

the Ōākura Post

AUGUST 2022

KAITAKE
COMMUNITY
BOARD

care centre
COMING TOGETHER

*People in our
community*

*walk &
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SCHOOL
NEWS

*superhero
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Kaitake Community Board

Believe it or not we are finally over the hump of winter, and the much anticipated arrival of spring is just over the horizon.

An odd spot of fine weather, with lovely blue skies, provided the opportunity for pupils and parents from Ōākura School to get out of the classroom to assist with the continuation of the NPDC's coastal erosion control planting programme. I was most impressed with the work ethic and enthusiasm displayed by these young folk, and their endeavours will contribute towards holding back the tide's efforts to eat into the foreshore on this section of Ōākura Beach.

On this occasion all the plants provided were propagated in Council facilities from seed garnered from existing plants on the beach; a great example of the philosophical concept of the Circle of Life.

Most of you will be aware of the establishment of the Kaitake Community Sports Hub Incorporated and the plans to upgrade the facilities at Corbett Park to provide for the social and physical health of the Kaitake community. Since the Council approved a lease over six months ago there have been frustrating delays with 'getting shovels into the ground' as a result of ongoing legal holdups. This doesn't mean that everything is on hold and that nothing has been done over this period.

Paul Veric, Renee Hohaia and I met with Garry Carnachan and Phil Thompson to receive a briefing on progress to date. The amount of work that has been completed thus far is nothing short of incredible. Building plans are almost complete, upgrades to the park lighting have been negotiated, contractors have been identified and approved, a robust, independent, and transparent financial management process has been developed, and hundreds of thousands of dollars have been sourced and secured. Unfortunately, as a direct result of the ongoing delays with the signoff of a final lease agreement, national and international financial pressures caused by the effects of COVID-19 and the Ukraine conflict have seen the cost of everything increase - meaning the original budget for the project is well short of what is now required. Undeterred by this, Garry and his team have developed a two pronged strategy to maintain the viability of this project.

Firstly, the total project has been broken down into prioritised sub-sets, so if a funding shortfall occurs at any stage, the completed elements

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board, and the final meeting of the current board for this triennium, will be held at the Hempton Hall in Ōkato on Monday, 15 August at 5pm

Graham Chard (027 220 4549, thechardz@gmail.com) on behalf of Paul Coxhead, Paul Veric, Renee Hohaia and Amanda Clinton-Gohdes (the Councillor representative on the KCB)

will still ensure a useable, viable, long life facility that, while perhaps not being everything that was hoped for, will be one that provides what is required. As more funding becomes available at a later date, work can recommence on those suspended elements in turn.

Secondly, a community funding initiative has been developed where the public (that includes each and every one of you) can become part of this great community project through signing up as a KCSH Foundation Partner or Foundation Member. Your individual, family or business name will appear on Foundation Member Boards in the new clubrooms, forever recognising your contribution to the future of the Kaitake community. Simply go to the KCSH website at www.kch.co.nz for more information.

Well done to Garry and the team, and keep up the great work!

In my capacity as the Community Board Chair I had the privilege of attending the Ōākura Volunteer Fire Brigade awards dinner on the 9th of July, an event where medals, certificates and awards were presented to a number of the members of your local brigade. These presentations were in recognition of various milestones of service those fire fighters have provided to the district - the highlight of which was the awarding of 25 Year Service Gold Star Medals to Chief Fire Officer Mark Stewart and Deputy Chief Fire Officer David Rielly.

I would suggest there are very few around this village who would have a true appreciation of the levels of commitment, dedication and sacrifice the members of this fire brigade provide to our community. The hours of training they undertake and their preparedness to drop whatever they are doing and run to respond when that siren sounds, on an unpaid voluntary basis, truly makes them unsung heroes of our community. Congratulations to those who were recognised, and to all the members of this brigade - Thank you for your service.

And finally, by the time this edition hits your letterboxes nominations will be open for those prepared to stand for their local community boards, for the council and for the mayoralty. If you are at all interested I would encourage you to give it a go.

**Kia mahana, a tangohia tiaki tātou katoa
(Keep warm, and take care everyone)**

TO THE EDITOR

I'm sure over the last year everyone would have noticed the volleyball players on the beach opposite the camp store. I understand from the players they would like to leave the net in situ, allowing it to be used by the public should they wish. However this idea has apparently been rejected by the Kaitake board. I have no idea on what grounds.

