

# The Ōākura Post

September 2021



## *Cathy's Care Centre*

Read the full story on page 5

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*Tim Costelloe rides Scout along Ōākura beach with Nui running along beside (pre-lockdown)*

# NEWS FLASH

All dates and events are correct at the time of publication but could alter due to COVID-19 level changes.

Print version of TOP will come out as soon as the printers are able to carry out the work.

Support local businesses where possible. The late Ash Heydon after last year's lockdown said **'GO LOCAL, GO LOCAL, GO LOCAL'**

PLEASE help others connect to this online version. Maybe you can talk them through how to access the website. Thank you in advance.

## NEED MORE SUPPORT?

mentalhealth.org.nz has simple tips to help you get through  
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**Great mahi (work) Ōākura - you are TOP people.**

Tracey Lusk

*“Tui are the only  
bird in the world to  
sing on the nest”*



## A Broken Leg by Farmers Wife

A broken leg can be a useful thing, 'specially for a mother of five  
And the benefits mount up when Spring is about to arrive,  
The cows you can't milk and the calves you can't feed  
So a spell at home is decreed  
For the first few days you are locked away  
For the family, their meals are O.K.  
But the leftovers finished and their minds to their stomachs stray  
How to cook this and how to cook that and where are the veges kept?

Their clothes are unironed, they can't find a towel  
Their sports clothes have gone astray  
The cats having kittens, what will we do  
And the dog is beginning to whelp.  
But wait, while voicing their concern,  
The dress mirror they suddenly see!  
They primp and they pose looking this way and that,  
Their muscles they flex and compete for the best six-pack.  
Whose is the biggest and whose is the best and whose hair is the nicest now?  
Tea and concern start coming my way, but the mirror's the biggest draw

“We can't do the farmwork and still keep the house so a housekeeper must be found  
Someone to help with the cows also, because chaos now abounds.  
I can't stand for long 'cause my leg swells up so chores  
I cannot do  
The benefits of a broken leg now begin to accrue  
I sit on the couch and watch T.V. and of instructions I give quite a few  
My daughter asks puzzled anew “How come we need three to replace you!!”

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# Kaitake Community Board

I write this in front of the fire on a very chilly August morning with snow right down low on the Pouakai Range and a cold South wind blowing. I do appreciate the changes of season, but in this instance, I do wish summer would hurry along, especially as Buster is letting me know he needs a beach walk. Enough of that, back to business!

The Council's very important representation review process has been signed off and by the time you are reading this the public consultation period will be about to start (28 August - 2 October).

The KCB will be making a submission, so feel free to ask questions and make your ideas known to board members. You should consider making a submission yourself too.

We do urge everyone to take the time to get acquainted with the review information when it is available on the Council website, as the final outcome will certainly impact us considerably.

As stated in the last issue, Okato, Ōākura and Ōmata are distinct communities, not just bedroom suburbs of New Plymouth, so representation is the key to retaining that important sense of place. I urge you all to engage in the upcoming review to ensure the local 'voice' is

heard at the Council table and reflected on.

One of the consultation questions will ask if there should be a continuation of community boards, so that is something for the community to consider. Since 2004 the only valid local government representation with local knowledge from Spotswood to the Stony River has been the community board.

A community board does not have a decision-making role, only being able to recommend on the agenda items put in front of it. However, the relationship building and engagement with various folk in the Council's many departments is an invaluable 'tool' in solving our community issues and progressing community initiatives.

Having a clear understanding of how the council machine operates is equally important. During the recent 2021/31 LTP deliberations the council decided to make \$4million available for the four community boards over the ten years of the plan.

If the community board status quo remains then it means the KCB will have an annual grant of \$100,000 at its disposal. Once the community board chairs and the mayor have developed a policy for the boards to operate under, the 2021 allocation will be available.

At the time of writing the Weld Headland issue was still travelling through the various council

committee stages. When that process finishes with the full Council meeting on 17 August then a resource consent from the Taranaki Regional Council will be applied for. Council officers have been working in partnership with local engineers on the technical details of the alternative pathway construction.

