

# *the* Ōākura Post

NOVEMBER 2022

LOOK FORWARD TO  
**SUMMER**

*our people*

*Burgers*  
at the BEACH

KAITAKE  
COMMUNITY  
BOARD

SCHOOL  
**NEWS**

*volunteer*  
PATROL



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# Kaitake Community Board

When the recent council representation review was conducted, and one of the outcomes of this review being the move of the Kaitake area from the Inglewood Ward into the City Ward, there was a hope (on my part anyway) that this would provide a better opportunity to get some local representation on council for our part of the district.

A much older and wiser head than mine told me, after the review outcomes were published, that the changes that were made to the representational make up would only provide more voices for the New Plymouth urban area, Kaitake would end up with more of the same, and if you think things will be any different then you are dreaming.

How right he was!

While special votes had still to be counted at the time I am writing this article, as things stand at this time only two out of every five voters in the district had taken the time to cast their ballot. The vast majority of them voted every one of the previous councillors who stood for re-election back in, and the 60% of eligible voters who didn't vote obviously didn't care who got into power, therefore based on that 'mandate', it is possible that we will end up with "more of the same" for the next three years.

So, it will be up to your newly elected Kaitake Community Board, of Renee Hohaia, Paul Lobb, Teresa Goodin and yours truly, to advocate long and hard to get our issues recognised, acknowledged and actioned at the council table.



Renee

Paul

Teresa

Graham

There are a number of matters still on the back burner that need to be pushed from the get-go, including to name but a few;

- The Headland Walkway
- The Shearer Reserve Pumptrack
- The Ōākura Village Community Noticeboard
- Getting approval for artwork on the PowerCo Distribution Box
- The Wairau Road pedestrian safety improvements
- The Matakai Park bridge replacements
- Corbett Park KCSH improvements
- Ōkato's Playground and Skate Park improvements
- Proposed District Plan Zoning changes

Something I would urge all those in the Kaitake rohe to consider is how you can become more engaged with and involved in the activities of the KCB. Those elected to the council table, and those officers working in the council organisation need to hear "loud and clear" the concerns and aspirations of this community, and they need to be made aware that when the Kaitake Community Board presents to them it is the voice of our community that is speaking to them.

With what is occurring in the national and international economies, with much of what is coming out of Central Government at present, and with local social pressures impacting on everyone at the moment, it is likely to be a turbulent next couple of years for those residing in the New Plymouth District. Therefore it will be up to your Community Board to work hard for the best possible outcomes for those living in this part of the district.

No pressure Team KCB

Noho ora mai

Graham Chard, on behalf of Renee, Teresa and Paul

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# Ōākura Library Services

## CRACKERJACKS

First Thursday of each month 10am-10:30am.  
Join us for pre-school story time with song, craft and games in a relaxed atmosphere.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE SERVICE

On site every Thursday 10am -12:30pm

## BOOK GROUP

Last Thursday of each month 7:00pm-9:30pm. Join other book lovers and discuss your favourite reads. Contact us for more information.

If you ever want some inspiration for a new author or book title please come and talk to us. There are always new book arrivals and



## NEW FICTION TITLES

they can easily be found on the front shelves as you walk into the library.

## Need help accessing online information?

The library has computers for residents to use. This is a free service.



## NEW NON-FICTION TITLES

### LIBRARY HOURS

Mon 11am – 5pm, Tues 9am – 1pm  
Wed 11am – 5pm, Thurs 9am – 1pm  
Fri 11am – 5pm, Sat 9am – 1pm  
Sun closed, public holidays closed.



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## Volunteer patrol starts November 26

NPOB lifeguards will be back on the beach with volunteer patrol every weekend from Saturday 26 November, 1-5pm. If you are interested in helping in any way please get in contact, all help is appreciated.

Regional / weekday patrol starts 12 December through to 28 January; thereafter the regional guards will be on the beach after school (4.30pm to 7pm) until 18 February.

Any membership or general enquiries please email npobsurfclub@xtra.co.nz

Follow us on Facebook to stay in the loop with what is happening - NPOB Surf Club.