It would seem to me that it would/could facilitate increased physical and communal activity whilst not impinging on views or the environment, adding a positive dimension to beach activities.

At The Ōākura Post we would love to hear your thoughts via email to editor@theoakurapost.co.nz or comment on our Facebook page



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Cathys Care Centre Update

Kia ora koutou katoa.

As with so many projects of late, the builders have struggled getting materials due to delays in the supply chains. This led to having to make an amendment to the NPDC to change the outside cladding to weather board, which looks great!

We're super grateful to Mark Wells from Wells Building & Construction for his perseverance dealing with the delays while feeling it's an exciting project!

A huge thank you to everyone involved; it's wonderful to see the Cathys Centre coming together.

Nga mihi nui Cathy's Dance for Hope Team.

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ADVERTORIAL

Good brand design can bring business success



Sarah Ellem



You may wonder how people who 'just make pictures in Photoshop' can affect your bottom line... well, read on. Great graphic design can really elevate a business and it all comes down to human behaviour. We've all seen 'junk' flyers in the mail, driven past billboards or vehicles cluttered with words, scrolled past a jarring social post, changed the TV channel, quickly clicked off a webpage... and never gone back or considered those businesses of being worth our time or money.

What your brand looks and feels like matters!

As humans we need clarity of messaging. We need 'white space' to understand what we're looking at, words that are unambiguous, images that appeal, colours that aren't jarring – and they all need to be working together. Consistency of a brand builds trust. Trust generates enquiry and builds a customer base, and an increased customer base should improve the bottom line.

It doesn't matter if you sell a product or service, or whether you're a tradesperson, fashion designer, medical service provider, or an artist or accountant; as humans, we just need to know you are reputable, trustworthy, easy to work with and professional.

Clarity and consistency of a brand's visual identity should be something every business owner thinks about. If your business is stagnant, customer retention is dropping, your 'funnel of new enquiries/new leads' is trickling off, website 'bounce rate' is awful, or you hear people have trouble finding your details, maybe you should take a critical look at your brand and all the ways it's represented.

A brand is much more than a logo, (which is merely a visual representation of your brand),

so a brand refresh or full rebrand (alongside some guidance on how to maximise it) can really elevate a business in a competitive marketplace.

Graphic designers aren't just there to fill your order of 100 business cards but to dig down into what you stand for and what sets you apart from competitors. They utilise that information to create visual elements that best represent who you are.

So, it's worth stepping back to take a critical look at your current brand, logo and other visual elements of your business (offices, uniforms, vehicles, advertising etc). Do they really reflect who you are and what you do? Are they current, speaking to your customers of today? Are they different enough to stand out from your competitors? Or are they cluttered, inconsistent and dated? As business advisors and marketing specialists we know that as humans we always return to brands we trust – no matter how big or small.

If you need help with your brand, our highly skilled marketing team is happy to assess and refresh your brand, supporting your business to stay strong, valuable, and memorable. Contact Sarah Ellem on Sarah.Ellem@bakertillysr.nz for a no-obligation chat or find out about the one-on-one marketing workshops we offer.



These sand dunes at East End Beach have been cut back by the storms and king tides but will soon grow back.

PROTECTING THE COASTLINE: Our superhero sand dunes

NPDC's system of sand dunes and other sea defences along the coastline have stood up well against the recent storms and king tides.

Damage is noticeable in spots from Urenui to Ōākura, but NPDC Manager Parks and Open Spaces Stuart Robertson says they've worked as designed.

"The sand dunes and rock walls are there to absorb the pounding of high seas and strong winds while protecting the land behind them. People will see that some dunes, such as along Fitzroy Beach, have been really cut back by the storms – but don't worry, they'll grow back," he says.



"Natural sand dunes are an excellent protection system when you have enough space to develop them and plant them out, which we've been doing for years with help from school students and community groups.

"We've got a dynamic coastline and it's normal to see this cycle of storm damage and rebuilding."

Beaches naturally build up over time after storms, which will see the sand dunes reform. More sand-binding plants, such as pingao and spinifex, will be planted to help hold the new sand in place.

Inspections of sea walls haven't found significant damage even though high waves overtopped them during the storms.

FAST FACTS:

- NPDC looks after 68 hectares of coastal dunes and 23 sea walls.
- Recently students from Manukorihi Intermediate School helped NPDC plant 800 spinifex at the Waitara Marine Park sand dunes.
- Creation of the district's sand dune system began with reshaping a long, low cliff-edge into a dune at Ōākura Beach in the mid-2000s.

