

the Ōākura Post

SEPTEMBER 2022

local club
LEGEND

KAITAKE
COMMUNITY
BOARD

*more health
workers*
FOR TARANAKI

school **NEWS**

2022

local elections

**Vivi Hale
WINS**

**LEAD ROLE
for Bella**

PAT HOLMES

**101
years**

Photo credit: Simon Deken - Super sand bank at Ōākura enjoyed by many

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Kaitake Community Board

As I sit down to prepare for this edition of the Ōākura Post my body is struggling to recover, having been ravaged by the effects of COVID-19. The ways this virus impacts people is wide and varied - from asymptomatic, to mild flu-like, to feeling like you have been hit by a truck (that was me and my wife), to being hospitalised, and worse. If you are one of the ever reducing number of people who have managed to dodge COVID so far I would strongly recommend you mask up, sanitise and sterilise whenever you go out in public because I would not wish what we have been through on anyone. Okay, enough about me.

The things our district is famous for all around the world, besides our iconic Maunga, are our beaches, shore line, seabeds and the variety of shellfish that live and grow here.

Unfortunately the state of the current shellfish stocks in our area have come under severe pressure in recent times from very large, well organised groups of gatherers, many of whom are from out of the province. Excessive harvesting from local seabeds, especially the taking of undersized paua using unethical harvesting practices and behaviours, are basically stripping all and any shellfish from our coastal reefs.

As a result of these actions and behaviours, a six month rāhui (an embargo restricting access to or use of an area or resource by local kaitiakitanga) was put in place by Taranaki Iwi in January 2022, covering an area from the Rawa o Turi Stream in the south, to the Herekawe Stream near Paritutu in the north. The purpose of this rāhui was to protect and conserve the sustainability of existing shellfish beds and allow for regeneration into the future. This action has been supported by publicity, signage and the use of community volunteers to educate and monitor potential collectors.

In order to allow for the continued protection and restoration and sustainability of local shellfish, Te Kāhui o Taranaki Iwi has, on behalf of all hapū and the wider community, requested under Section 186a of the Fisheries Act 1996 a temporary closure of all shellfish collecting in the above area for the next two years. This request asks for both recognition of and statutory support for the rāhui imposed by hapū of Taranaki Iwi. The pressure caused by this large-scale collection of local kaimoana (seafood) is not sustainable and immediate action is required to stop

current practices. To quote Jaqui King, the Chair of Te Kāhui O Taranaki, "Ngāti Tairi had already stopped issuing permits to collect kaimoana for the likes of hui and tangihanga. This rāhui is to protect this precious resource for future generations – even if it means our current ones have to go without. That is our obligation as Kaitiaki."

Taranaki Iwi have asked for your support for this community-wide action, so if you would like to find out how you can assist, contact the Rāhui Group Administrator, Fran Davey at frandavey1@gmail.com or Mahara Okeroa at maharaokeroa@hotmail.co.nz

Another issue that is impacting on many of us across the wider district is the deterioration of our roads in particular, the number of potholes that are appearing and the poor quality and short life span of repairs that are undertaken to fix those potholes. Knowing who and how to report these matters to can be a frustrating exercise.

All State Highways are the responsibility of Waka Kotahi, the NZ Transport Agency, and all other roads in the district are the responsibility of the New Plymouth District Council. However, if the problem is identified at the intersection of a State Highway and a district road it can become a bit of a lottery as to whether NZTA or NPDC will deal with the matter.

If the problem is clearly a State Highway issue ring, Waka Kotahi on 0800 444 449 to report the fault. If it is any other road ring the NPDC Service Centre on 06 759 6060 to report it. If there is any doubt report the matter to both organisations. If you don't feel happy with the response you get from either organisation you should make contact with me or one of the other members of the Kaitake Community Board and we will be happy to follow the matter up on your behalf.

Local body election documents will start to arrive into everyone's letterboxes in the next couple of weeks. I urge each and every one of you to keep them safe, read through them to consider who you think is worthy of your vote. Fill out the voting form and post it away to have your say as to who will represent you for the next three years.

That is about it from me for this edition so stay warm and dry, keep yourselves safe.

Tangohia tiaki tātou katoa (Take care everyone)

The last meeting of the current Kaitake Community Board took place on Monday the 15th of August, so the first meeting of the new KCB will occur once the new board is sworn in.

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)

Graham Chard

for New Plymouth District Council

Vote #

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•Kaitake Community Board

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Ōākura Fire Brigade

Thank you!





This month we would like to recognise the contribution that our local 4 Square plays in supporting the fire brigade. You may have noticed the 4 Square logo on our little truck. This truck isn't supplied by FENZ and the upkeep, equipment and maintenance is borne by the brigade. A large portion of those costs is supported by the financial contributions from 4 Square and we are incredibly thankful for this, especially as the little truck plays a major support role at many incidents, plus it's the perfect Santa delivery vehicle.

We would also like to recognise you, the people of Ōākura. We recently picked up the donation box from the 4 Square and were astonished to see the generous donations that came from it. Thank you all, this money goes to help us purchase extra equipment and upgrade the old stuff, and boy do we have some old stuff. That helps us to keep you safe.