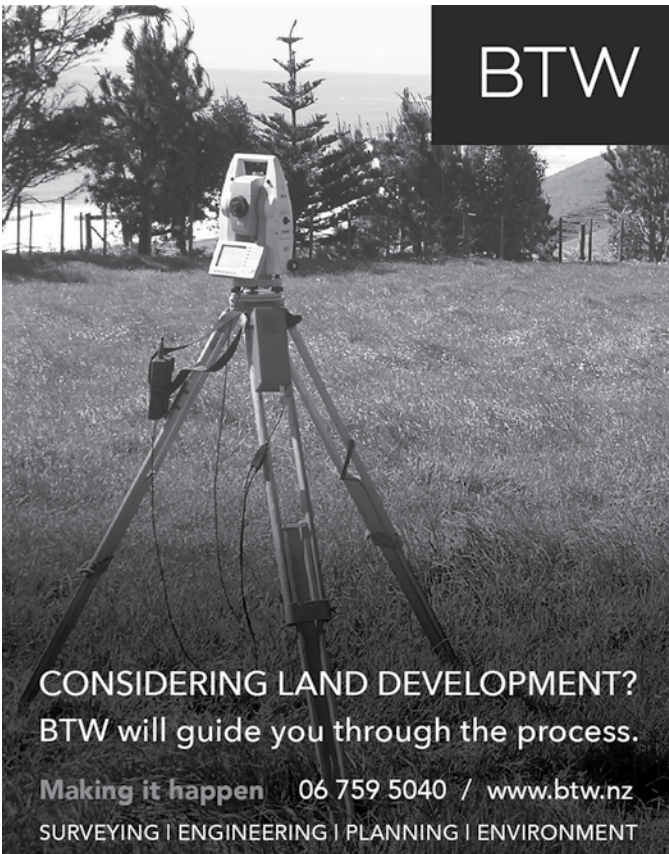
### UPCOMING DATES :

**Working Bee** - Saturday 29 October at 10am.  
We want to hit the ground running with the clubrooms and gear shed and have them spic and span and ready to go.

**Info Night** - Friday 4 November, bar will be open from 5pm and we will be hanging around to answer any questions about the season/club. If you are a newbie, this night is for you.

Call in and introduce yourself, we will do our best to answer all your queries. We will also have the NPOB Tsunami gear available for everyone to have a look at, work out sizing etc.

**Junior Surf** - Sunday 6 November, 9am for information on junior surf with a 10am start; thereafter every Sunday 10am to midday. Sessions start at 10am sharp with a briefing in front of the surf club (beach side). Please ensure you arrive 15 minutes prior to get organised so you are ready to go by 10am. Kids 7 yrs and younger require a participating adult every Sunday and 8 to 14 year olds require a designated adult on the beach supervising. Any changes/cancellations will be notified through the NPOB Surf Club Facebook page.



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# Burgers at the Beach - Sunday 13th November

At NPOB Surf Club from 4.30pm

The Kaitake Community Sports Hub invite you all along!

The NPOB Surf clubrooms and bar will be open from 4.30pm – 7.00pm and the Kaitake Rugby, Football and Ōākura Cricket clubs will be organising fun games on the beach for the kids (and the keen not so young). There will be some silent auctions along with some great Hub merchandise for you to take home. Information will be available on the clubrooms renovation project, including the one off opportunity to sign up as a Foundation Member and have you, your family, or your company name recognised on the boards in the clubrooms for all time.



**Kaitake Community Sports Hub - Visualisation**

We have now received final building consents and with work on stage 1 (earthquake and fire compliance, women's change and shower) due to start in early November, fundraising is well on track with over \$600,000 already raised or committed. This includes over \$100,000 in Foundation Memberships / Partnerships and we are extremely grateful to all those in the Kaitake community who have provided support to date. All of the great clubs and facilities we enjoy today were created through the

**BOON**  
design thinkers

generosity and vision of Foundation Members and the KCSH represents your chance to help us provide for the future wellbeing and social health of our great community.

So come down and enjoy some great company, relax with a drink, get a cheap dinner, play (or watch) some social sport and find out more about this important community project.

**Director Choreographer**  
Helena Harvey

**Co-Director**  
Cameron McHugh

**Musical Director**  
Phillip Malcolm

**Book by**  
Rupert Holmes

**Music by**  
John Kander

**Lyrics by**  
Fred Ebb

**27 October - 19 November**

**TICKETS \$60**

1959 Boston's Colonial Theatre is host to the opening night performance of a new musical Robbin Hood. The egregiously untalented leading lady, is a triple threat: she can't sing, act, or dance and just as the curtain falls, so does she !!

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4th Wall Theatre | 11 Baring Terrace | New Plymouth | [www.4thwalltheatre.co.nz](http://www.4thwalltheatre.co.nz) | 0800 484 925

# Surfside Electrical Q & A

The Government's \$380.6m Apprenticeship Boost fund, which commenced on 1 August 2020, is designed to help employers to bring on and retain new apprentices as the economy recovers from the impacts of COVID-19. In May 2022, as part of the Government's 2022 Budget package, the Government announced the extension of Apprenticeship Boost through to 23 December 2023 with an additional \$230m funding.

For one local business and apprentice the scheme is working well.

## Ricky Fox Electrician

**How long have you lived in Ōākura?**  
Since I was 5 years old. I remember being here when Cyclone Bola hit, and we lived in a house where the old skatepark is now. I then moved away for some time and came back when I was 14.

**Where did you do your apprenticeship?**  
I was lucky enough to get an apprenticeship through my friend's dad – Snow Electrics.

