

the Ōākura Post

AUGUST 2023

Kohen
WINS FIRST
PLACE

BUTLER'S REEF
Under new ownership

Ōākura
Mini Groovers

**School
NEWS**

Quiz night
FUNDRAISER

Photo credit: Jane Egan



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Kaitake Community Board

Community consultation is one of the obligations of Councils, required by the Local Government Act 2002. The prime purpose of this consultation is to enable the effective participation of individuals and communities in the decision-making of councils, to in turn enable elected representatives to make better-informed decisions on behalf of those they represent.

The principles guiding consultation processes set out in the Local Government Act 2002 are designed to ensure individuals and their communities have information about decisions, to have the opportunity to engage with their councils, and to make their views known.

There are six guiding principles set out in the Act:

- Councils must provide anyone who will be, or may be affected by the decision, or anyone who has an interest in the decision, with reasonable access to relevant information.
- These people should be encouraged to express their views to councils.
- Those who are invited to present their views to council should be given clear information about the purpose of the consultation, and the scope of the decisions being made.
- People who wish to present their views must be given reasonable opportunity to present them.
- Councils should receive these views with an open mind and give them due consideration when making a decision.
- Councils should provide people presenting their views with information relevant to decisions, and the reasons for them.

There have been a number of areas where consultation has been undertaken in recent months, such as Community Board Plans, the Safer Speeds Review, and the District Wide Emissions Reduction Plan; and over the next few months there are a number of other significant pieces of work that will be going out to public consultation that have the potential to significantly impact on all of us.

These include:

1. The Regional Speed Management Plan, which will manage speeds on roads to improve neighbourhood amenity (the natural or physical qualities and characteristics that contribute to pleasantness, aesthetic coherence, and cultural and recreational benefits), to improve the safety of all road users, and to maintain the efficiency of use and economic productivity for commercial road users.
2. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, which will be the guiding document for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the district to deliver a low-emissions, low waste society built upon a circular economy (a system where resources and materials are used and reused for as long as

possible, as opposed to the traditional “extract-manufacture-consume-dispose” methodology). This plan is based on a national strategy, with priorities that the community has previously identified as important and based on a Te Ao Māori world view. It will outline where we are now with waste, and it will have a focus on enabling communities to better use existing services to reduce waste, and capture more material for reuse and recycling by focussing efforts on changing behaviours that embrace the circular approach. It will also ensure services and education are equally accessible to everyone - including rural, minority and lower socio-economic communities - and that waste services in the region enable resilience, reduce emissions and enhance the natural environment.

3. Long Term Plan 2024-34, the plan that sets out priorities for the next 10 years or more, and includes what Council is planning to do, how much those proposals will cost, and how they will be funded. Consultation on this plan will build upon the recent Gimme Five, Draft 10 Year Plan engagement survey, which asked for comment on five of the “big” issues that will be included in the Long Term Plan.

If there are areas of Council plans or policies that you have strong feelings about, we would encourage you to take up the opportunity, when it presents itself, to have your say and for you to encourage others in your community to do the same. That way you can be assured that elected Councillors are fully aware of where their community stands on particular issues, and can then make fully informed decisions on your behalf.

It will be a busy few months to be sure, but it is imperative that the ‘right’ decisions are arrived at in order for Council to provide our district with the sound and resilient foundation we deserve, moving into the future.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at the Ōākura Bowling Club on Monday, 21 August, at 5pm


Ka kite ano, tiaki i te katoa (take care everyone).

Graham Chard - Kaitake Community Board Chair
027 2204 549 - thechardz@gmail.com

On behalf of Teresa Goodin, Renee Hohaia, Paul Lobb and Anneka Carlson.

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Butler's Reef under new ownership

In June Butlers Reef had a change of ownership. New owners Will and Myken Rowland are a passionate duo in the hospitality industry.

Will's hospitality journey started in high school, then accumulated over a decade of experience. After working with several successful start-ups and tech/software companies, Will was eager to return to his true passion and the chance to work alongside his wife, Myken (who is working as a high school teacher as well).