We are extremely appreciative for the large amount of voluntary work carried out by Clive Neeson, Peter Cassie, John Quilter and others on this. We are also grateful for the ongoing support from the hāpu for the pathway construction. The fence to block off access to the headland is expected to be in place shortly.

The recent storm events we have been experiencing have demonstrated the importance of the soft armouring approach to beachfront erosion. The 15-year long spinifex and pingao planting programme has been a major factor in the rebuilding of the beach foredunes and their ongoing replenishment.

There have been many planting volunteers over the years, none more so than the cohorts of enthusiastic Ōākura School students, their parents and teachers.

This ongoing stewardship has made the beach experience better for everyone and is helping to build another generation to understand the need to care for the coast and its biodiversity.

Well, that's it for this month.



*The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held on Monday 6 September at Hempton Hall, Okato 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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Stephen and Fiona Black operate this family beekeeping business. It started in Uruti in 2001 as a hobby and grew to become a fully commercial operation.

It is now semi-commercial and based in Okato. Stephen is a beekeeper at the weekend and an industrial electrician during the week. Fiona looks after the extraction, packing, sales, administration, accounts and selling at local markets. At the weekend she assists Stephen as a beekeeper.

Stephen's family originate from Oākura and Fiona is from Aberdeen, Scotland. They have three children, Eila, Calum and Ishbel. Their business was structured so they could take days off to attend school events.

When the children's intermediate and secondary schooling started in New Plymouth, they moved sales and administration to New Plymouth. Fiona worked from 'Granma's Shed' and became the 'Mum Taxi'.

The 'shed' grew to a factory unit on Sunley Street and later to a larger factory on Devon St West. They had two beekeepers and three factory staff. Unfortunately, there were a couple of bad honey years. One season was very wet and there was no honey, the next year it was very hot and dry which meant there was no nectar so no honey.

The beekeepers and factory staff moved on. In 2016 the family and business moved to Okato and Fiona and Stephen took back the roles they have now.

When not beekeeping Fiona participates in Summer Athletics and has won many medals in



Masters Athletics for Shot Put, Discus, Hammer Throw, Weight Throw and Throws Pentathlons. This has meant weekends away at events and time off. Stephen likes to give Fiona throwing tips – "If throwing a Shot Put is the same as heaving a full honey box onto the ute!"

According to Fiona and Stephen, beekeeping is the only industry where you have control of the product for the whole of the production time. "We manage the hives, taking the honey off, extract, pack and sell through Farm Source, Farmlands and direct to our customers either online or at various markets.

It is great being able to answer any questions our customers have and know that we have made the best product we can.

Unfortunately, the Manuka 'Gold Rush' has brought a large number of out of town beekeepers into the area and problems.

They have overstocked with hives which makes keeping bees alive harder. There is less food available for our local bees.

We want to produce the best raw (packed straight from the vat, unheated and unprocessed) and creamed (stirred to stay creamy – nothing else added) clover/pasture and bush honey that is local to our Taranaki customers for as long as we enjoy doing what we do."

See them at the Okato Market every Wednesday at Hempton Hall 4.30pm – 6pm and Farmers Market, Huatoki Plaza every Sunday 9am – 12pm.



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## Stephen and Fiona Black

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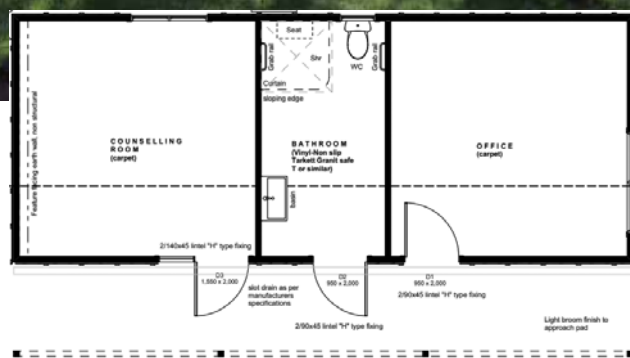
\* This workshop may be eligible for Regional Business Partner Network Capability Voucher Funding (50% off the workshop fee), please contact Venture Taranaki to determine your eligibility.