**How long has your business Surfside Electrical been operating?**  
I have been operating since 2017.

**Have you had apprentices before Tom?**  
No, Tommy is the first.

**Tell us about your experience with the 'Apprenticeship Boost' scheme**  
I think it has been very helpful for small businesses like mine to take on apprentices. I was hesitant with getting one at first but with the boost scheme it helped to make the decision to try it out. Now I am all on



**Robyn, Ricky and Tom**

board with taking on apprentices – not for the scheme but it's a great way to give back and get more into the trade. There is huge demand for qualified electricians right now.

**What makes electrical a good trade?**  
I've always enjoyed troubleshooting and thinking on my feet. Electrical changes from day to day so the work is very varied.

The future looks to be going more electric so with Solar and EVs being a way that we can reduce emissions it's great to be in a trade where I feel I can help be part of the change.

We are currently hiring for a qualified electrician and will be looking at taking on another apprentice soon.

**Is surfing your first passion?**  
Yeah, anything to do with the ocean is my happy place!

## Tom Butland Apprentice

**How long have you lived in Ōākura?**  
Pretty much my whole life.

**Did you go to school at Ōākura School?**  
Yep, started at Ōākura School when I was 5.

**At Boys High you were awarded a Tiger Jacket for surfing?**

Yeah I was awarded my tiger jacket in 2019 after winning the scholastics u18.

**What attracted you to surfing?**  
The competitive drive to improve.

**Would it be fair to say your first passion is surfing? YES!**

**How did you decide on an electrical career?**

It just seemed like a really good option and career path to choose at the time, especially with the way of the world going electrical.

**When did you start your apprenticeship?**  
I started halfway through my last year of school.

**What are your future aspirations within the trade?**

It is hard to say yet. But to get qualified and do some travelling is on the list!!

**Right now, what are your personal future aspirations?**

Complete my apprenticeship and chase some surf around the world!



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**Jono and Jess with L to R - Sydney, Nixon, Reeve, Livvy.**

# Jono White shares how his businesses began

**Tell us about Handy Rentals?**

We're the sixth location for Handy Rentals around the country, and we opened our franchise in May 2022. We provide van and truck solutions to help make shifting easy for people. We have vans and trucks of all sizes. All our vehicles are automatic and can be driven on a car license, and all of our trucks have tail lifts to help with those hard-to-move items.

**How did the business come about?**

A friend of mine runs Handy Rentals in Wellington and asked if I'd look at a franchise here, since he had no plans to bring the business here himself.....and I thought why not? My father Richard and I run it together, and he has been awesome for us. He lives close to the yard (which is next to the Challenge service station in Spotswood) so can easily shoot down there if someone arrives and wants an immediate hire. Plus it keeps him out of mum's hair!

**Who can use your services?**

Anyone with a NZ drivers license. Our typical customers are people shifting house who want a vehicle that can make things easy, but we also have a number of businesses who use us at times when their own vehicle is out of action. One of the best things about hiring a vehicle is that a move can then often be done in one trip, as opposed to using a trailer and making several different trips to complete a move. Plus, your contents are safe and dry inside our vans and trucks.

**What is the pricing?**

Our vans start from \$99/day and our trucks from \$169/day. Our google reviews tell us that people think we have great vehicles and equally good service, so that tells us we're providing good value.

**What is something about your business the average person may not know?**

We'll work hard to make your hire happen: we deliver and collect vehicles from time to time, we have a contactless hire option if you need an after hours collection, and we've even helped to jump in and do some labouring/shifting for people who haven't been able to do that themselves.

**You have another business, do you want to tell us about that?**

I also run MTF Finance Mt Victoria. We provide secure and unsecured lending options typically for vehicle purchases, business asset purchases, and for things like holidays, renovations, or anything else you might like to do. We offer a really personal service, a bit like you might have expected from your bank manager back in the day. If anyone was interested in discussing their lending needs then they are more than welcome to contact me on 027 2244 295 or my office on [mtvictoria@mtf.co.nz](mailto:mtvictoria@mtf.co.nz)

**As well as that I do some HR/People consulting.**

I had a career in Human Resources before moving into finance and hire vehicles, and I have helped a lot of small or medium businesses grow by getting the best out of their people and their people-related processes. My help is normally around recruiting good talent, setting them up well (employment agreements, job descriptions, performance targets etc), but also helping when things don't quite go to plan and a dispute or relationship breakdown can occur. Because I have worked in HR and run my own businesses, I know how well things can go when you get it right with your people, and equally how challenging it can be when things don't go well. I'm free to talk at any time if you or someone you know wants some support.



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## Community Events

### Sustainable Backyards Taranaki

29 Oct and 5 Nov, 10am-3pm  
1, 3, 4 Nov, 3.30pm-4.30pm

Come and visit our ¼ acre market garden where we grow food using small-scale, intensive and organic principles. We experiment with standard veggie crops, as well as those not so common in Taranaki! We also have approximately 300 fruit trees on campus, and a native nursery which has grown tens of thousands of 1-3-year-old newly planted native trees.