Born and bred in Taranaki and with a young family (two year old twins and another little one on the way), their goal is to create a family-friendly, community focused environment beloved by locals and also attractive to visitors. With their expertise and dedication, William and Myken Rowland aim to continue the legacy and deliver unforgettable experiences.

We look forward to catching up with them again and learn more about their new venture.

First place for Kohen Hareb-Hine

Kohen Hareb-Hine won the solo/duo section at the Taranaki regional finals of this year's Smokefreerockquest competition with his piece 'Jelly'. All songs performed had to be originals.

Smokefreerockquest is a programme for school students which is now in its thirty-sixth year and is held at venues nationwide in 21 regions from Whangarei to Invercargill, hosting thousands of young musicians every year. Its founder, Pete Rainey, thinks participating in the arts can have a big, positive impact on young people. "The arts in education play a huge role in helping our young people to face the future with a set of skills that give them flexibility, creativity, ability to cooperate and work in groups. Skills they can apply in life wherever it takes them."

I asked Kohen for a bit about himself - age, schooling, how long he has lived in Ōākura and his interests.

I'm 14 and a year 10 student at New Plymouth Boys High School. I have lived in Ōākura my entire life, and like surfing with my mates most days after school.

What was your introduction to guitar and songwriting

I started learning guitar at the beginning of 2020, when I took lessons at Ōākura school

on a Monday morning with Sam Johnson. Sam was very influential for me in that he helped me start to develop my basic guitar skills and some of the structures of songwriting. When we were in lockdown, I got into it more to keep me busy and began writing more. From then I have gotten super into my songwriting and it has been a hobby ever since.

Tell me about being a part of Smokefree Rockquest and being announced a winner!

This year I decided that I would enter into the regional Smokefree Rockquest heats, as I thought it would be a good learning experience for me. On the night of the show, I knew I had a good song to perform but I didn't really have any expectations. Obviously I was pretty nervous, as I was up against the best of the best secondary school artists from around the region. I was last to perform in the mixed solo/duo section, which meant that I had to watch all the other acts before having to go up and do mine, and they were all amazing!

Overall, I was pretty happy with my performance, it went pretty well and I was just glad I had got through it. When it was time for the results I didn't really know what was going to happen. I heard that a girl from Girls High came second which was cool, then I heard New Plymouth Boys High School first place,

followed by my name. I was honestly shocked to find that I had won the competition over some super talented artists throughout the region. I didn't really know what to think at the time, I was just super stoked at the end result. Both of my music teachers (Evan Davies and Viv Treweek) and my dad were there supporting me, and they got to share the special moment with me.

From here, I have to submit three music videos, all of which have to be original songs. These will be sent to the judges to decide the top 10, and who will be going away to the Smokefree Rockquest Final on the 16th of September.

What are your musical aspirations for the future

I am pretty stoked to have won regional finals and to have come this far already. I can't wait to see where this road may take me...

Jelly is yet to be recorded but you can find Kohen's other music on Spotify.

by Tracey Lusk

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Kaitake Golf Club

LADIES CLUB NEWS

Kaitake hosted Section 2 of the Ladies Midweek Pennants on 17th May. Our Mid Week Pennant team played in Section 2 and finished 4th equal for the season.

The Weekend Ladies Pennant Team finished in the middle of the field this year, but did have some close matches.

The Ladies 9 Hole Division put up two pennant teams this year and the Blue team finished in second place. A Totara tree was received and has been planted on the 8th.

It's been great to see some of our new players having a turn at playing in the pennant teams.

Recently, in our Two Ball Best Ball Open Tournament, Debra Johnson teamed up with Sharon Adamson from Pungarehu and took out the gross prize while Nicola Avery and Karen Avison won first net. Two of our new ladies, Jo Sheather and Melissa Waite, teamed up to play and came away with the 2nd Net prize, while Diane Jones and Janice Farrant got 3rd Net. Well done to you girls.