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*From left to right: Miley Blakers, Grant Stewart, Mark Wells, Glenys Farrant, Cam Stewart, Phoebe Stewart, Brent Elaison, Stuart Waite, Ryan Hill, Gordon Pitcairn, Nathan Krutz, Ernest Wray, Jamie Allen*



This has taken a huge effort from a dedicated team to get this over the line, and the process has not been without its challenges and frustrations... But so the saying goes, nothing worth having comes easily (or quickly, for that matter). Being involved in this community-focused project is the perfect way to honour the wonderful woman that Cathy was, and it is a privilege to be involved. We want to take this opportunity to thank all those that have supported us and followed us on the journey up until this point, and we look forward to offering further progress up-

Special mention to the Beca New Plymouth team, A1 Homes Taranaki, Value Building Supplies, Travel Electrical and Vepo who have put in a lot of work behind the scenes to get us to this point. Nga mihi nui, the Stewart family, those behind Cathy's Dance for Hope, Cathy's Care Centre and The Taranaki Retreat.





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# Are Cell Phone Towers Safe?



I managed to ignore the 5G cellphone tower emergence, until I heard a 4G cellphone tower was going to pop up within a stones throw of where my son attends Sophia Pre-school in Ōākura. It's become accepted that cell phone towers are safe, but that information is based upon data collected in 1996.

As 4G turns to 5G I believe we need to open our minds to current data as to how safe radio frequency radiation really is, as well as revise legislation regarding who gets a voice and what values we base development upon.

With the proposed site being on private property, Vodafone was legally required to acquire permission. Quickly we gained enough signatures in opposition and the offer was declined.

A couple of days later I came across two surveyors staking out the patch of grass outside McDonald Real Estate — our village entrance, and an already hazardous intersection. I asked what they were up to and found this was proposed option number two, with a third option on Butlers Lane.

Phone companies are able to decide where towers are erected, as long as they comply with the district plan regulations, which includes public road reserves by Council. This means District Councils are unable to intervene or prevent companies from erecting cellphone towers where they choose to do so.

With community engagement bypassed I became concerned that we are silenced over something that affects village aesthetics and our personal health for decades to come. Reluctantly I became the resident voice.

I want to know why an international business seeking market share gets a say but we who live here don't?

## Sent in by Carmel Cathie

Fellow resident, Bronwyn O'Hara, and I met with MP for New Plymouth Electorate, Glen Bennett, to lobby in favour of greater transparency from telecommunications companies regarding their intentions to expand market share by erecting cellphone towers, specifically in Ōākura.

We talked about wanting to:

- increase education using up to date research on the health effects of radiofrequency fields
- increase consultation between multi billion dollar, international companies and township residents so that we have a say in what will affect us now and in the future
- change the legislation that bypasses the District Council's capacity to have a voice about what happens on public land
- open up the conversation regarding what values underlay our village development. What do we value most? The business decisions of huge companies? The health and well-being of our countries residents? The ecological health of our environment?

We're just one of many rural townships throughout New Zealand having this conversation — which is a human rights issue. In a true democracy, we the people, can speak up for what doesn't feel right. If 2020 taught me anything, it's that health and wellbeing are paramount to leaving my child a future worth living. For the sake of all our children it's time to test the waters and draw some lines.

If you would like to voice your own perspective directly please email Vodafores Community Relations Manager [lisa.mulitalo@vodafone.com](mailto:lisa.mulitalo@vodafone.com)

## “Human activity is the cause of climate warming trends”

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# Farewell to a Gentleman

**W**hen I interviewed Peter Clemance in February this year he said he was happy to stay living in Ōākura. He had the lovely ladies that came in daily, and people who drove him to appointments. He was well looked after by the village.

He lived alone in his own home until a month before he passed away. He had suffered a stroke and fortunately could still walk and talk and do the crossword, but he needed full time care.

At Thursday Morning Talk Group, only days before the stroke, Peter was dunking homemade biscuits into his cup of tea and telling stories. The group agrees that he was a brilliant example of living well into old age, and he has inspired many of us.

He was a gentleman who loved to socialise and take the opportunity to chat whenever it came along. We miss him at our table and we are grateful to have spent time with him.

On Sunday 8 August, family and friends farewelled Peter Clemance at the local St James Church. Daughter Megan shared stories of his love for fishing, golf and being with family of whom he was very proud. Granddaughter Jessica told of her holidays in Ōākura.