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VOTE

#1 FOR DISTRICT-WIDE COUNCILLOR

VOTE BEFORE NOON
SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER

I STAND FOR: MENTAL HEALTH | OUR ENVIRONMENT | SMALL BUSINESS

- ✓ My passion is mental health advocacy. I have spent the past few years running a podcast and supporting women with their mental health.
- ✓ Through my company, Custom Digital Marketing, I'm also involved in supporting many small businesses in our region with their digital growth.
- ✓ I would love to have your #1 vote this election; if you have any questions get in touch, or you can follow the journey on social media.

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Kaitake Golf Club News

CLUB NEWS

The weather has had a big impact on golf right now so not too much happening within the course.

You may have read in our last news article of the damage that was done by cars going onto the golf course and leaving tyre marks all over the fairways. Just recently we found pitch marks which has done much damage to the greens. The photo of the sign regarding repairs to pitch marks shows if they had been repaired within 5 minutes these marks would have been recovered within 24 hours. It is very disappointing to see that golfers are not repairing pitch marks but also looks as though a pitching wedge was used instead of a putter. We do emphasise the importance of repairing pitch marks. PLEASE RESPECT OUR COURSE.

Clay Jordan, Club President



Pictured leeft to right: Coraleen Le Breton, Christine Alexander, Angela Hitchman, Kay Stachurski, Captain Raewyn Bishop, Ngaire Grundy, Margaret Mills and Jo Wilson-West.

LADIES' NEWS

Congratulations to our 9 Hole Pennant Team. They have won the 2022 Taranaki 9 Hole Pennant competition without losing a match. The following ladies represented Kaitake over the season: Raewyn Bishop, Margaret Mills, Angela Hitchman, Kay Stachurski, Jo Wilson-West, Christine Alexander, Coraleen Le Breton and Ngaire Grundy. Well done to you all. A magnificent achievement.

The Weekend Pennant Team finished second, only one point behind New Plymouth.

Winners of Nancy McCormack competition are Annie Frame and Diane Jones. Winners of Maskelyn Trophy are Donna Sharpe and Sharon Fisher. Winner of Ladies Trophy is Andrea Jarrold. Club Champs Winners 2022 are Silver – Bronny Gower, Bronze 1 – Jacquie Koch, Bronze 2 – Karey Waterhouse.

We recently challenged Urenui for the Taplin Cup and although our challenge was unsuccessful, plans are underway for another, so they can play the course again – just because they were so impressed. The course is constantly looking and playing great and the feedback from visiting clubs has been incredibly positive.

An Ex-Members morning tea for women who once played golf at Kaitake is being planned for October. Please give names of anyone you think may be interested in attending to the office.

Our 54 Hole Tournament being played in October has already received several entries.

While Covid, the flu and other illnesses are still affecting a large number of our Kaitake people, it is impressive to see good numbers turning out week after week enjoying their golf. Good golfing everyone.

Kim Woodward, Ladies Club Captain

TARANAKI VETS GOLF

All golfers aged 50 and over may join the Taranaki Vets Golf. Call Denise at the office 06 7527 665

CHIPPERS

Chippers have started for the year every 2nd Sunday at 9.30am so if you are interested please phone the office. New players are always very welcome. Chippers ages range from 5 – 12 years. Clubs, balls and coaching are provided. Call the office for details 06 7527 665

Vivi Hale Wins National Title

The recent school holidays saw Vivi Hale, a year 8 student at Ōākura school, travel to Invercargill to compete in the NZ National Gymnastics championships. She brought a National title home to Ōākura. Vivi won the All around competition for Step 6 with the highest average over floor, bar, beam and vault.

A few questions for Vivi:

When did you start doing gymnastics?
When I was 8.

What club do you compete for?
Gymnastics Waitara.

How many hours do you train each week?
18 hours.

How do you qualify to be able to compete at Nationals?

I had to score certain scores at different competitions to be able to go.

What is your favourite apparatus?
I love all of them.

What do you love most about gymnastics?
Making friends from all over NZ and how you are never bored because there's always more to learn or do.

Vivi has the opportunity to compete internationally in January 2023.





CHARLOTTE LITTLEWOOD
TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL



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Authorised by C Littlewood, 8 Bright Way



Stolen focus

KATE EVANS - SHINE

I'm reading a very interesting book at the moment called 'Stolen Focus' by Johann Hari. It's an eye opener, that's for sure and I'm certain you can guess what it's about.

Johann has highlighted 12 ways our modern life has been shaped to literally steal our focus. He looks at sleep, technology, social media and food amongst other things. Our online life is hijacked by what he calls an awareness economy business system, where companies are literally vying for our awareness using likes, hearts, and a programming of our negative biases to capture our attention and therefore our dollars.

It seems that we are up against a machine that in some ways seems bigger than we are. I'm thankful that we have the tools through yoga to be able to take back our own focus, through mindfulness, physical yoga flows and breath work.

That's why we feel so much better after a yoga class. We have found a connection to our inner world. We can see from Johann Hari's book that the outer world is trying to pull us around in so many ways and this is why we spend so much time feeling scattered, or lost, or disconnected. We are looking to find our way back to feeling centred, connected, in control of our own awareness and to live life without the constant struggle.



At Shine we have many classes that will help you find your way back to this sense of connection and groundedness that we are all yearning for. I know it's hard to change the old ways, so I want to encourage you to join us here at Shine.

So in September we are introducing a new way of attending classes at Shine. From Sept 1st you will be able to buy an Unlimited Class Pass of either 1 month, 3 months or 6 months. This means you will be able to now come to our quality yoga, breathwork and meditation classes as many times a week as you choose.