Our pink flags were put out on the course for a couple of weeks in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness. On June 1st Kim Woodward hosted a Pink Ribbon luncheon at the Club. This was a great success with 36 ladies attending and \$524 raised which was paid to the Breast Cancer Foundation.

Our main competition for June was the Club Champs. The finals were held in cold conditions and the results were:

Silver: Annie Frame beat Debra Johnston

Bronze 1: Kim Woodward beat Diane Jones

Bronze 2: Mary Pettigrew beat Lina Tung

Congratulations to these ladies who will now go on to play in the Taranaki Champion of Champions in October.

Janice Farrant
Ladies Club Captain

GREEN FEES:

Non-member \$25.00 per round. Nine hole \$15.00. Cart cost 18 holes \$30.00 and Nine holes \$20.00 - bookings essential.

CHIPPERS

Dominic has run a couple of fun Ambrose days where the parents have joined in. Chippers had a break over the school holidays and resumes now that school is back.

Chippers is for 5-12 year olds and is every second Sunday at 9.30am. Phone the office (06 752 7665) to be added to the group chat for the next chippers meeting.



Janet Dingle (Nanny Janny) - 12 October 1948 - 23 June 2023

Ōākura local, Janet Dingle sadly passed away after a short fight against cancer. Recently retired from a long stint employed at Todd Energy she will be dearly missed by her family and son Glen Johns (Johnsie), daughter in-law Victoria and grand daughter Stella and so many others in the village.

Janet was a real pocket rocket and took great pleasure walking at pace on the beach and around the village. She'd always stop for a chat and would love to hear what you and your family were up to. She was passionate about her golf, the joy she got from competition and being with her close group of beautiful friends. Janet was also a great cards player and loved nothing more than a game with her much adored granddaughter Stella.

Janet's first connection to Ōākura was through her parents Pat and Bernie Dick who lived in Ōākura for many years. After selling the family home on Upper Wairau Road they moved to the corner of Messenger Tce and McFarlane St.

Janet and her son Johnsie settled on Pitcairn St where they lived for many years. After a stint overseas with her husband Bruce Dingle (deceased) she brought her current home on Pitcairn St, across the road from her sister Carol and brother in-law Lionel (Fastpost) Megaw - who were the local posties.

Janet's home was situated in a perfect position for another of her favourite pastimes - an afternoon wine with friends and watching the sun go down. The Friday she passed away she put on a real show for us with the most striking sunset.

Janet's funeral was held at Kaitake Golf Club and attended by a crowd of over two hundred - she was a popular lady! It was incredibly sad, but awesome to reflect on Janet's life, hear the stories and share the many laughs.

Cheers to Janet.



Indoor Bowls

In July we continued our Club Championships playing the Pairs over three nights. The Pairs is always evenly contested. With only two players per team and three bowls per player, there is plenty of scope for players to make a mark on the game.

The qualifying round was played over seven games, each 12 ends with a 45 minute time limit, with the top four teams moving through to the semi-finals. Peter Anderson with Paul Bishop qualified first with six out of seven wins, playing the fourth ranked team of Jim Priest and Zena Smith. Peter and Jim were even through six ends, with both leads playing beautiful bowls. Then Jim had a couple of unlucky shots, killing the kitty on two occasions, and eventually going down 13-11.

The other semi-final was played between Greg Jans with Marion Gray and Rod Smith with Val Bridgeman. Again, a close game with the score being 8 all after seven ends. Greg managed to pull ahead and won 11-8.

In the final with Greg/Marion vs Peter/Paul it was great to see two first year bowlers (Marion and Paul) contesting for this title. Peter got out to an early lead, scoring on the first three ends, then dropped a three which allowed Greg to keep in touch. After six ends Peter was leading 7-4, and continued in front after nine ends 9-6. Both Peter and Paul were playing consistently good bowls, and ended up winning 13-6. Great to see a first year bowler winning a championship.

Next month our Championship singles.

The President

Quiz night for Cathy's Care Centre

Grab a group of six friends and come along. Local gal Jo Sheather will be putting the quiz together and testing your local knowledge, so a team with some local insight will serve you well.