When her grandmother was still alive they would do things together in the morning, and in the afternoon she and Peter would go out - to Matekai Park, the beach or the playground. Peter's story, can be found in the archives [www.theoakurapost.co.nz](http://www.theoakurapost.co.nz) and look up February.

**By Tracey Lusk**



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# Kaitake Range Conservation Trust

The long warm days of summer are a distant memory now. Now that winter has fully set in a day exploring the Kaitake Ranges is a very different experience. Those warm, long days and dry trails of summer have been replaced by short, cold days and wet, muddy trails.

Winter means there are fewer people out in the Kaitake Ranges exploring, so you are likely to see either nobody else or only a couple of people. That gives a sense of having the bush more to yourself and it feels a bit more personal.

Exploring the Kaitake Ranges in winter lets you see another side of our local bush's personality. The Trust held our AGM at Butlers in July where we recapped the year, shared a drink, and had a good time. Volunteers have still been spending their weekends checking traps in the Kaitake Ranges.

The number of traps the Trust monitors has increased from 531 last year to 729 this year.

Over the past year, the Trust caught about 1,300 predators! That is 1,300 rats, stoats, weasels, ferrets, and more that are no longer killing our precious native wildlife.

A small group of volunteers are now actively involved in monitoring the 10 kiwi that were released in the Kaitake Ranges earlier this year. Volunteers check on the birds at least once a week using telemetry gear purchased by a

## By the Kaitake Wanderer

generous donation from the Toi Foundation.

Those volunteers along with the Taranaki Kiwi Trust rangers have discovered some great news. Five of the released birds were male and five female in the hope that they would pair up and mate.

That matchmaking worked out as monitoring shows that two males are already incubating eggs. This is so exciting! In the near future there will be kiwi chicks hatched and raised in the wild, right here close to the village of Ōākura.

All of those days checking traps in the bush is starting to pay off, turning our dreams into reality.

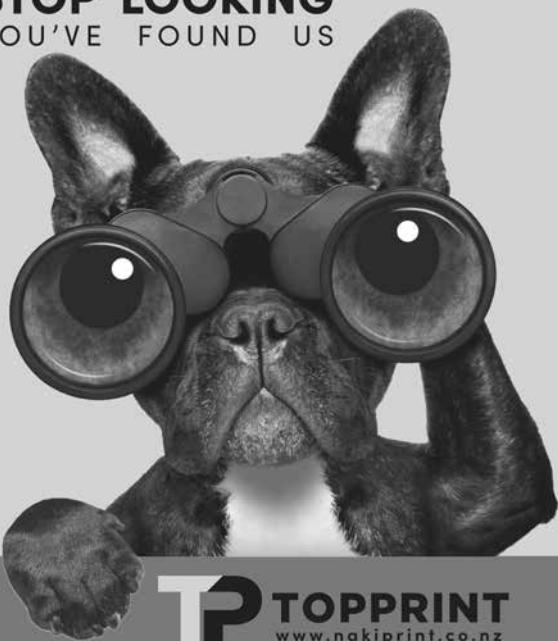
Over the past few months, the Trust is lucky to have even more new volunteers – Kelvin Perrie, Kyla Mottershead, Phillipa Lawn, Craig Hattle, Paul Lobb, James Reilly-Leadbetter, Carla Stolte, Jude Morris, and the Faye Crawford Family. Thanks so much everyone

*Top: Trust members Ian Ives and Keith Coughtrey checking on the kiwi out in the bush.*

*Below: Pete Morgan stoked after just releasing a kiwi. It was placed just behind him where the fern fronds are covering a hole.*



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# Ōākura Fire Brigade News

**N**ow it doesn't take too keen an eye to notice something different about the station recently.

Our once-grand, many-windowed appliance bay entrance has been boarded over with ply as we await our new appliance bay doors to be installed.

Rather than make a really cool exit from the station by bursting through the ply '70's cop show' style and blasting Dixon Street with splinters, we've sensibly situated our main appliance outside of the station behind a security fence for the time being until the new doors arrive.

The station has undergone a few cosmetic upgrades in the past few months with new interior paint, a re-surfacing of the appliance bay floor and of course the new door when it arrives.