For September only, this one month unlimited pass will be at the introductory price of \$99 for all new and existing Shine Students.

Check out our timetable below and be sure to line up a delicious month of yoga, meditation and breath work.

MONDAY

5.30pm Flow with Natasha

TUESDAY

12.15pm - Yang to Yin with Leah

WEDNESDAY

9.15am Flow with Kate

THURSDAY

12.15pm - Breathwork and Beats with Kate (45 Mins)

7pm Yang to Yin with Leah

FRIDAY

9.15am Flow with Kate

SUNDAY

9am Flow (teacher varies)





Joel Becroft, Knox Deken, Levi Fox, Luke Mottern

Alooooooha from the Ōākura Boardriders Club.



It's been a few months since our last surfession.

Let's start by swinging around late into the first wave of the set and acknowledging the incredible waves that have served our local surfers for the last few months. When the Ōākura streams and ocean currents agree to work together (and are not disturbed by the dreaded digger) we find ourselves in the presence of an extremely welcomed sandbank...which for those who don't surf it means - FUN waves at our doorstep! Awesome to see everyone ripping it up!

So after nose-diving on the first wave we have surfaced with enough breath to discuss an awesome opportunity to get involved in.

SURF AID is an organisation that has a core mission to improve the lives of women and children in remote areas of Indonesia, Solomon Islands and Baja Sur, Mexico – areas connected to us through surfing. They strive for lasting improvement in the health, wellbeing and resilience of remote communities by implementing community-led development programmes that are clear in their goals, effective in their implementation and subject to continuous monitoring and evaluation.

All we need to do to help is SURF! surf for 30 days in September to raise money.

Sign up at www.makeawave.co For every dollar raised in NZ, the Ministry of Affairs and Trade will match X4 up to \$800K, and Billabong are hosting a matching day on September the 8th. The Ōākura Boardriders would love as many people to sign up as possible and please email the club some PICS and stories of your adventures so we can include them in The Ōākura POST. Sign up NOW for the challenge!

In parting this session, we also want to tell families, individuals and kids who are keen to learn to surf or progress their skills to get in touch with Simon from 'Deken Waves'. With daylight savings very close, Term 4 is a great time to sign your grommies up for the 10 week after school surfing programme (shred squads). These sessions fill up quickly so best to reach out early. The 'Friday Froth-out' larger group sessions are a heap of fun too and a cool way to introduce kids into the swirling salty stuff. It's not too long until the club opens up again for the famous Friday night BBQs! Surfing and BBQs...we love it! Email Simon at dekenwaves@gmail.com to organise some surfing fun.

Stay close to source, cheers OBC

*Knox and Noah Hollowell
from Deken Waves*

Ōākura Library

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.

JP SERVICE 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 at the library. There are always new book arrivals and they can easily be found on the front shelves as you walk into the library.

HERE IS A SELECTION OF OUR NEWEST ARRIVALS:

Can't Look Away,
Carola Lovering

The Sweet Remnants of Summer,
Alexander McCall Smith

The Gift,
Alan Titchmarsh

What Eden Did Next,
Sheila O'Flanagan

The House of Fortune,
Jessie Burton

The Outside Boy,
Jeanine Cummins

Edith And Kim,
Charlotte Philby

Ungrateful,
Angela Chadwick

This Time Tomorrow,
Emma Straub

Air Side,
James Swallow

Happy reading!

Best regards
Clare Leven



Glen Bennett – MP for New Plymouth

More health workers for Taranaki

We're taking the next steps to boost our health workforce and ease pressure on the health system. Since taking office in 2017, we've made building our health workforce a priority. There are now thousands more doctors and nurses working for Health New Zealand than when we came into Government, 1,765 more doctors and 4,277 more nurses are now working for Health New Zealand than there were when we came into Government in 2017 in fact!

We're training more nurses than ever, and we've changed immigration rules to make New Zealand one of the easiest places in the world for health workers to come to.

However, as we face the worst flu season in living memory, we know we need to do more. I personally as one of the few not yet to get Covid or the Flu- just a light cold, feel for people in our region who have being hit so hard with sickness. Taranaki Base Hospital is under pressure as it is across the world. That's why we've announced a number of initiatives to continue to grow our health workforce. For example, we're making it easier and cheaper for international health workers to get professional qualifications recognised in New Zealand, so they can get to work sooner. We're providing up to \$10,000 to support overseas nurses with registration costs, and covering international doctors' salaries during induction courses and training internships.

We're also establishing a new one-stop recruitment service within Health New Zealand, to make it easier for overseas health workers to move here and find jobs.

We're also focused on our homegrown workforce. We're providing financial support to help New Zealand nurses who are no longer practising get reregistered and return to the profession. We're training more doctors, nurses and radiographers, and encouraging COVID-19 workers like vaccination support workers to consider moving into a health career.

Initiatives like these weren't possible under the old bureaucratic structure which had 20 different district health boards all doing their own thing. There isn't a quick fix, but together, these measures will ensure we have more health workers here in New Plymouth to look after us and our families when we need it the most.