This event will be hosted by the wonderful Festoon, and they have prepared a special menu with delightful cocktails and beverages for those who wish to enjoy a meal before the quiz.

Cathy's Care Centre at The Taranaki Retreat is a remarkable project that originated in 2018. It has been a tremendous collective effort, with numerous individuals lending their hands and hearts to bring the construction to fruition. Finally, in May of this year, the grand opening of the centre took place. However, there is still work to be done to transform it into a welcoming support room, as well as a reception and administration area for The Retreat. Cathy, a beloved member of the Ōākura community, was known for her grace and kindness. Let's come together as a community to honour her legacy and contribute to this wonderful cause.

Ōākura TENNIS CLUB



Tennis season has quieted down and hopefully the slopes are open for some ski time!

There has been great tennis action to watch with Wimbledon providing inspiration to those still having a social hit when it's not raining. Ladies 8s competition is happening once a month over winter and is a very social, fun morning of doubles tennis with some shared kai and laughs. This is a good opportunity for game time for those wanting to practice their coaching lessons in a real game, and to meet tennis players from other clubs. Contact Roseanne 027 3251 196.

Look out for our Love Tennis Open Day coming up on 10th September 10am - 4pm with lots of giveaways, prizes, music and the bbq in action. Everyone is welcome, racquets will be provided and there will be fun games and activities for the whole family,

Monika is busy with lessons for adults and juniors over winter. Check out her Blitz Tennis website or contact her directly at 027 555 1201.

Our tennis AGM is coming up on Monday 14 August 7.30pm at Butlers. Members and any others interested in helping support tennis in our community are encouraged to come along.

Happy hitting - Jackie Keenan



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Fe Scott - The Mini Groovers

A great place to meet other mums (and dads)

Mini Groovers has been going in Ōākura for 24 years, run completely by volunteers. The schedule, prices and enrolment forms can be found on the facebook page, Mini Groover - Ōākura. Children of all ages naturally engage in music and dance and Mini Groovers is geared to the very young, children 0-5 years.

A Mini Groover session leader guides the children through their developmental levels and stages, and supports learning about rhythm, how to move and control their bodies, their spatial awareness and attention span.

Fe Scott has been a part of Mini Groovers for 20 years. She grew up in New Plymouth and lived in Ōākura as a young adult. In 2001 she moved to Queenstown where her first child was born. She was homesick for family and home in New Plymouth where her Mum and Dad were living so she decided to settle back in Ōākura. "Even though I had lived here previously, I felt like I didn't know anyone and especially not other new mums."

Mini Groovers had already been started in Ōākura by a couple of local young mums who wanted a music and dance class for their preschool children. "Someone told me about it and I went along on a Tuesday morning at 10.00am and it turned out to be a great way to meet local new mums."

"I slotted right in and six months later I was on the roster, leading a class every 3-4 weeks. In those days we used CD players and words written on large sheets of paper that we hung on the wall. Someone would have to manually flip the pages. As you can guess technology has changed the way things are done now."

Fe earned a degree in Early Childhood Education at WITT through Canterbury University. She had previously been a Plunket President for two years and a Playcentre Coordinator, all of which led her to open her own child care business. She took those children to Mini Groovers.

One of the parents asked if she would step in as leader for all the Mini Groovers sessions. She then set up a committee with a treasurer and a secretary and two others to help with the day-to-day running of things— selecting the songs, setting up for the session, packing up and cleaning.

"Songs are now from Spotify and a list of songs can be played for a whole term. The playlist is posted on our facebook page, so children can

be encouraged to learn and practise the songs at home. The benefit of songs heard regularly means the children learn them and learn the accompanying actions. They are then able to do them at home and to teach their siblings."

"Te reo Maori is incorporated in the sessions. We greet in te reo, sing waiatas, and read books in te reo together."

Twenty years on from when Fe went to Mini Groovers for the first time, the group still meets on Tuesday mornings at 10.00am. It's even returned to its original location at the Ōākura Hall. Old families are encouraged to exchange numbers with new families. What happens in Mini Groovers stays in Mini Groovers, making it feel like a safe place for mums (and a few dads). "A sense of belonging in the community is something we offer people with Mini Groovers."