The crew have had to work around these upgrades, negotiating wet paint, strong fumes and new turnout processes, and must be congratulated on ensuring that response times to call-outs haven't been affected by the changes.

Our station has served the community well since 1969 and as much as we would love a shiny new one with a little more room and facilities, keeping our current station refreshed is important too, and with 653 stations across the country, you can imagine that its no small feat for FENZ to keep them all up to date.

Fingers crossed we'll have our doors put in soon, the appliance back under the roof and a return to normal routine for the crew.

Keep safe, tēnā koa tiaki ia koe.

**The crew from the Big Red Truck**



## Ōākura Tennis Club

Tennis has been ticking over at the club with Monica being kept busy over the winter months with junior and adult coaching, so looking forward to some hot action on the tennis courts this summer! Speaking of hot action, how good was the Olympics bronze medal won by Marcus Daniel and Michael Venus! It has been great viewing Kiwis in action and has motivated me to get off the couch and get active knowing how hard those athletes train day in and day out.

Our Tennis AGM is happening late August and on Friday 17th of September we are having our open day after school. Come along with the kids for some tennis action and to sign up for summer coaching, competition tennis or just to find out what's on offer over summer.

Our ladies 8s team has been playing over winter on a Monday once a month and is a fun morning out with two lots of doubles played by each and a yummy lunch!

Entries for competition teams for juniors and seniors will be due at the end of September/early October so get in touch if you are interested in playing or come along on our open day Friday 17th September.

Enjoy the snow that's finally arrived because soon it will be summer!

**Jackie Keenan ph 0276732900**

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*A warm welcome to Clare Leven, Lucy Weeks and Rebecca Reindeers who have joined our library team. You may also see them helping out at Puke Ariki and the other community libraries. We are fortunate to have such lovely, capable librarians who know our community and provide friendly, excellent customer service.*



## Ōākura Library

Our FOW festival events were well-attended and a huge hit. We hosted Teresa Francis for a children's bookmaking session as well as an evening session for adults. She showed us how to create beautiful books of various sizes and complexity. She was most impressed at the quality of writing by some of our youngsters. And we hope to host her again in the future for calligraphy sessions as well.

**Happy reading, Charlie and Vincenza**



**Oakura Medical**

## COVID-19 UPDATE

**Throughout all Covid-19 levels, Oakura Medical is OPEN to care for our community.**

- **Please call prior to visiting the clinic** so we can triage your needs and make sure you receive the care you require. This also allows us to keep you and our staff safe at all times. Remember normal health issues are just as relevant today as they were prior to Covid-19 so please continue to be proactive about your health.
- **COVID-19 TESTING:** We are providing Covid-19 testing from our facility. If you have any symptoms consistent with Covid-19 or have potentially been exposed please contact us for advice.
- **COVID-19 VACCINE:** We will be providing the Covid-19 Vaccination for our patients from the first week of September. We will be following the Government guidance so if you are eligible please contact us to be booked. If you have booked your vaccinations somewhere else, that's great, continue with those bookings.

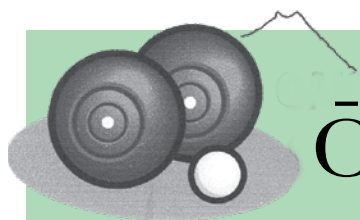
**We will get through this together. If you have any questions or concerns during this time please contact Oakura Medical for support.**

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# Ōākura Bowling & Social Club

## Opening and Club Days

The club warmly welcomes any experienced and/or new bowlers to join with the members for both the Opening Day and Club Day roll up (all equipment provided) on Sunday 5th and 12th of Sept starting at 1pm. These days are a great opportunity for the wider Ōākura community to experience the club's friendly hospitality and to roll a few down. For those interested in playing this great game it also provides an opportunity to have any questions answered around membership and the upcoming season.

A full bar will be available and afternoon tea will be provided after the bowls around 3.30pm on Opening Day, 5th Sept. If you require further information, please contact Steve Muller on 0211695863.

## Playing Bowls

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

## Special Membership Offer

The Ōākura Bowling Club is offering all first-time bowlers a

package deal with the offer of \$50 membership fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, use of new club bowls and free coaching sessions.