Glen Bennett
MP for New Plymouth

Contact our friendly team:
glen.bennettmp@parliament.govt.nz
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Authorised by Glen Bennett MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



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Ōākura TENNIS CLUB



The tennis season is starting up again with the Ōākura Tennis Club AGM Thursday, 15th September 7.15pm at the Ōākura Tennis Cub on Donnelly Street. All members and potential members are welcome. I hope everyone is making the most of the sunshine in between the rain. This weather is good for growing moss on the turf! The courts have been popular in the weekends and with longer daylight hours we can look forward to after work tennis action.

For any tennis queries: 027 6732 900. To book lessons go to website: blitztennis.nz

See you on the courts.

Jackie Keenan



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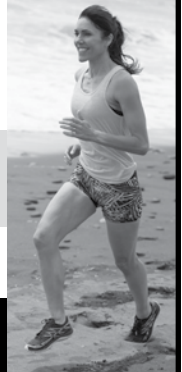
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T A R A N A K I



KAITAKE COMMUNITY SPORTS HUB



BECOME A PART OF KCSH

Join us in helping to provide for the social
and physical health of the Kaitake community.

WHAT IS THE KAITAKE COMMUNITY SPORTS HUB?

KCSH is a new incorporated society that brings together the Kaitake Rugby Club, Kaitake Football Club and Oakura Cricket Club, along with the Oakura Junior Sports Club as an associate member. The clubrooms at Corbett Park have fallen into disrepair and need significant renovation to meet standards, work that is beyond the means of any single club. The aim of KCSH is to maintain a safe, sustainable, and fit for purpose sport and community facility at Corbett Park.

WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

KCSH is not just about rugby, cricket, football, and kids sport – it's about connecting with each other, contributing to the physical, mental, and social health of individuals and the community. This is clearly evident with junior sport bringing parents and whanau to the side-lines and the wider community gathering down at Corbett Park, supporting our senior teams and building our social fabric.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

You can become a 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, select the option that suits you under the Fundraising tab.

Options are:

FOUNDATION PARTNER	
GOLD	\$10,000
SILVER	\$5,000
BRONZE	\$2,500

FOUNDATION MEMBER	
GOLD	\$1,000
SILVER	\$500
BRONZE	\$250

“KCSH, providing for the social and physical health & wellbeing of our community.”

visit **www.kcsh.co.nz**
for more information.



Image above: Middle School learner creates her own packman game.

Image top left: Middle School learners sell their creations at The Seaside Market.

a glimpse into middle school at green school

Middle School is a learning neighbourhood for Years 7-9. In bringing this specific age group together, it allows learners to make a strong, supported transition from Primary School, and sets them up for a smooth and confident transition into their Green School Diploma years which begin in Year 10.

Lead teacher, Charlie Maddox, says the Middle School years focus on developing learners' critical thinking skills – learning to question, challenge and discover answers and solutions for themselves.

"The programme is structured and delivered in a way that leverages the natural desire of this age group to become independent thinkers, to work well with friends and peers, and to discover rather than to be 'told'.

"It also has a strong focus on the social and emotional development of children. We refer to it as a time when they are 'Crossing the Bridge' from childhood into adulthood, and we want to ensure the support for that transition is very strong."

Central to the Middle School curriculum is its Koru Programme (wellness), where mindset growth, coping mechanisms, strengthening support networks and building resilience is explored. With wellbeing at the centre, learners are able to thrive when it comes to proficiency learning, outdoor education, green studies and its Voyage programme – investigative project learning that stems from the United Nations Sustainability Goals.

Whaea Charlie says Term 3 has so far been a busy one full of

experiential, hands-on learning designed to develop the knowledge and skills of each learner through purposeful and practical projects.

Hikoī (outdoor education) has been based around climbing and navigating. From learning safe belay techniques and climbing movements, to orienteering and fitness in time for the upcoming cross country. Literacy and maths have formed the basis of many hands-on learning experiences, while investigating water cycles on a local and global level and applying their findings to today's world has been the focus of Green Studies.

"Through our Voyage we have been learning the definitions of peace and conflict, how people in Aotearoa are connected to the land, about Dame Whina Cooper and the Māori land marches, the importance of Parihaka and the passive resistance movement, while also developing 'peace-building' skills in our learners.

"At Green School we certainly teach what is taught in more common curriculums, but the major difference at Green School is not what, but how we teach. Our aim is to teach subjects in a way that will positively benefit each individual learner, while also equipping them with the key knowledge they need

to succeed in this fast-paced world we live in, while being mindful of the environment and each other."

In the last year of Middle School, Year 9, learners really take action through their Quest projects. This is a self-motivated passion project, decided upon and fully implemented by the learner themselves. Each project must have an aspect of environmental or societal sustainability to it, and is presented to the Green School community via a TED-style talk in Term 4.

"It is the perfect culmination of their Middle School learning as they look to move on and succeed in the Green School Diploma programme," says Whaea Charlie.

Stay tuned to find out what the school's 2022 cohort of Year 9s have to say!



green school

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Pat Holmes 101 years remembered

Patricia (Pat) Holmes died on 19 July 2022, aged 101 years. Pat was our front cover photo in April 2021 when we were celebrating our village centenarian.

I met Pat when I took my then 17 year old son Miles to take her photo. She was living with her daughter Karen and son-in-law Rob. Pat had lived independently in her own home on McFarlane St until she was in her late 90's. She ended up at her daughters after a brief stint at a rest home which she said wasn't for her.