### Workshops

- **Worm composting and fertiliser**  
29 Oct & 5 Nov, 12pm
- **Soil Resilience with Pounamu Skelton**  
29 Oct, 1pm-3pm, \$10

### Crop Swap

4 Nov and 2 Dec, from 3pm

We invite you to our monthly crop swaps where we exchange our own goods, for those of others. Share and swap harvests from the garden, seedlings, baked goods or clothes. All welcome!

### Green School Open Day

Friday 18 November, 2pm-3pm  
(last Open Day for 2022)



Come along for a Green School experience! Immerse yourself in nature, be inspired by our market gardens, bring your questions, talk with our staff and see if you can spot one of the many endangered species roaming our campus!

Head to the events page on our website to register.

green school

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# People in our Community - Robin Green

Robin Green works with vulnerable children and uses her love of Waka Ama to give balance to her work life.

## Away from the Hustle & Bustle

ROBIN GREEN: I was born and raised in Tahiti, French Polynesia. My mother is Marquesan (an archipelago of French Polynesia) and my father is a New Zealander (from Christchurch). I grew up speaking French and I learned English at intermediate school when I was 11 years old.



After getting a degree in Literature and Political History, I worked as a High School teacher for a few years. In 2000 I met my soon to be husband, a Kiwi who grew up in Ōākura, while he was visiting Tahiti and its islands. We decided to get married in Ōākura, and we soon welcomed our three daughters. While they were younger, I did a little bit of teaching but my priority was to raise them.

Although I loved teaching, this was not really my vocation. I decided to undertake another four year degree through the Waikato Institute of Technology to retrain as a Social Worker. It was a huge commitment to go back studying, but it was the best thing I could have done. I learned more about NZ, its social issues and more importantly about the history of colonisation. As a social worker, it is important to take the time to pause and see issues from different angles. You have to be aware of your own thinking and how it affects people.

I chose to work in Child Protection. The kids I work with live in very harsh environments and circumstances. This line of work is challenging and draining, but I can't see myself doing anything else.

In order to manage the stress generated by some of the cases I was working with, I decided to go back to Waka Ama, a sport I used to enjoy when in high school in Tahiti. A friend encouraged me to reconnect with the water activity, and introduced me to a club in New Plymouth. (A waka ama is an outrigger canoe with the option of being a single, or a canoe with four, six people or 12 people.) I joined the Taranaki Outrigger Club (TOCC). We paddle at Ngamotu, which is an ideal location because of the harbour. We can paddle there in all conditions (rain, sun, wind and swell) as the harbour is quite sheltered. When the conditions allow it, we go out of the harbour, around the islands and all the way past Waitara. You can paddle all through the year in NZ - you just need the right gear.

I think of Waka Ama as a very inclusive sport: people of all shapes and different fitness level can give it a go. There is a place for everyone on the Waka, as the different seats have specific functions that require different skills. Lighter paddlers will often be placed in the front or back of the waka, with heavier and stronger paddlers in the middle. I have paddled at every seat, enjoying all of them. Seat one is really amazing as you are right at the front, with almost 360 degrees of unobstructed view... you set the pace for the whole crew. But for the past two years I have trained as a steerer in seat six. Steerers are responsible for everyone's safety on the boat, choose the right course on the water that would make it easier for the crew to paddle and decide on the right strategy to hopefully bring a win in a race.

My team is Arotahi (Maori for 'single focus' or 'concentrate'), an all-women's team that trains six hours a week or more, depending on the race we are preparing for. Arotahi participates in races all around the North Island (Whanganui, Wellington, Foxton, Rotorua, Taupo, and more recently Waitangi for the Long Distance Nationals).

The Taranaki Outrigger Club meets up to three three times a week for 'Club Paddle'. Members who join the 'Club Paddle' can choose when to paddle and how often they want to paddle and it's in a relaxed and social atmosphere. If you want to paddle at a more competitive level, you can join a team that trains more seriously.

At the end of the day, Waka Ama is more than just a sport. It is about gathering people who love the ocean, regardless of their background, language or experience. It's about working as a team and backing each other up. If you see the person in front of you getting tired, then you pull harder to support their effort. There's lots of compassion, being in tune with each other and with nature.

Once on the water I'm away from everything else that is happening on land. No one can call or reach me on the water. I'm away from the hustle and bustle of life.

Note: If waka ama interests you, message the Taranaki Outrigger Canoe Club 0279252262 or check out their facebook page.