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Art and design, the Green School way

Green School's creative programme is one that enables learners to understand how art and design can be used in a practical sense to enhance sustainability, systems thinking, and entrepreneurship.

Visual Arts teacher, Sarah McCarrison, says the programme allows learners to follow processes, apply skills, explore divergent thinking and push their creativity to develop unique ideas that have real-life benefits.

"Our learners use systems thinking to consider the bigger picture. They're given more opportunities to connect with our local community for cross-generational learning, and also to be entrepreneurs where they can test out and sell their work, such as at the Seaside Markets, or through public display. "We always ensure the learner is at the centre of everything we do, therefore, the work they choose is personalised. Students are able to make individual choices within each project which means the work they are involved with is relevant to them, and is a driver for motivation."

Projects in 2022 have seen high school learners visit The Junction recycling centre in New Plymouth to choose items that could be upcycled, repurposed or reimaged in inventive ways. During the process, they considered who their product might appeal to, sellable price points, and unique marketing approaches.

"The knowledge and skills that were developed really enabled each student to apply a business-minded approach that went hand-in-hand with sustainability. This is such an important skill to have in today's world," says Sarah.

Year 12 learners are currently designing unique installations for Green School's new Kina building, that will depict an idea or message that aligns with the schools IRESPECT values, while also "making a difference".

Sarah says GSNZ's art and design programme offers opportunities that help learners see the impactful reach these subjects can have in the real world.

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Ōākura, Taranaki



CFO Mark Stewart



DCFO David Rielly

Ōākura Fire Brigade Update

It was a special month for the brigade with CFO Mark Stewart and DCFO David Rielly both presented with their Gold Star for 25 years service to FENZ, celebrating with their friends, family and crew present at local venue Black Sand.

Perfectly decked out in style for the evening, the menu was delectable and the crowd was entertained by speeches and tall tales told by the brigade members and dignitaries. An especially nice touch was the recognition of the wives and partners of the Gold Star recipients who were also presented with official recognition of their service to the brigade.

Other presentations of note were the 14-year Long Service and Good Conduct Medals presented to QFF Ross Bennett and SO Rowan Oldfield. Rowan also drew the curtain on his FENZ career that evening and his jovial presence will be greatly missed by the crew.

5 Year Service Medals were presented to QFF Aaron Murphy and QFF Sheldon Pritchard, with 3 year certificates for QFF's to Lizzie Beveridge and Mark Town as well as to FF Bex McDonald.

CFO - Chief Fire Officer, DCFO - Deputy Chief Fire Officer, QFF - Qualified Firefighter, SO - Station Officer, FF - Firefighter, FENZ - Fire and Emergency NZ

People in our Community



Angela Veric

Angela and her husband settled in Ōākura in 2012. They have two sons, ages 9 and 8, who both attend Ōākura School and Angela works full time as a GP.

Four years ago, with the help of the community, she started the Fruit and Vege Stand that lives beside the St James Church on South Road (opposite the Ōākura Community Hall). When asked how she got the idea for this project, she tells of an evening in July 2018 when she was watching the TVNZ 1 news. The 'Good Sorts' segment that night was about Mark Dennis, who started a fruit and vege stand in his community and had inspired others in communities all around NZ to do the same.

The concept of the Fruit and Vege Stand is for local people to share the excesses from their gardens with others. Drop off produce from your garden when you have more than you need. Take away anything from the stand you can use. Even when you have nothing to share, you may still take something away.

"The ethos of sharing, reducing food waste, and enabling more people to eat healthy foods resonated with me," says Angela. "As a doctor, I was seeing first-hand how a diet consisting of mostly processed foods caused many health issues. I'm also concerned about how good food going to waste impacts on climate change."

Angela placed a post on an Ōākura Facebook page to see if there would be interest here. The response was overwhelmingly positive and many people said they'd like to help. Rachel Hooper from McDonald's Real Estate offered to pay for the building supplies and Rod Smith, a retired builder, built the stand. The Church offered the location for the stand and so it began.

Over the years the Fruit and Vege Stand has become a valuable part of our community.

As Angela says about it, "It lives and breathes on the generosity of everyone and there is so much generosity in this village."

Find them on Facebook - Oakura community fruit and vege sharing stand

Ōākura Library

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From our cardboard construction holiday programme. Tessa with her bunny castle.