Pat told me she was finding it more and more difficult to do the things she had spent a lifetime enjoying. Karen backed this up by saying her mum was still knitting but with her eyesight failing she would often have to sort out a hole in a row of knitting. Pat still had a wonderful sense of humour and an interest in the world around her. She loved living with her family and they meant a lot to her.

Robyn Harvey shared her memories with me "I had the privilege to be a support worker for Pat for many years. She had a great sense of humour and I enjoyed hearing stories of years gone by. Pat was an inspiration. Even when her sight deteriorated, she was still able to produce the most amazing patterned knitwear. She was one in a million. Always remembered".

Sue Thomson, also a support worker for Pat, remembers "a kind loving lady who was an inspiration to everyone who knew her"

Pat lived a long life and she will be missed, but she will also be forever remembered.


Pat's 2021 story is on The Ōākura Post website via the archive tab.

Tracey Lusk



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“I’m happiest when I’m on stage.”



I met with Bella Roubos about a week after the New Plymouth Operatic Society production of Matilda ended. Bella had the lead role of Matilda Wormwood.

Had you ever done any theatre performances before?

No, Matilda was my first one. I’ve done school productions and I do dance competitions so I’ve had a lot of opportunities to perform on

stage. I’ve taken dance lessons since I was three and do competitions in ballet, jazz, lyrical and musical theatre. I started taking singing lessons shortly before auditioning for Matilda. I love musical theatre.

What made you try out for a big show like Matilda?

I really wanted to do something big like this. I’ve always loved the book and the movie. I love who Matilda is as a character so being able to play her in a musical where I could sing, dance and act is a dream come true.

What was it like to be in such a big show?

It was really, really, really fun. At first we had rehearsal three days a week. Then it increased a lot and went to 7-10pm every night. I had to adjust to the lateness every night of the week. We moved into the TSB Showplace three weeks before the show started for full dress rehearsals. All the kids were really nice. I made some friends for life.

There were some many lines and so many songs. How did you learn it all?

I just had to keep practising and practising. I learned a part at a time. It was really challenging! I had an accent coach because I had to speak British.

Now tell us about you, your school and family.

I was 10 years old when I was in Matilda but my birthday is soon and I’m about to turn 11. I go to Ōākura School. I live with my mum and dad, 7 year old sister Madeleine and 4 year old little brother Fynn. I have a grey kitten named “Sweet Pea”.

Have you always lived in Ōākura?

For a while we lived in New Plymouth and then moved to Ōākura where Nanny and Poppa live. We moved here on my 6th birthday.

Matilda Wormwood is described as a clever and imaginative young girl. She has a thirst for learning and is willing to break rules for the greater good. Is that anything like the real Bella Roubos?

[Nods] Yes, I quite like school, I love reading and going to the library. Matilda stands up to bullies and says “That’s not right”. She stands up for what she believes in and I do too.

Would you do another big show if the opportunity arose?

Definitely!!! I love being onstage. I’m the happiest when I’m on stage.

Elayne Kessler



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Top bloke and club legend

A very proud moment for NPOB with Vaughan Garrett receiving the New Plymouth District Citizen's Award. Congratulations Vaughan, you truly are amazing!

Eleven people were announced as recipients of a NPDC Citizen's Award at a special event hosted by New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom. The annual awards are an important tradition, recognising the contributions of the residents of our District. Each year 11 recipients are selected.

Local legends are those who work their magic to make a difference in improving the lives of those around them through selflessly offering up their time and expertise. A huge thank you from everyone for your hard work and dedication to our District.

Vaughan is the first to the beach in the morning and the last to leave. In between, he rolls up the sleeves of his Surf Life Saving shirt and gets stuck into whatever needs doing.

For nearly half a century, Vaughan has been a jack-of-all trades on the surf life-saving scene. He joined New Plymouth Old Boys Swimming and Surf Club in 1973, where he has held a raft of positions. He also competed and served as a surf official at the district, national and international level, and won a slew of awards, including the prestigious Surf Rescue of the Year and Surf Lifeguard of the Year.

But it's the way Vaughan gets things done, can solve any problem, fix anything broken and sort everything out that makes him respected and appreciated by those around him. He's known for being down at the beach setting up before his competitors arrive, helping with technical organisation between his races and then later, when everyone else is winding down at the clubhouse, still being down at the beach packing up.

Here are a few comments about Vaughan, solidifying the high regard in which Vaughan is held:

- Great to see Vaughan Garrett getting recognised tonight for his outstanding service to NPOB, New Zealand Surf Lifesaving and the broader community. Well deserved mate, as a club we are very lucky to have you around and very proud to have you as one of our own.
- Vaughan you have been invaluable for the 25 years my family has been involved in NPOB surf lifesaving club. We truly appreciate all you do. Thank you.
- Another accolade for someone truly deserving of accolades. Bloody awesome Vaughan - well deserved.
- Absolute bloody legend and thoroughly well deserved. A one of a kind and a true gentleman. NPOB, Taranaki and NZ Surf



Lifesaving are incredibly lucky to have you onboard with us. Congratulations Vaughan.

- Congratulations Vaughan thanks for leading the charge in our many trips back in the day. You're still rocking it. If every club had someone dedicated like you there would be many championship clubs. PS I would not have achieved everything I did without your dedication.
- Well done Vaughan, you deserve this award 10 times over.
- Well deserved Vaughan you're a top bloke and club legend.



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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 10th and 17th of September 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, 10th Sept. If you require further information, please contact Steve Muller on 0211695863.