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# Ōākura Bowling & Social Club



## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The hotly contested Championship Fours are down to the final two teams. The reigning champs of Alan Bridgeman, Bob Anderson, Kevin Fleming and Paddy Mullin have secured a well-earned finals berth and will play Jim Priest, Aad Schrader, Rod Smith and Syd Sharpe. The Bridgeman quartet will need to be at their best as the forever young Jim Priest will be playing for his 50th club championship title.

It was great to see the father and son duo of Peter and Adam Radich play together in the Championship Fours. I often hear around the greens how players would have loved to play bowls with their dad and the Ōākura club is privileged to have the boys represent our club.

The club Triples championships will also be played throughout November and all members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club while watching some of Ōākura's finest bowlers in action.

## CLUB NEWS

The club has been the recipient of a very generous Toi Foundation grant towards the installation of a sun shade system around the club's green. A big thumbs up to organisations such as the Toi Foundation who 'walk the talk' in their support of local communities and organisations.

Thanks must go to Rod Smith, Wayne Robinson and crew for their tireless work in completing the upgrade of the ditch, banks and boarding around the green. The green playing surface has been amongst Taranaki's best over the past few years and with the upgrade now meets Bowls New Zealand standards in all areas. Great news for the club with the Nationals being awarded to Taranaki in the 2023/2024 season. You can expect to see New Zealand's best bowlers in action at Ōākura during this tournament.

The club is running a bowls3five Melbourne Cup Day roll-up on Tuesday 1st November. Play will start at 1.30pm with 2 games lasting approximately 2 hours total. The community is invited along to either enjoy a game of bowls or simply have a few drinks and view the running of the big race.

It is fantastic to see the community supporting the club when organising their Christmas functions. The Ōākura Medical Centre, The Zephyr Club, Gardiner Gas and Plumbing and the 'Move it or Lose it' ladies have all booked the clubrooms and green for their end of year festivities.

The Ōākura Bowling Club is still offering all first-year bowlers a package deal of \$50 fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, a set of pre-loved bowls and coaching sessions. For more information about this great offer please call Steve Muller – Match Convenor 0211695863.

*The underarm bowler*

## Indoor Bowls

Our last few weeks of the season have been enjoyable including a visit to the New Plymouth Club for a fun night of mixed teams and social bowls. Always a good night which we will return next year when we host the NP Club. Our club champs played in the Central Division champ of champion round at Belt Road Hall. This is always tough competition from the other nine clubs spread throughout New Plymouth and is played on the principle of 'if you lose you're out'. We had mixed results, and while none from our club won through to

take the honours, our Pairs champions of Merv Hooker and Bev Kirkby made it through to the final and lost out in a close game.

We held our final club night and prizegiving for 2022 where we invited the Warea club to join us for the evening. The annual Sitters Shield was up for grabs with Ōākura having held the trophy for the past four years. Over a few close games Warea triumphed and the shield will be held in their trophy cabinet for the summer until we get the chance to challenge for it again next year.

We are now playing various Christmas tournaments, and Warea held their annual

'Family Pairs' evening which encourages new players to the sport. It was great to see so many children coming along to try out the sport. Our very own Greg and Neville Jans won on the night, with Greg even winning the raffle.

Overall 2022 has been a great season, many thanks to the volunteers that make everything run like clockwork each week. It was good seeing a few new members joining the club and we look forward to March 2023 and welcoming any new members to come along and give indoor bowls a go.

*The President*

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# Kaitake Golf Club News

Hi Everyone,

Quick update on some things happening on the course and equipment:

- We have some zippy and shiny new golf carts in Kaitake colours that are a great addition to our golf cart stocks. Call the office to confirm availability. Hire is \$30 per cart.
- Path leading from the clubrooms to the 1st and 10th tee is progressing.
- The 16th was reseeded. This should alleviate some of the issues we have had with the green in the past.
- Remedial work on the 9th tee as part of improving irrigation and wear on the par 3s.
- We are purchasing a new greens mower with delivery expected first half of next year.

A monthly Sunday Hagggle started in October with tee off at 10am. Names were drawn with a total of 7 Ladies and 11 Men with the Men winning overall. A fun day out. The next Sunday Hagggle will be 6th November. BBQ will be on and bar open afterwards. Please come along as we are trying this initiative to encourage a bit more mingling between the members.

**Clay Jordan, Club President**

## MENS REPORT

Top Dog winners were Neil Farrant and Bruce Payne and runners up Ian Johnson and Roger Cloke.

Stumpy Trophy played and won by Denis Harvey and Gary Rowe. Very successful day and a good turn out, and this will be played around this time annually.

Senior Pennants have had two wins and two losses.

## GREEN FEES

Non-member green fees have gone up to \$25.00 per round.

## \$5.00 WEDNESDAYS

is still a very popular day for golf with golfers coming from near and far. This is open to non-members - \$10.00 entry which includes Twos, so bring a friend and enjoy this beautiful course and weather.