Indoor Bowls

Amazing to think we are already over halfway through the season, and we are well into our club championships. Our championship fours were played over three nights in a round robin format with the top two teams going forward to the final. The games were played over 12 ends, and it was good to see a number of close games, often only a couple of points in it at the end. Jim Priest's team of Greg Jans, Bev Kirkby and Bryan Bedwell had two wins and got through to the final along with Merv Hooker's team of Rod Smith, Peter Anderson and Val Bridgeman. The final was played with great intensity with Jim getting out to 8 - 1 lead after five ends. Merv came back, coming within a couple of points although Jim kicked on to win comfortably.

We have started our championship pairs, again played over 12 ends or 40 minutes time limit. Unbelievably we had two draws in the first round which kept the section play even. Jim playing with Steve Muller have the lead at the half way stage with two and half wins, and we look forward to the finals over the next couple of weeks.

The President

MORNING TEA - MORNING TALK

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Any enquiries can be made through Tracey 752 7875.

Ōākura to Fort St George walk/cycle trail

PART 2 BY CLIVE NEESON

Part 1 of this story last month described how 40 years ago a few feral young individuals in ragged jeans began planting out the gorse on the treeless wasteland between the campground and Ahus (Ahu Ahu) Road. The vision was to create a nature trail from Ōākura to Fort St George and maybe on to Rocky Point via the old coast roads. Most said we were mad but after winning an Environmental Award in 1998 Councillors became so enthused about the project that they promptly approved construction of the two footbridges linking to Weld Rd and Timaru Rd. With minimal budget we had an extremely popular 10km trail from Ōākura to Fort St George via the safe Greenwood Rd which was enjoyed every day by Ōākura and coastal residents. NPDC was also talking with farmers about a beachside route from the shipwreck to Fort St George for walkers. So we continued tree planting along the trail each year with the aim of eventually creating all-weather shelter and bird habitat. It was a great start to the new millennium.

But then out of nowhere, in 2005 we struck a massive setback: The old coach road cutting which formed the link between the Ahu Ahu Rd bridge and Weld Rd was blocked off with no lease or easement negotiable for its continued use. The logical alternative was to use the old farm track over the adjacent public reserve which had been recently cleared when the old garage and bach on it burned down.

Being a headland hill, it was not ideal for bicycles and prams, in the long term, but a call had also been made to close the public reserve for archeologic reasons. We were literally stopped in our tracks. During a decade of stalemate and political paralysis, the newly elected councillors lost awareness of the project. The New Plymouth coastal walkway became the new hype and despite our deputations to Council, we lost the hard won \$750,000 which Council had allocated to

our Ōākura project. It was a devastating blow to those who had invested so much time and work over the years and to those who loved using the coastal trail on a daily basis.

To establish awareness the 'Ōākura Coast Nature Trail' FB site was created. Doug Hislop of Kaitaki Community Board continued working with NPDC to explore every option for an alternative link around the Weld Rd reserve. Last year we supported Doug's submission, which won full Councillor vote to approve \$650,000 for design and construction of a boardwalk around the Weld Rd headland, scheduled for completion in 2022. The original Ahu Ahu Footbridge lost in a recent cyclone, was well overdue for replacement and will be redesigned to match the capacity of the boardwalk.

Over that exasperating 15 years of deadlock and neglect, an invasion of gorse, boxthorn, woolly nightshade and wattle had smothered the native trees in the first section of the trail. The gnarly thorns made it impossible to access the area for replanting. Council confessed their Parks resources were too stretched to do anything so we got their blessing to take action. The Covid lockdowns provided myself, Pete Cassie, Neil Farrant and Ian Ivess with an opportunity to finally exterminate all the noxious invaders and re-plant with natives as far as the Ahus foot bridge. Gorses had become trees with five inch trunks, but with sharp handsaws, hard gumboots and stump killer we totally eradicated it over four months.

We made application to 'Trees That Count' trust and NPDC Parks for some trees which we then supplemented with our own funds to get more denser planting and bigger specimens. Then this autumn we dug 600 nice deep holes and filled them with 150 sacks of compost to provide better nutrient and moisture retention during summer. John Quilter also donated some splendid Nikaus and after three months

of cutting access tracks, digging and planting it was finally completed - just in time for the rain.