"After being with Mini Groovers for 20 years, I retired at the end of last term. I miss it, I miss the children. I love children and I love to see the smiles on their faces. I'm just a big kid at heart." [Guess what, the children and parents also miss you!!!]

"I retired because my youngest son has moved to Melbourne and I feel complete with children. I've given my all, my love, my care, my heart. It's time for me and my husband now. We want to do some travelling."

Fe continues to be a visible part of the our community, working in the local cafe, Festoon. See her there unless she's off on a trip with husband, Craig.

Yifat Yanai Carmi and Louise Bain, two local mums, have taken over the Mini Groovers sessions. For more information about Mini Groovers, visit its facebook page: Mini Groovers - Ōākura.

by Elayne Kessler

Glen Bennett – Candidate for New Plymouth

More nurses and better healthcare

A top priority for me is ensuring that everyone in New Plymouth has access to world-class healthcare. Under Chris Hipkins leadership, our Government is working hard to build up the country's health system and we've just announced the next steps in our plan.

Since taking office in 2017, we've increased the per capita investment in our health system by 66%. A big part of that extra investment has been increasing the pay of the health workforce to make sure it's fair and competitive so that places like New Plymouth have the frontline workers, including nurses, that we need.

When you add together the proposed pay equity increases and collective bargaining increases since we took office, a new graduate nurse's starting salary has gone up by 40.7% and the salary for a registered nurse at the top of their scale has risen by 49.2%. I'm incredibly proud of this record, but our work is not finished.

We have recently announced further action to grow New Zealand's nursing workforce by adding 830 additional clinical placements for nursing students. We're making it possible for 130 students to start

their nursing studies in the second half of this year and a further 700 will be able to do so next year, increasing the number of nurses we train each year by around 10%. This builds on the steps that we've already taken to recruit and retain more nurses such as changes to our immigration settings.

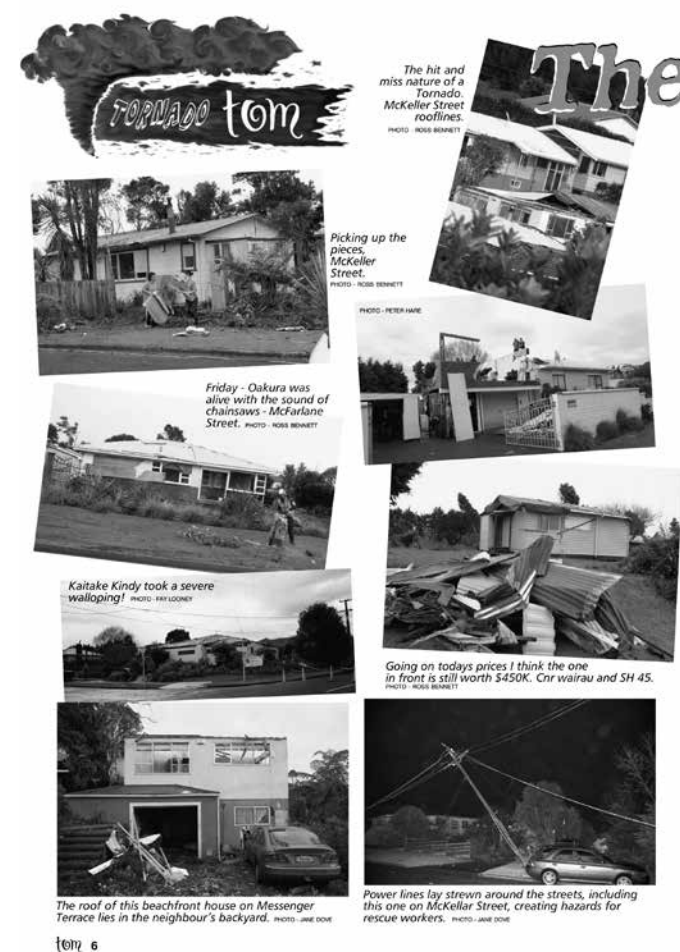
We've also made major investments to reduce waitlists and standardise access to healthcare, and we announced our plan to give approximately 3,500 more Kiwis access to cataract surgery. For decades the old health system used a point system that had wildly differing thresholds for access to cataract surgery. That variation meant that people received different care depending on where in the country they lived.