PLAYING BOWLS

It's a common notion 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 programme of both club and centre tournaments is provided at the start of the season and together with the captain and/or selectors you can choose a bowling programme that best suits your availability and lifestyle.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER

The Ōākura Bowling Club is offering all first-time bowlers a package deal of \$50 membership fees for the initial year, a club polo shirt, use of new club bowls and free coaching sessions.

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 programme. A special mention to Rod Smith for his work in organising and supervising the ditch upgrade.

THE BOWLERS' OWN LANGUAGE

How to correctly translate!

"Good weight!" = *lousy line*

"Good line" = *lousy weight*

"Good back bowl" = *you were lucky you didn't put it in the ditch*

"That's in their way" = *that's in my way*

"That could be useful up there" = *that bowl is closer to you than it is to the jack*

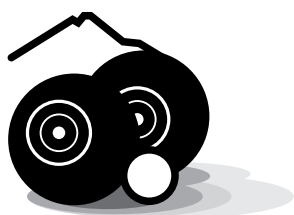
"Get it next time" = *you sure didn't get it this time*

"He's surprisingly good" = *you're surprised he ever makes a shot*

"I'd bowl with him any day" = *he always buys the first round*

The Underarm Bowler

**Every day is a
great day at
the bowls club.**



OPENING DAY: SUNDAY 10TH SEPT 1PM

CLUB DAY: SUNDAY 17TH 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)

021 1695 863

**OAKURA
Bowling Club & Social Club**

Indoor Bowls

As mentioned last month we continue our club championships with the singles being played over three weeks. Section play consisted of a full round robin with everyone playing each other, with the resulting top four players going through to the semi-finals. Marvin Clough went through unbeaten, with Merv Hooker, Greg Jans and Rod Smith rounding out the top four. In one semi-final Marvin was too good for Rod, winning 12 shots to 11 played over 12 ends, while Greg beat Merv 13 - 8. In the final, Marvin and Greg traded early shots to be even after six ends. Greg scored on a couple of ends to pull ahead 9-8 heading into the final end. Marvin played three lovely draw bowls surrounding the kitty, leaving Greg a small chance with his last bowl to break the head open. Greg's final bowl was a cracker, springing the kitty free and claiming one shot to win the final.

Over the coming weeks we have social visits to the New Plymouth Club Incorporated and to Frankleigh Star which are always fun nights before the Central Division champ of championships start. We wish all our club champions the best of luck in these games.