Most coastal communities like ours in New Zealand and Australia have now developed nature trails to restore nature, promote mental and physical health and help reduce petrol consumption. The most sustainable form of tourism is giving the locals a reason to holiday at home. We've seen New Plymouth spend millions on walk/cycleways projects to attract outsiders. But despite having minimal cost and huge potential, our own local project has limped along for 40 years with voluntary labour and needless setbacks. It's very disconcerting that at a time when the rest of the developed world is giving everything to create walkways and cycleways - we lose them.

The vision is still alive to complete our Nature Trail to Fort St George and maybe one day to Rocky Point via the old coast road. But meanwhile we've been working on that original 'showcase' stretch from the campground in order to demonstrate the amazing potential of the rest of the trail. It's also perfect timing to provide the food and nesting habitat for the increasing bird population resulting from the current pest free initiative. The 'Ōākura Coast Nature Trail' page and community magazines like this are also vital to establish project awareness.

What unites us in this project is that same search for paradise which brought us here as young adults in the late 70's. What we learned from it is that 'Paradise is not a place you discover but a place you can create'.

What motivates us still is creating a local wilderness playground that will foster the same custodianship in the next generation. It's summed in the quote:

"Tomorrow's protectors of the wilderness are the kids that play in it today".



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School children give back to rescue services



Ōmata School were lucky enough to have a fly in visit from the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Trust who were conducting crew training in the local area. The school kids have recently raised more than \$400 to support the local Taranaki Helicopter Rescue Trust in recognition of their invaluable work in the community and to give back to local rescue services.

The school has also recently acquired a life-saving AED defibrillator device that is mounted on the exterior of the Ōmata Community Hall and is available to everyone to access in case of emergency. Community members were invited to a free demonstration event in the hall hosted by the Department of Medicine Charitable Trust who operate the AED in the community scheme and donated the device. The lockbox casing that houses the device was also kindly gifted by members of the community.

"This is an awesome thing for the community to have - AED devices can save lives and we want everyone in our community to know it's here and available if needed," says Ōmata School Acting Principal Stuart Bennett.

The device is located on the exterior of the Community School Hall on Holloway Road and people can access it by calling 111 and asking for the unlock code to retrieve it.



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Puanga

Ōmata has spent time over the last few years learning about the importance of Puanga, and for the first time this year New Zealand observed a public holiday called Matariki. In Taranaki we commemorate the rising of Puanga. It is a time for Remembrance – Honouring those we have lost since the last rising of Puanga, Celebrating the present – Gathering together to give thanks for what we have and Looking to the future – Looking forward to the promise of a new year.

On Thursday 23 June, Ōmata School students rose early, planning to get to school by 6:30am to commemorate the rise of the star Puanga. Students made Puanga inspired lanterns to carry during our early morning hiko through our school ngahere (bush) in the dim light. Tane Manu from Ngati Tairi began the ceremony with a karakia and we set out on our hiko. Everyone was wrapped up warm in the frosty morning air. Once the group had emerged from the bush, we spotted a bonfire

crackling in the darkness. We gathered in a circle around the bonfire. Miss Coffey led us in the karakia Timatanga, followed by the waiata Whakataka te hau. Everyone sounded amazing and unified. Millie Stonier talked about the importance of commemorating Puanga in Taranaki, because that is the star we can see at this time of the year. The Matariki constellation is visible in other parts of Aotearoa, but not Taranaki. Tane discussed the significance of Puanga for Maori. Lily Williams led our school waiata, 'Toi e mai'.

The community was able to share kai, warmed through with porridge, pastries and hot drinks, and enjoy each other's company. It was a special morning to come together, to think about our past and to make plans for our future.

Lily Williams and Campbell Fraser
(Year 7/8 students)

Monitoring the kiwi on the Kaitake Ranges

Along with the students from Ōākura and Coastal Taranaki Schools, our Ōmata Te Ara Taiao Ō Kaitake group continues to monitor Kiwi on the Kaitake Ranges. Recently, we went to Pukeiti and used the telemetry equipment to check the health of the kiwi. It was a muddy and wet day, but we all had fun and managed to locate Puanga, Spencer and Aroha, who are all in good health.

Thank-you to the Ōmata Home and School Association

A big thank-you to the Ōmata Home and School Association for organising Friday lunches this term. It has been a wonderful normality brought back to school and I know all the tamariki and kaiako (teachers) are very appreciative. Also many thanks for all your efforts with raising funds and organising events that not only support our school, but also the wider community.