Now thanks to the reforms, there will be a nationally consistent threshold to access surgery, opening up eligibility for thousands more surgeries. This is a first in what we can expect to see across elective surgeries from now on – a joined-up health system working towards timely and consistent access to healthcare.

Authorised by Rob Salmond, 187 Featherston St, Wellington.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Oakura News Night of tornadoes - August 2007



Kia Ora Koutou,

As we hit the middle of winter it's a timely reminder that the roads are going to be icy and wet, particularly early morning, so please take care on the road, do adjust your driving to suit the conditions.

Our sole purpose is to make our roads safer. Further to this, cellphone use whilst driving is 'out of control' on the roads and Ōākura village is no exception. Police are cracking down on the problem and we are not giving any warnings moving forward. Our sole purpose to make our roads safer. You would be surprised with how many single car crashes we attend where the car has simply gone off the road. Distraction is the likely cause!

As everyone will have noticed there is a large amount of construction going on within the village. Unfortunately, building sites can be the target of thieves. In the last six months we have had 2-3 building sites become victims of equipment being stolen, and recently a large burglary occurred where \$6000 worth of tools were taken.

Just another reminder that if you see any suspicious behaviour then please contact me or police in general.

With that in mind, I note more and more CCTV cameras being put up around the village. If you have cameras covering the front of your property/road/footpath and you wouldn't mind me accessing footage if I ever needed to, could you please email me on matthew.stone@police.govt.nz

To finish, it was great to see the Kaitake men's rugby team win the Taranaki Division 3 competition recently, and also the Kaitake Under 12 Team winning their respective Taranaki tournament. Some great results.

Until next time.

Matt

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The Crafty Fox Co-op

Find the Perfect Gift for Someone — or for Yourself!

It's been over two months since the Crafty Fox Co-op opened its shop in the Village Mews. While set back from the street and slightly obscured by lush foliage it is easily accessible for shoppers. When the weather permits - which is more often than not - racks of clothing are displayed on the outside paving, another clue that the shop is open. Since the first weeks of trading many more products have been added to the range, from local and nationwide makers to NZ inspired gift lines.

Going back to earlier this year when the Crafty Fox had to leave its old church location of 21 years, Tony Barnes thought he would close it for good. At the same time Louise Murray, a local designer and craft person wanted to start up a co-op to show her work and that of other creative people. When she heard that Tony was going to close she approached him and suggested they set up a new Crafty Fox Co-op combining his stock with her own work and adding terrific items made by other talented New Zealanders. Tony was delighted with Louise's idea of keeping the Crafty Fox going as part of a co-op.

"People used to say the Crafty Fox was a service to the community, involving lots of local people who made things and/or were customers," says Tony. "It's still a community driven business." People will be pleased to find the old favourite items they enjoyed in the past along with a whole range of new items that Louise has brought in.

I poked around the new shop on a recent Friday morning. A steady stream of other visitors came and went, some browsing and some making purchases and taking up the offer of free gift wrapping. As a long time Crafty Fox customer myself, I liked seeing the familiar Apicare manuka honey lotions made of natural NZ ingredients, possum scarves, gloves and hats, the same line of greenstone jewellery handcarved in NZ, artist Margaret Scott's framed works and cards, unique socks, Ahus Artisan soaps, wind chimes and an array of adult and children's



Louise Murray at the Craft Fox

clothing designed and made by Louise — far too many more things to mention. I loved the children's picture books with NZ themes. Louise also has a line of products, creams and balms, shampoos and conditioners, and sunscreen — all 100% natural and not to be found anywhere else.