## Winter Interclub Tournaments

The Ōākura team of Roy Phillips, Jim Priest, Colin Roberts and Alan Bridgeman finished 4th in the Wednesday afternoon fours interclub competition played in the stadium over winter. Ōākura teams have an enviable record in this competition with 9 titles and 2 runners up over the past 14 years.

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

## Club News

Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted in keeping the surrounds and facilities in pristine condition over the winter break and those who helped Greenkeeper Wayne Robinson with the winter green maintenance program. With the right weather conditions, the green will be at its playing best for the upcoming season.

The Vic/Sam trophy between Okato and Ōākura is scheduled to be played in September at the Okato green and clubrooms. It is great to see two coastal teams kicking the season off together and enjoying a social roll up before the season officially starts.

**The Underarm Bowler**



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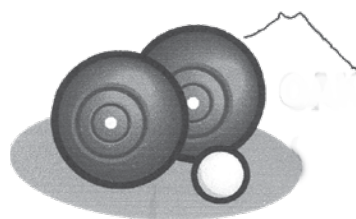
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**eieio.co.nz**



## Every day is a great day at the bowls club



**Opening day: Sun 5th Sept 1pm**

**Club day: Sun 12th Sept 1pm**

### Special Offer for 1st year bowlers

- Oakura Bowling Club polo shirt
- \$50 first year membership
- Set of bowls for the 1st season
- Coaching sessions

**Contact Steve Muller (secretary) – 0211695863**

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# Ōākura Indoor Bowls Club

Our club Pairs championships were completed in July with a seven round-robin section play resulting in four teams through to post-section play. In the semi-finals Marvin Clough and Steve Muller triumphed over Dean Baker and Katie Clough, with Merv Hooker and Paul Coxhead winning the other semi-final over Rod and Zena Smith. The final went the full 12 ends with Marvin/Steve eventual winners over Merv/Paul.

Following on from the Pairs Championships, we have also finished our Singles Champs. Played over three exciting weeks there was great competition to whittle it down to the eight quarterfinalists. Played over 12 ends the quarterfinals quickly gave way to the semi-finals with Marvin Clough vs Peter Anderson, and Merv Hooker vs Steve Muller.


Marvin and Merv ended up comfortable winners by 8 and 11 points respectively to progress to the final. This was a repeat of the 2020 singles final and proved another close game. Both players trading early shots, then Merv jumped ahead after a couple of three shot ends, and ended up winning 13-8.

The Novice Singles was held with 5 people entered playing a round-robin with the winner decided on wounds/ends/points. Katie Clough proved too consistent with the only player winning all four games, with Bryan Bedwell runner-up with three wins.

Our club members continue to support the younger generation into the game, and we have a team of year 7 and 8 students from Ōākura school coming along for practice in preparation for the 2021 AIMS Games. I will keep you updated on their progress and results.

We are nearing the end of our season and will provide the final wrap-up for 2021 in the next edition.

**The President**



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# Kaitake Golf Club

## Men's News

We have the very popular TOP DOG competition started now but the weather has not been great and has put things behind schedule.

Huge congratulations to Jack Van Prehn. He won the Waikato Age Group Under 16s with a 74 and 67 (7 birdies, 2 bogeys, which gave him a 5 under) to win by 3 shots. He also beat the U19 winner by 2 shots.

Jack always enters all his competitions under Kaitake Golf Club which is a great boost to our club. With all these amazing Juniors we have it's great to see them excelling in our sport. Well done to Jack and Brodie Ferguson, who were also there. It's great to hear of them playing away from home for Kaitake Golf Club.

*Geoff Farrant, Mens Club Captain*

## Ladies Report:

Competitions are being played as the weather allows. Both Top Dog competitions were postponed due to many players being away and adverse weather conditions. Other cancelled competitions are being rescheduled as permitted.

## 18 Hole Womens Results

Nell Dickie trophy - won by Diane Jones,

Donna Sharp runner up

Home Pennant winners for June - Shona Burgess, Donna Sharp, Maureen Nielsen and Debra Johnson

Jacqui Koch won the July LGU and spoon, Kim Woodward runner up

Kaitake was well represented by four teams at the TWG Teams Event and over 50s at Inglewood recently. Three of our teams finished joint 5th. Mary Pettigrew won the Bronze 2 Individual Event and Diane Jones and Kim Woodward were also on the prize list.

