with keen buyers eager to see the build develop and evolve.



Concept image showing landscaping

The Village Mews

All townhouses have high spec features, providing a quality level of living expected with such a project. The completed development will be one to be proud of, stunning modern architecture and beautiful landscaping; a seamless flow from commercial to residential with privacy and style.

The commercial side of the Village Mews consists of two two-storey buildings, separated by an atrium/canopy. Although the commercial

spaces have been designed to be slightly flexible in terms of sizing, there will be up to eight businesses, offering hospitality, retail, wellness and office space.

Kevin and Russell at McDonald Real Estate are handling the commercial side so people can contact them if they have any questions about the spaces available.

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We Will Remember Them

ANZAC, our brave New Zealand and Australian soldiers, many of whom lost their lives.

People all over our country come and unite together to commemorate the tragic and surreal events from World War One, The Great War and World War Two. Being a small district and country school didn't stop Ōmata from holding their own remembrance service in April, with the school's Lead Ambassadors playing a big part in the event.

Our Principal, Ms Brisco, pulled the event together supported by Mr Bryce Gordon on the cornet playing the Last Post and Reveille. Mr Murphy brought the events to light with his recollection about the bravery of Flight Lieutenant Lloyd Trigg VC, who whilst doomed to crash, continued on his mission with the airforce. Students solemnly remembered the fallen, particularly those from the Ōmata Community, during the minute of silence, before the flag was raised to complete the remembrance service. You may have spotted the wreath created by students sitting at the Ōmata cenotaph over the ANZAC period.



Coming Up

May

- 3 Term Three begins
Life Education begins
New 'Ruru' classroom opens
- 5 Ruru Literacy Quiz
- 7 Y7/8 PCT Challenge -
TSB Stadium
- 11 'Conscious Parenting' workshop
7-8:30pm in Ōmata Hall
- 12 Y7 First Aid Course
- 13 Y6 First Aid Course
- 19 Y1/2 Movement Madness with
Ōākura at Ōmata
- 20 Y1/2 Movement Madness with
Ōākura at Ōmata
- 25 Y5/6 Rippa Rugby Tournament
- 28 Movie Night Fundraiser

Coastal Athletics

We jump, we run and we throw. These are some of the skills that have been demonstrated during the inter-school athletics held at Coastal Taranaki School earlier in the term. Throughout this event, students of Ōākura, Ōmata and Coastal Schools demonstrated sportsmanship, resilience and integrity while striving to bring out the best in themselves. It was great seeing everyone there, participating and supporting each other. From my perspective, I had a lot of fun and I made many new friends and in general just had a really great time. Thanks must go to Coastal Taranaki School for organising this event and giving us a really enjoyable and amusing day.

By Aidan Sedgwick, Year 8

New Hungry Pet treat range now available in-store & online.



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Ōākura School Beach Clean up

In 2021, Ōākura School has been helping the community and environment as much as possible to make up for lost time in lockdown 2020. Several days after the marae visit on March 22, Ōākura School put on their rubbish gloves and set to work in their annual cleanup around Ōākura, its beach and village. They all did their part to work together to continue the tradition of our school students having a positive impact on the environment we so love to live in. After all their hard mahi (work), Ōākura School students and teachers alike made their way to Corbett Park for lunch and a play. Many parents helped in cooking up some sausages for the kids and they were rewarded with a not so warm swim in the Ōākura River, or the school swimming pool.

Okorotua Marae visit

In March, our school took part in learning experiences at our local marae.

The students learnt about the history and stories of the marae, significant people and got to experience harvesting uenuku (Māori potato) from the garden. They harvested enough uenuku to cook so everyone could try them.

Each team was welcomed onto the marae by a pōwhiri. The year 7 & 8s were welcomed on by Whaea Sharon calling us in with a karanga. Matua Tane spoke to us during the pōwhiri, and Matua Mike and Whaea Catherine were also on the paepae (speaking seats) to support. Each team participated in a pōwhiri which was also led sometimes by our senior students. To end each pōwhiri, as protocol, we sat down in the wharekai and had morning tea together.

We experienced a mix of playing games with the rakau (wood or sticks) with Mr Smith and constantly attempting to top a meagre number of 21 throws.

Mrs Jackson, Ōākura School's Deputy Principal,

led the history lessons in the whareniui, also called the Moana Kauia.

There are many aged photos on the walls of the whareniui of very important ancestors, such as Lucy. Lucy was an amazing woman from the 1800-1900s who was a kind of peacekeeper between Māori and Pakeha for she learned to speak both English and Te reo, translating for both peoples. She was known for her walks between Lucy's Gully, the place she lived and was named after her, all the way to the marae, and from there into town... just walking!

Another photo that hangs in the Moana Kauia is of a rock. Not just your average rock though. This rock is known as Te Toka a Rauhotu. This special taonga (treasure) led Taranaki Maunga from the middle of the North Island to where it is now.

Mrs Jackson ran a session about the awa (river). Miss Moore was in charge of the sketching group where we drew a rough sketch of the front of the whareniui - Moana Kauia or the en-



trance way (waharoa). Waha means mouth, roa means big, so the meaning for waharoa is the big, or main entrance/mouth to the marae.

The senior students helped to lead and teach other students poi, rakau, weaving and important parts of the marae, such as the hangi pit. All students appreciated and enjoyed their time on the marae.

Younger students identified that it is important to visit the marae to celebrate and learn about Māori culture and heritage. Our senior students thought that the best part of the marae visits was seeing the younger children enjoy themselves and learning the culture and tikanga of the marae. Many students also really loved the eating of the uenuku, or purple potatoes!

Ella Kitson (age 12)

Coastal
Gib Stopping

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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

Golf

Practice net. Non members welcome. Clubs and balls can be supplied.

\$5.00 WEDNESDAYS. Casual competition for non-members. 8am to 1pm open to everyone. Denise 752 7665

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

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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' Strength and Balance Fitness Classes

Ōākura Hall, Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30am. Contact Gloria Zimmerman 027 284 9111

Ōākura Hall Bookings

Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Meditation Group

Kate Evans 027 203 7215

Music Group, Mini Groovers

All parents welcome with babies/under 5's. Every Tues during term time 10-11am at the Church Hall. Gold coin donation.

Ōākura Yoga

Kate Evans 027 203 7215

Pickleball Ōākura

Ōākura Hall - Wed 7.30pm, Thurs 9.15am. 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

Meets every Wednesday night 7pm over winter commencing April at Butlers Reef. All welcome. For more info call Margaret 027 232 1899

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

Junior coaching check www.blitztennis.nz. For info contact 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

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

June Issue

delivered online and on Facebook from 1st June.

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

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