**Roger Cloke, Club Captain**

## LADIES REPORT

Top Dog winners for 2022 are:  
MIDWEEK - Maureen Neilsen & Annie Frame  
WEEKEND - Janice Farrant & Janet Dingle

The 9 Hole Ladies have completed their Club Champs.

1ST DIVISION CHAMPION - Margaret Mills with Lorraine Pathemore runner up.

2ND DIVISION CHAMPION - Kat Novak with Kay Stachurski runner up.

On 17 October the Taranaki 9 Hole Champion of Champions was held at Westown.

**Congratulations to:**

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS  
- Kaitake Margaret Mills came 2nd.

TARANAKI 9 HOLE OPEN won by Kaitake Angela Hitchman and Angela also won the District Shield.

TARANAKI 9 HOLE OPEN  
2nd Kaitake Margaret Mills

3rd Kaitake Coraleen Le Breton

4th Kaitake Jo Wilson-West

Kaitake also won the Home Pennants with a Nett differential of - 15.

The TWG Champion of Champions and Rosebowl is at Manaia Sunday 6th November.

Our 2022 Champions, Bronny Gower - Silver, Jacque Koch - Bronze 1 and Karey Waterhouse - Bronze 2 will represent Kaitake in the Champion of Champions with Diane Jones joining them to compete for the Rosebowl.

**We recently hosted  
TWG 27 Hole Strokeplay Foursomes.**

Winners of the Gross Trophy were Carol Chard and Shirley Plimmer from New Plymouth Golf Club. Gross 125

The Nett prize winners were Kim Woodward and Mary Pettigrew from Kaitake. Nett 106

Winners of the 18 Hole Strokeplay Foursomes Trophy were Jo Wilson-West and Christine Alexander from Kaitake. Nett 76

**We hosted another morning tea for  
nearly 40 Past Members recently.**

Again, these Ladies, aged up to 96, shared their memories of their Kaitake Golf Club days - some wishing they were still able to

get out and play. Several of them brought photos of the days of old, which Noreen Potts is adding to an album she has put together. Thank you to the present members who helped out to make this another memorable day for our Past Members.



**Melbourne Cup Day  
Tuesday 1st November at 9am.**

We have a Drawn Partners / Mixed Ambrose 9 Hole Day with Sweepstakes available. Always a fun day so mark it on your calendars.

**A new Quick 6 Programme is starting  
Wednesday 9th November at 5pm.**

This is for new players wishing to try out golf and will run for 6 weeks. Promoted by Andrea Jarrold, with encouragement from Lucinda Searle from Taranaki Golf Association.

**Andrea is still running her 'Spring Back to Golf' initiative on Friday mornings 11am for any learners who want to get together and play 9 holes.**

Big thanks to Andrea for her dedication to growing interest in women's golf, and in growing our Club.

Looking forward to good golfing, in good health and good weather over the summer.

**Kim Woodward, Ladies Club Captain**

## TARANAKI VETS GOLF:

For golfers over the age of 50.  
Call the office 06 752 7665 for more info.

## CHIPPERS:

Chippers ages range from 5 - 12 years.  
Call the office 06 752 7665 for more info.



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# Glen Bennett – MP for New Plymouth

## Looking forward to summer with certainty

**This summer will be the first in nearly three years where events won't be cancelled, where borders are fully opened and there isn't the fear of being separated or stranded.**

Here in Taranaki, we've been through a lot together in the past few years. We've stayed home, made sacrifices and changed our everyday lives to control COVID. While it hasn't always been easy, we've pulled together – now we're in a position to move forward with greater confidence and certainty.

As you have already heard, we've removed the COVID-19 Protection Framework, commonly known as the traffic light system. Mask wearing requirements have been removed except in healthcare and aged care settings. We've also changed the requirements around isolation, so it's now only people who test positive that need to isolate.

New Zealand's economy is set to recover faster from the pandemic than it did from the Global Financial Crisis – with near record low unemployment, wages outstripping inflation, low debt and record exports.

However, there's no question that it's been a difficult few years for Taranaki. Moving on safely from the traffic light system and welcoming back the world is going to help drive greater economic activity and allow Taranaki to build back better.

I know there may be some people in our community who feel concerned by the changes to COVID settings, and I want to reassure everyone that we wouldn't be taking this step if the country wasn't ready. The most recent health advice shows case numbers and hospitalisations are

at their lowest since February. Our communities are well vaccinated, and we've just doubled the number of people who can access antiviral medicines, with 40,000 extra courses due to arrive in the country.

This is an exciting step for Taranaki and it's taken a team effort, with the Medical Centre in particular standing out in Ōākura. Their staff took up the challenges of the COVID response with access to healthcare through vaccinations and testing. Thank you to the Ōākura Medical Centre team for your exceptional tireless service. These efforts have made a real difference. For the first time since 2020, Taranaki can look forward to summer with certainty, a summer where events won't be cancelled and our borders are fully open.