## 9 Hole Results

LGU 5 winner was Angela Hickman

Round 1 of Monnie Hannan was won by Jo Wilson-West with Raewyn Bishop runner up.

Super 9 Round 3, winner Jean Keegan.

Putt Putt winners Ngaire Grundy and Kay Stachurski

Registrations for the Kaitake Women's Open are being received. It bodes well for a full field with such early entries.

**TEE SIGN 13TH** – If anyone is interested or knows of someone that would like to advertise their business please contact Denise in the office Tel: 06 7527 665.



**FIREWOOD:** We still have dry pine firewood for sale at the golf club so if anyone is still interested in firewood please call Denise at the office 06 7527665.



## HAVE YOU BEEN LOOKING FOR RESPITE?

Cherish Respite is a newly established business offering In-Home Palliative and End of Life Respite Care. My name is Milly Carr and I live in Okato with my husband, Richard, and have two adult children who are forging their way in the world. Whilst working as a Palliative Registered Nurse at Te Rangimarie Hospice, I recognised the need for this type of service for families looking after their loved ones at home. Working as a Palliative Nurse is an extremely fulfilling role for me, so the opportunity to start my own business in this field is a realisation of this drive to provide professional and compassionate respite care during what can be a tumultuous time.

The holistic aspect is something that resonates strongly with me, and having honest, open conversations and addressing the sometimes taboo subject of death and dying is something that needs to be handled sensitively. In my experience, most patients want to remain at home, feeling safe and secure in the comfort of their own surroundings. Being a carer during this time can bring feelings of being overwhelmed and the need for some respite can become more evident. This service will enable your carer to have a break, with support based around you and your loved ones needs, whilst knowing they are in capable hands. Life's transition isn't always easy or comfortable, yet it is part of everyone's journey, and it would be a privilege to be involved. If you would like to know more about the service, please give me a call or email me on the contacts listed.

Contact Milly on: **027 320 1414**

**[www.cherishrespite.co.nz](http://www.cherishrespite.co.nz)** email: **[milly@cherish-respite.com](mailto:milly@cherish-respite.com)**



## Puanga Celebration

On July 1st at 6:30am we had our Puanga Celebration. Students made special lanterns that we walked through the orchard and the bush. Then we looked to the stars and lit a fire to signify the Māori New Year; a time to gather with family and friends to reflect. What a wonderful turn out we had with over 120 members of our school community joining us. A big thank you to Tāne Manu who led our Puanga celebration and expanded our knowledge of Māori astronomy through his kōrero.

### Coming Up

Mahuru - September

- 2 Cross Country Y7/8
- 6-10 AIMS Games Y7/8
- 13-19 Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori - Māori Language Week
- 29 Taranaki Cross Country - Hāwera

## Tokyo 2021

*Pīwakawaka have been observing the Olympic games. Here are some of their thoughts.*

### Kayaking dreams

When I grow up, I could possibly do the kayaking in the Olympics. I might not get first but I will go for gold. If you want to go in the Tokyo Olympics you have to train for 4 years. The best New Zealander I know is Lisa Carrington.

**Hudson - 7 years**

### Victory in the velodrome

I think it was emotional at Tokyo 2020 inside the cycling velodrome riding track. NZL and AUS were gaining on each other on their bikes. I might be on the podium one day. You will hear the national anthem, it goes like magic.

**Elijah - 6 years**



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# Ōākura School

Ōākura School hasn't often had as many students as other primary and intermediate schools in town, but throughout the years the school has been growing and our ever-growing class rolls can now no longer fit inside our 15 classrooms. Naturally, the only solution is to build some new classrooms.

Two buildings have been planned to be built on the school grounds from 2021 to 2022 as classrooms for Ōākura School students, along with the refurbishment of four of our existing classrooms.

This project has been partly funded by the Ministry of Education, but an amount of fundraising will still be needed to fulfil the whole cost of the construction, along with contributions from the Board of Trustees, to create a space where students can learn, have fun and thrive.