Ōākura School

Year 6 Swim Safety

Over a period of three days, the year 6s went to Todd Energy Aquatic Centre to learn more about swim safety. Each lesson was an hour long. The year 6s got split into two groups, one group went in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

Students who attended the lessons said that they highly enjoyed their time in the water, had fun and learnt lots. Some of the water safety skills they already knew and they also learnt new skills that would help them in the future.

Some drills the students learnt were how to pull someone to shore by their life jacket if they're floating away, different swimming strokes (such as free style, dolphin kick, butterfly, etc.), how to rescue someone from a whirlpool, a variety of ways to dive and jump into water and the basics of swimming and what to do if a boat capsizes.

A majority of the students' favourite activity was taking part in the safety jumping. This is an activity where you leap off a ledge above the water. Most of the ākonga (students) had a fun, easy, educational and entertaining time with their friends.

Miri Sandbrook (age 12)

Puanga ki te kura o Ōākura

Early in the morning on 15th June, the Ōākura School community met out in front of the Ōākura library. They gathered to celebrate Puanga, the Māori New Year as recognised by iwi in Taranaki. Puanga is a whetu (star) also known as Rigel. The community walked together and gathered on the back field to listen to Tānē Manu acknowledge our past and the meaning of Puanga.

Tamariki and whānau sung Whakataka te Hau and our school waiata during the ceremony. Some senior students also read some poems about Puanga. The new names for our teams were also announced. Each team will now be named after a manga (stream) that is a tributary of Ōākura-matupu Awa.

These are the new names of our teams:

Year 1/2	Momona
Year 3/4	Kiri
Year 5/6	Te Pikiwati
Year 7/8	Wakamure

We held our lanterns that were specially made for the occasion, and watched the glistening moon go down above us. As the moon disappeared a beautiful sunrise appeared out of nowhere. We were also very lucky to have a



warm breakfast. We had fried bread, fruit, hot milo and coffee, and it tasted delicious.

Miakoda from the Kauri Room said that she loved breakfast and watching the moon. Livvy in Room 2 enjoyed making whetu (stars) with her family and also loved the sunrise. Leo of Room 6 said that the bread was his favourite and he really enjoyed the whole morning.

By Chili Kearns-Grieve and Freddie Chambers (age 12)

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TOP Activities

Ōākura

Ōākura Hall Bookings

Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Bowling and Social Club

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

Dancing in the Dark

Glenys Farrant 027 753 0120

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 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

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

Mini Groovers - Music Group

All parents welcome with babies/under 5's. Every Tues during term time 10-11am at the Church Hall. Visit their Facebook page: Mini Groovers - Ōākura. Fe Scott: 027 228 9113

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 0279377173 or Vincenza 0277396574

Playcentre

14 Donnelly St. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am - noon during school terms. 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 021 661 912 thowison@hotmail.com

Okato Co-operating Parish

St James, Sunday Worship: every 2nd and 4th Sunday, 10am
St James, Prayer Meeting: first Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm
okatocp@gmail.com

Sunday School - St James Church

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

Surf Lessons

Deken Waves Surf Coaching. Group & Private sessions available. Contact Simon: 021 122 9525 dekenwaves@gmail.com

Tennis Club Winter Coaching

Junior coaching Mon-Fri before or after school, check 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: taranakitachichuan@gmail.com

Val Deakin Dance School

Ōākura Hall Friday afternoon - Pre-school dance classes at 2:45, ballet for 5+ 3:30 to 4:15. val@valdeakindance.org.nz 752 7743 or text 027 694 0933

Tataraimaka

5 Elements Fitness Bootcamps and Kickboxing Fitness classes

Monday to Thursday 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. Barney 027 752 7076 barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Gymnastics Group for children - 5-7 yrs.

Tuesdays after school at the Tataraimaka Hall for basic level gymnastics sessions. Rose at rosem@realfoodnutrition.co.nz

Okato

Okato and District Historical Society

Meg Cardiff 752 4566

Okato Lions Club

John Hislop 757 9696

Okato Squash Club

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

Okato Co-operating Parish

St Paul's, Sunday Worship: every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 10am
St Paul's, Prayer Meeting: first Thursday of each month, 7.30pm
okatocp@gmail.com

Ōmata

Yoga Classes

For info - Annalisa 027 444 8345

TOP Information

The Ōākura Post

Editor & Advertising: Tracey Lusk

06 752 7875 / 027 636 8060
editor@theoakurapost.co.nz
advertising@theoakurapost.co.nz

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