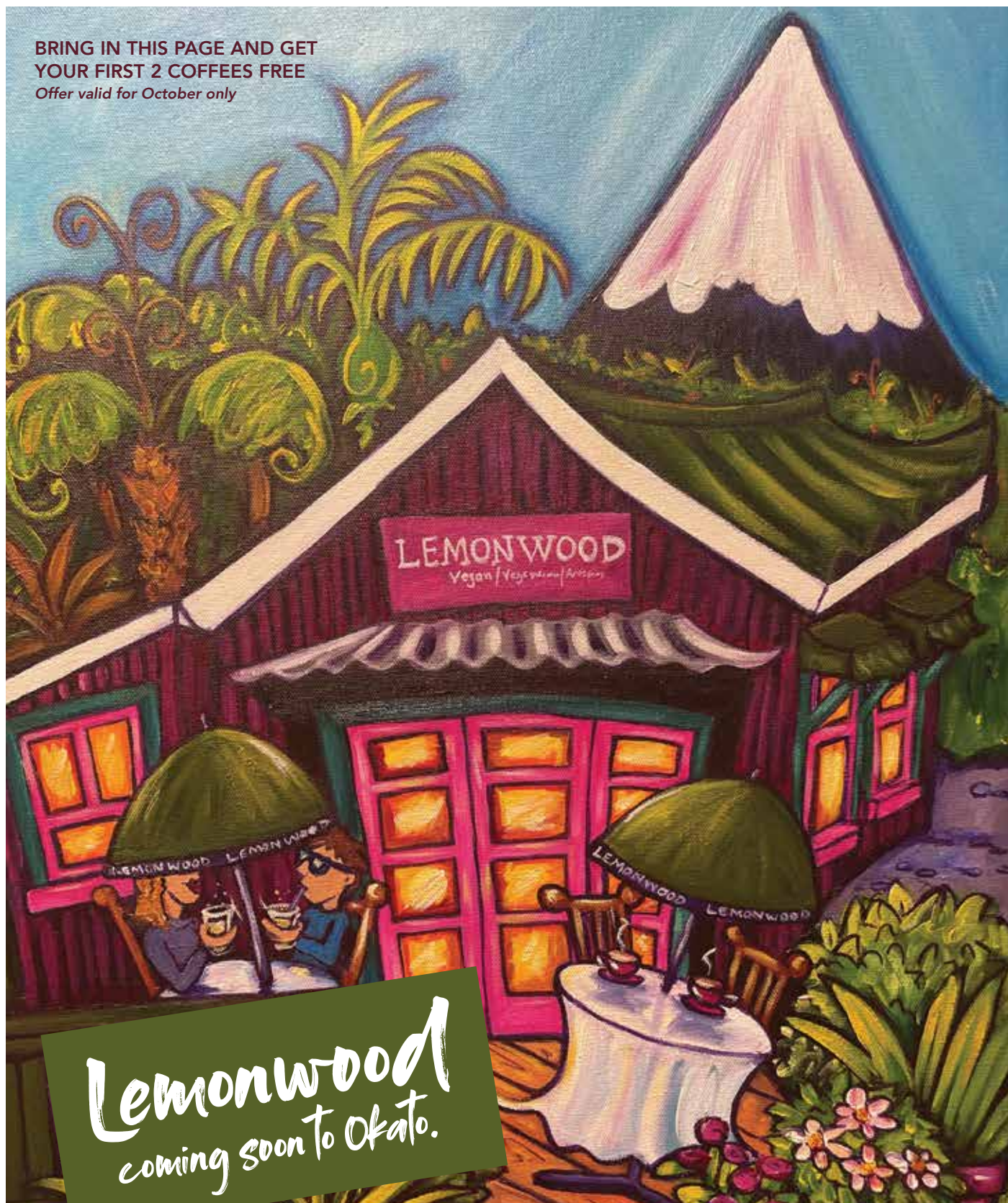
The President



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Ōākura - New Plymouth

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Lemonwood
coming soon to Okato.

Beside the roundabout in Okato - Open Thursday through to Sunday from 9am

Barbara Olsen-Henderson has once again hit the spot with her trademark colourful, rustic, bohemian vibe. Outside, the decks offer both sunny places to enjoy the day as well as some protection on windy days. The food cabinet displays an array of delicious-looking cakes and slices as well as a selection of colourful salads and

savoury dishes. The simple wine list features a selection of zero % wines and beers plus several tried and true kiwi favourites. Keen to turn Okato and the Coast into a foody destination the team go out of their way to ensure that every guest gets what they want and totally enjoys the Lemonwood experience.



Ōmata Games a highlight for all

As we have been on the edge of our seats watching the Commonwealth Games, Ōmata School decided to host their own games and on Friday 5th August they held the Ōmata games. Year 8 students led the country groups of students and the year 7 students got the chance to lead the activities. The activities were adapted from actual sports in the Commonwealth Games to suit the students, ensuring everyone was able to participate, be competitive and enjoy themselves. One of

the challenges faced by the event organisers was making sure that their game was fun and engaging for all ages and making sure that everyone was involved. Some of the games included were cones up, cones down, basketball shooting and throwing hacky sacks at a target. We spoke to some of the athletes about their experience. Here is what they had to say. Evie (6 years old) said that her favourite games were cones up, cones down and Knock out, whilst David and Baxter (5 years old) told

us about the obstacle course and seaweed. Bobbie (5 years old) liked all of the games. It was great to see the entire school out enjoying themselves and celebrating our involvement in sport.

Lilla Thomas and Blake Thomson
(Year 7 students)

Our candidates for 2022 local elections

These are the candidates Ōākura residents can vote for in the New Plymouth District Council and Taranaki Regional Council elections.

Go to npdc.govt.nz/vote22 for full candidate list and how to vote in this year's election. Voting documents delivered 16 – 21 September and voting closes at noon Saturday, 8 October.

NPDC CANDIDATES

Mayoral

Sam Bennett, Murray Chong, Shaun Clare, Peter Hardgrave, Neil Holdom, Greg MacKay, Muzz McDowell, Dinnie Moeahu.

New Plymouth Councillors at Large (5 positions)

Rod Ardern, Sam Bennett, Max Brough, Jenna Brown, Shaun Clare, Amanda Clinton-Gohdes, Harry Duynhoven, Dayna Jury, Joanne Kuvarji, Greg MacKay, Jonathan Marshall, Caro McKee, Dinnie Moeahu, Murray Seamark, Hepa Te Moana, Dan Thurston Crow, Udo Vink, Tane Webster, Tayla Willets.

Kaitake-Ngāmotu General Ward (6 positions)

Chris Avery, Gordon Brown, David Bublitz, Anneka Joyce Carlson, Graham Chard, Murray Chong, Bali Haque, Kevyn Harris, Monica Hylton, Dave Kurth, Chris Lee, Craig Neilsen, Michael O'Sullivan, David Ross Payne, Ivan Pihama, Sewak Singh, Bryan Vickery.

Kaitake Community Board (4 positions)

Graham Chard, Teresa Goodin, Renee Hohaia, Elayne Kessler, Dave Kurth, Paul Lobb.

TRC CANDIDATES

New Plymouth (5 positions)

Tom Cloke, Lyall James Field, Susan Hughes, Allen Juffermans, Rusty Kane, David Lloyd Lean, Charlotte Littlewood, Darrel Nicholas, Elvira Van Der Leden, Chris Wilkes, Craig Williamson

Voting packs will be delivered from Friday, 16 September and voting closes at noon on Saturday, 8 October.

NEED HELP ACCESSING ONLINE INFORMATION?

The Ōākura Library has computers for residents to use. This is a free service. The librarians can offer any assistance you need.

Library hours

Monday 11:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesday 9:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday 11:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday 9:00am – 1:00pm
Friday 11:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday Closed
Closed on public holidays.

MORNING TEA - MORNING TALK

Come along to the NPOB Surf Club for a chat. Every Thursday from 10am - 11am.

Any enquiries can be made through Tracey 752 7875.



Oākura School



Students learning about different plants at Rotokare Scenic Reserve

Te Ara Taiao o Kaitake

On Wednesday in the first week of term one, the Te Ara Taiao Student Leadership Group went to Rotokare Reserve to go on a night tour and learn more about the conservation work that has been done there. Rotokare Scenic Reserve is a predator free, 2 ½ acre reserve.