The new plans include multiple, flexible learning spaces using natural materials and colours, with great views of Taranaki Maunga. A kitchenette and a specific art area is also included in the plans to cater for a range of rich learning experiences.

Learning will also extend into the outdoor areas with clever design features. Environmental sustainability has been a major factor in the design, with gardens, rainwater collection, rain gardens instead of storm drains, and recycled carpet products being used, just to name a few.

The new classrooms will be part of our year 5 & 6 team and will be situated where Room Tawa is at the moment. Room Tawa will be moved behind rooms 7 and 8, where part of the forest is now, and will partly be situated on the field. The classrooms will be designed and created to make the best use of the site.

Everyone is very excited about the design and the opportunities that will be provided for the students that will help cater for the growth of the school in the next five years.

The school will be working with Ngāti Tairi to come up with names of native trees to give the new classrooms once they are up and running, thus being in line with the plan to name other classes across the school by names of native trees.

Though these new classrooms will help sustain our school and growing roll, we have also had to make some sacrifices, such as the removal of the large Norfolk Pine from the field. A few of the smaller trees in the big forest beside room eight have also had to be removed.

We are lucky that we have been able to adapt our plans to cater for some of the other significant trees in the forest and the build will take place around these. Two native trees will be planted within the school grounds to replace each of the trees removed from the forest.

**Ella Kitson (age 12)**

## In the Trenches

17.03.1915

Dear Diary,

I know you're not mine, I know I took you from a soldier dying in my arms. I think his name was Jack, and he was no older than fifteen. I should have gone in front of him when they started firing the guns, after all, I'm 37. I've lived my happiness, I should have, but I didn't.

It's only been a month and hundreds of men have either died from bombs, diseases or wounds.

Everyday as we are fighting, I'm starving. We all are because everyday we get as little as half a can of beans. Soon the war will be over... for me. I know that because I have been shot in the chest and I'm dying. I'm sorry diary. I hope you live longer than I did.

Goodbye for good,

Richard...

**By Samantha Bentall  
(year 8, age 12)**



*Artist impression of new school development*

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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

### Silver and Enamel Jewellery Making Classes with Sally Laing

Options for adults and children, scheduled or customised to suit! [www.sallylaing.co.nz](http://www.sallylaing.co.nz) [sally@sallylaing.co.nz](mailto:sally@sallylaing.co.nz) / 0276643511

### 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](mailto: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

### 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](http://oakura@playcentre.org.nz)

### Pony Club

Tracey Mackenzie 027 319 0238 [traceymackkyle@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:thowison@hotmail.com)

### St James Church

Sunday Worship every 2nd and 4th Sun 10am [stjamesoakura@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesoakura@gmail.com)

### Sunday School - St James Church

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am. [stjamesoakura@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesoakura@gmail.com)

### Tennis Club Winter Coaching

Junior coaching Mon-Fri before or after school, check [www.blitztennis.nz](http://www.blitztennis.nz). Adults Wed 9-10.30am advanced, Fri 9-10am adult returner/improver, 10-11am adult beginner, 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](mailto: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](mailto:val@valdeakindance.org.nz) 752 7743 or text 027 694 0933

### Ōākura Hall Bookings

Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

## Tataraimaka

### 5 Elements Fitness Bootcamps and Kickboxing Fitness classes

Mon to Thurs 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. Barney 027 752 7076 [barney@5efitness.com](mailto:barney@5efitness.com) or visit [www.5efitness.com](http://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](mailto:rosem@realfoodnutrition.co.nz)

## Okato

### Okato and District Historical Society

Meg Cardiff 752 4566

### Okato Lions Club

John Hislop 757 9696

### Okato Squash Club

Monday nights from 6.30pm. Everyone welcome. Ladies morning Fri 9.30 -11am. All levels welcome. Rachel 0204 092 5243

## Ōmata

### Zumba

Ōmata Hall - Tues 6.30pm. \$5pp. Contact Elsa Nordin via Messenger or Facebook 'Zumba Omata with Elsa - Team Azucar'

### Yoga Classes

For info - Annalisa 027 444 8345

# TOP Information

## The Ōākura Post

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