**Glen Bennett**  
MP for New Plymouth

**Contact our friendly team:**  
[glen.bennettmp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:glen.bennettmp@parliament.govt.nz)  
[/glenbennettlabour](https://www.facebook.com/glenbennettlabour)

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**It's full team ahead.**

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## Temporary art installation in Auckland

In Auckland city centre this October was a wonderful celebration of spring with Art in the City presented by Heart of the City. While much of the celebrations and events have taken place during the ten days of Art in the City, a series of installations will remain dotted around the centre until early December. These installations are part of Changing Lanes. Changing Lanes is an annual art project funded by Heart of the City in partnership with Auckland Council, bringing temporary art to the city's urban spaces. Every year follows a theme, and this year is no different, using Spring as a time of rejuvenation and renewal. The Changing Lanes artists have been asked to create pieces that take these organic themes and plant them in a public space in centre of the City of Sails.

Changing Lanes features the artwork of Ōākura resident Rosemary Petterson. A series of three windows overlooking Little High Street, **Love, Hope and Joy**, will be up for passers-by to enjoy until early December. The windows capture a mood of rejuvenation, renewal and hope and insert a little bit of colour and joy into a grey space.

Petterson views windows as gateways into other worlds, recognising how they symbolise opportunity and the crossing over from confinement to freedom. The latticework on these windows combines the motifs of sacred architecture and sacred geometry, along with the floral aspects of spring. They all point to the glimpses of hope and new life as we cross

the threshold between winter and spring, between what has been and what is to come.

Petterson has been a practising artist for the last 15 years, exhibiting nationally in both sculpture and painting. She works in a variety of media including steel, wood, wax, 3D printed objects and paint and employs a wide range of construction methods to achieve her work. However, she says, regardless of the medium she is using, she is always exploring the same concepts of duality and opposition, concepts of light and dark, the seen and unseen worlds and our relationship to them.

Petterson studied at the Otago Polytechnic School of Art and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art (Sculpture major) in 2006. She also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Design (Animation/Digital Sculpture) from Massey University (2013).

Petterson will be part of the Ōākura Arts Trail and will have her studio open on the **Trail weekends 29 and 30 October and 5 and 6 November**. See [oakuraarts.co.nz](http://oakuraarts.co.nz) for more information.

Note: Art in the City was on from Friday 7 October to Sunday 16 October. **Love, Hope and Joy** will be available to view until early December. This means there's plenty of time to plan a trip up to Tāmaki Makaurau and see the artworks on offer. Check out <https://heartofthecity.co.nz/art-in-the-city> for the full programme.



## Ōākura TENNIS CLUB

The tennis season is underway with competition hitting off on the 29th of October.

We've got coaching sessions, Thursday hit up nights from 5pm, family Sunday afternoons 3-5pm all happening this season. Or you can grab a mate and hit the courts anytime, the gates are always open!

We had a Junior open day at the end of term where coaching slots filled up fast! Blitz have coaching sessions Monday to Friday at Ōākura as well as starting up sessions on Fridays after school at Ōmata school. To help meet demand we are excited to have Jordan Fleming joining Monika. Jordan comes from Pihama and he was the top Taranaki Men's player in 2010-2013 and was a top five New Zealand under 18 player in 2010. You will see him on court or cooling off in the sea!

With so many families keen to play tennis Toni is kick starting a Sunday afternoon session from 3-5pm so come along, bring the kids and everyone can have some fun on court. With this nice warm weather we'll roll out the bbq.

We have two midweek ladies teams, three A4s teams, one A2/A3 team and some junior teams entered this season. Unfortunately no soffe team this season. Some club members have entered into the town business house competitions so if you want to join in there's lots of tennis on offer to suit everyone.

Enjoy the longer evenings and hit the courts while we wait for the sea to warm up. See you on court.

Contact Blitz for adult and junior coaching on their website [blitztennis.nz](http://blitztennis.nz).

**Juniors contact Yifat 022 323 7210,  
Seniors contact Jackie 0276732900,  
Social contact Toni 021 661 912**

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## A camp to remember

On the 21st of September the Year 5&6 students traveled to Vertical Horizons camp for three days. The camp was a great experience and everyone came back exhausted! A rollercoaster of emotions hit all students in different ways. The swim test froze us all, with the cold water making it difficult to breathe. With a lack of sleep on night one the day felt long for everyone (sorry for keeping you awake Mr Kelly). I think the favourite activity for everyone was the flying kiwi. Other activities that hit a high with the students were the zip line, cat walk and the grass cart. Spotlight was a test for people who like to be loud. Everyone participated in the game with lots of different tactics to try and out-smart Mr Bennett.