When Te Ara Taiao groups from Oākura, Ōmata and Coastal Taranaki Schools arrived in Rotokare they all went on a walk around the lake in the middle of Rotokare. During their walk they observed Saddleback/Tieke, North Island Robin/Totouwai and learnt about native edible plants. The students tried bush asparagus, supplejack, and hen and chicken ferns. On the way into the bush, a Morepork/Ruru that was roosting above them flew away. This was in broad daylight and so it was a rare, amazing experience! They also saw several Hihi/Stitchbirds when they went to the bird's feeding station and there was no sugar water left so the Hihi were hanging around waiting for more.

After they came in from the walk, they had morning tea and then went into a small hut to have a kōrero from Ash and Sophie who



Students learning about Mātauranga Māori from Tāne Houston - Ngati Tupaea

are educators at Rotokare. They talked about the pros and cons of conservation and the 12 predators they eradicated from Rotokare before it became a safe, healthy reserve. The Te Ara Taiao group were then taught about all the different species living inside the predator free gates.

The next speaker after lunch was Tāne Houston, Ngati Tupaea, who spoke to Te Ara Taiao students about the cultural significance of Rotokare. When Tāne found out they had seen a Ruru he said it was a sign from their ancestors that Te Ara Taiao has knowledge for, and to help the future, as in his hapū, the Ruru represents wisdom.

When the Te Ara Taiao students were getting ready to go on the night tour, another Ruru flew down in front of them with some sort of bird in its beak. When they came back later the manu/birds were both gone but all that was left of the other bird (not the Ruru) was feathers, the top half of the beak and some blood. The Ruru had eaten it! When the group went on the actual night walk they saw Pāteke/Brown Teal in a puddle, heard both male and female kiwi call, saw some Koura/Freshwater Crayfish, and found lots of native geckos in flax bushes. They also saw a velvet worm. It was the first one seen in that area of Rotokare so it had to be logged onto a GPS.

The Oākura Te Ara Taiao Student Leadership group got back to Oākura School at 10:00 at night! It was such a fantastic day and opportunity to experience the beauty and taonga/treasure of Rotokare Scenic Reserve and all the species that live there.

Hannah Stanley (age 12)

What's happening in Term 3?

As August arrives with a new term, it also brings a range of up-coming events for the students of Oākura School. From sports tournaments to acting and drama, this term holds many exciting opportunities for all age groups around our school.

The following list includes some of the main events that are taking place this term:

Year 3 - 8 Cross Country

The track for this year's cross country will be at Oākura School like in recent years. Students are practicing and preparing for the cross country on Thursday 1st September. The Coastal Schools' cross country events will be held in week 8 of this term at Ōmata School, and we hope the Taranaki Cross Country event goes ahead in week 10 of this term.

Year 7 and 8 AIMS Games

In week 7 a variety of teams containing some of the year 7 and 8 pupils will travel to Tauranga and compete in the AIMS Games. This is the



A Totuwai - North Island Robin

first year the AIMS Games have taken place since 2019. Teams that have entered this year are futsal, rippa rugby, football, basketball and netball. There are also students entered in the gymnastics and mountain biking events. The students who are attending Aims games this year look forward to competing against other schools and students from around Aotearoa.

Oākura Idol

Multiple groups have entered Oākura Idol this term so there will be lots of unique acts such as singing, dancing, comedy skits and plays occurring during lunch breaks. Oākura Idol has been run by our Head Pupils for more than six years.

Year 7 and 8 Interschool Sports Tournament

Like the year 5 and 6 interschool that took place last term, this term the year 7 and 8s are participating in this event too. There will be a netball team, football team and rugby team competing in Hawera on Wednesday 31 August.

Speeches

Year 7 & 8 students will start writing their speeches in term 3. Students then present their speeches early in Term 4. We always send our winning speech writer to the Toastmaster Speech Competition.

NIPS - North Island Ski Championships

This year we have two teams entered to ski at the North Island Ski Championships at Whakapapa Skifield. There is a year 3 - 6 team and a year 7 & 8 team. We hope there is a lot of snow for them.

Yr 1/2 Scooter Skills

Our junior students always love this learning. It helps to build their skill, confidence and safety knowledge when scootering. This is happening in week 5 of this term.

Te Wiki o te reo Māori

The whole school celebrates Te Wiki o te reo Māori. We always do plenty of extra te reo and have lots of fun playing games, doing scavenger hunts, doing art and craft activities, quizzes and having teachers from different classes read pukapuka (books) to us in te reo Māori.

Miri Sandbrook (age 12)

TOP Activities

Ōākura

Ōākura Hall Bookings

Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Art Play Group

Messy play & process art for 1-5 y/o.
Thursday 10-11am. Ōākura Hall.
Booking essential. Facebook + Instagram:
Imagine Play Inspire. Franzi 027 837 0498

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

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Jim Hoskin 752 7337

Justice of the Peace. Lynn Murray.

Ōākura Library Thursdays 10am-12.30pm.

Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust

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

Morning Talk - coffee group

Thursdays 10-11am at NPOB Surf Club.
Free tea/coffee. Tracey Lusk 752 7875

'Move it or Lose it' Strength and Balance

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

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
traceymackyle@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: 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 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

TOP Information

The Ōākura Post

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