With great meals came the responsibility of helping prepare and tidy up after. On the second night we all huddled around the bonfire roasting marshmallows while Miss Coffey played soothing tunes on the guitar. Finally, we tramped ten minutes through the bush, in complete darkness, to the glowworm cave

(luckily we all made it there and back safely without falling in the river). The glowworms illuminated the night with a light green glow and we took turns to see the cave, with the glowworms above us.

Each evening back at camp, we gathered our thoughts about the day and recorded our experiences in our very own camp booklet. Next the parent leaders of our activity groups handed out certificates to those who had pushed themselves and shown great leadership. Every evening we warmed up with a cup of milo (sadly no marshmallows).

On the second night, all anyone wanted was a good night's sleep (including the teachers!)

The final day was upon us all, groups had two more activities to complete. With all activities finished, we just had the raft race to go. Members of each team worked together to swim their rafts across the lake. Once across, we had to carry our rafts around the island and back to the top of the hill to dismantle them. With that completed, it was time to pack our bags. Parents had arrived to pack the cars and take the students back to school.

Wow, what a camp! A huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped out at camp and with taking transport. We would also like to say a big thank you to the amazing teachers that were with us all the way through our challenges at camp and making this an experience that we will never forget.

*By Olive Glasgow  
& Paige Henderson - Year 6*

## A real cross country, cross country

Each year Ōmata school is thankful for being able to hold their cross country on the John and Lynda Mathews Waireka property next to the school. It is always a highlight for children to run through the ford, and challenge themselves on the hills.

### COMING EVENTS

#### NOVEMBER

2	Sustainable Backyards Trail 1:30-3pm Y1/2 Ball Skills at Ōākura
3	Y3/4 Ball Skills at Ōākura
4	Sustainable Backyards Trail 1:30-3pm
5	Sustainable Backyards Trail 11-2pm (Saturday)
22	Parent Help Morning Tea 10:30-11am



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# Ōākura School

Ōākura School is a Let's Go school. Let's Go is an organisation that helps the people of Taranaki to choose active and sustainable transport options in their daily lives. Our kura promotes this kaupapa for the main reasons of helping ensure safe travel of our tamariki to and from school, to promote an active lifestyle, and to promote improved sustainability for our community. It's a really important philosophy for our school.

Our kaiako in charge of Let's Go at Ōākura School is Mrs Judy Zieltjes. She has been responsible for this since 2013. As well as many other things to promote our tamariki actively travelling to school, she runs a draw that is called at assembly to reward people that have actively come to school every day. Some of the prizes for being the Let's Go draw are cool pieces of stationery, a bike light and many other things. One of the main reasons Mrs Zieltjes takes on this responsibility is to help keep our students safe and promote less cars driving up Donnelly St.

Speaking of chaos up Donnelly Street - almost every afternoon at 3pm the road is clogged with cars. Our road patrollers have a really hard time making sure the road is safe. So please, instead of driving up Donnelly Street, in the morning or the afternoon, it would be great if whānau could just park down the bottom of the road and walk up to school. All the places where students cross the road have parents and other adults there to ensure that the tamariki can cross the road safely in the mornings. Road patrollers and kaiako look after the crossings in the afternoons for a safe journey home. This is both saving unnecessary fuel, getting outside and helping keep the tamariki in our kura safe.

Another important aspect of our Let's Go programme is education - road sense and safety. A couple of weeks ago the junior classes had a scooter skills run by Let's Go. Our students participate in scooter skills (Yr 1/2) and cycle safety skills (Yr 5/6) as part of our Health Curriculum. I spoke to Ivy from the

Gecko Room about the scooter skills her class had done and she said she really liked the lessons. The favourite thing she learnt was how to go on footpaths when there are cars. Some other things she learnt were how to stop and how to safely cross a road.

Walking to school in the morning can increase your concentration and if walking to school regularly, it can permanently improve your brain's functionality. Walking to school also saves fossil fuels - if walking to school isn't possible then park and walk is still an option. There are lots of options in Ōākura for park and walk - the carpark behind the 4 Square, the main road and the car park at the pony club.

It will take a community effort - whānau; parents and students, school practices and education, to make our school a safe and active environment for tamariki to travel to school.

**Hannah Stanley (age 13)**



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glenny.lewis@bakertillysr.nz

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RECRUITMENT

# 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

### Yoga - Shine Yoga Studio

www.shineyoga.co.nz  
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

### Running for Kids

TempoFit Kids—get fitter and faster and have a blast along the way! Wednesdays at Corbett Park. 3:20pm 8-11yrs, 4:05pm 11-14yrs. Hayden Shearman 0274835942  
tempofit.org/tempofit-kids

### Te Reo Māori Lessons

Toni 021 661 912 thowison@hotmail.com

### Oakura - St James Church

Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, 10.00am

### 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: taranakitaichichuan@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 - St. Paul's

Sunday Service every 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, 10.00am

Mid-week Service - Pew for You, every 3rd Thursday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm  
okatocp@gmail.com

# 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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