Louise and Tony invite you to pop in and see what the co-op is all about. Talk to Louise if you create something you think might go well in the shop. Louise is bursting with ideas. "We have plans to include small group workshops on various textile techniques, jewellery-making, and making soaps and lotions. We're open to whatever else people want to learn or share that will fit in our shop space".

The new Crafty Fox Co-op continues to be an integral part of the Ōākura Village vibe. Louise and Tony look forward to seeing you at the shop.

by Elayne Kessler



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Narcissus - L-R: Catherine Donlon, Inge Vink, Laura Sommerville, Donna Kelly

It was an open night sell out!

I was in the audience for opening night of the Val Deakin Dance Theatre performance, *Belonging*, celebrating 50 years of bringing dance to Ōākura and New Plymouth. It was a sell out crowd, all nestled in portable seating set up in the old, original dance studio on St. Aubyn Street. We were friends and family of the dancers, ex-Val Deakin dance students and parents of children who have taken dance lessons at this studio space over a span of 50 years. I became familiar with the Dance Theatre only recently when I met with Jane Roseman to gather information for writing the articles in the June and July issues of the POST, and even attended a snippet of a rehearsal.

That enhanced my interest in the performance and I was excited on opening night. It was inspirational to watch. The 10 dancers, led by Jane Roseman, ranged in age from 18 to 71. They were superb in their craft, and the choreography, some by Val herself, was lovely. Some of the dance pieces in the programme had serious themes, or New Plymouth nostalgia, or whimsy. One piece, *On the Road*, had two dancers with headlights strapped to their hips,

driving around the stage. The audience, me among them, broke out in giggles — with an appreciation of choreographer Val Deakin's wonderful sense of humour and fun.

An additional treat was the guitar duet of Dominique Blatti and Julian Raphael playing beautiful classical pieces that captured a sense of dance.

It was obvious that an enormous amount of work went into making this performance such a success. There was the brilliance of Val and Jane, of course, the dedication of the dancers who rehearsed for long hours, and the many volunteers and supporters that helped make it all happen.

Jane said, "I was relieved that all went so well and I'm grateful to all who made it possible. There was a lot to organise, the music, the costumes, the dances, the sets... The Assistant Stage Manager got covid 10 days before the show. I was tearing my hair out and had to have a contingency plan for every role. Fortunately, everyone took their vitamins and stayed well, and everyone brought their skills to the production."

"I was pleased that we had such an enthusiastic audience, not just in numbers but in vocal appreciation of the dances. Many people chose to stay afterwards and talk with the dancers, which was heartwarming."



Roadrunner - Rosanne and Laura

"Val clearly enjoyed the programme, seeing some of the works that hadn't been presented for awhile. She had a front row seat and that made it easy at the end of the performance to present her with a large bouquet of flowers that she so deserved. She's the one who taught us how to do a production, lights, scenery, costume, etc — how to bring a production together."

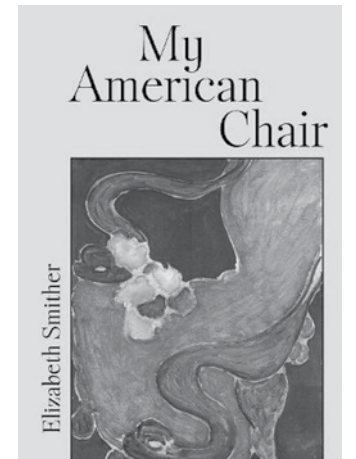
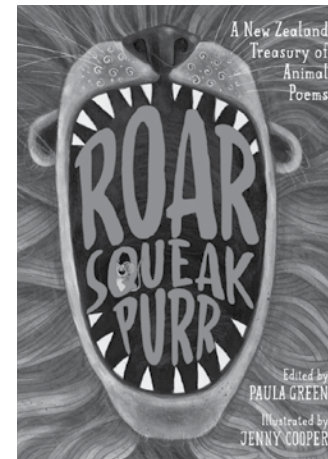
With a feeling of joy and satisfaction that things went well for both the performers and the audience, Jane folded away the chairs and mopped the the beautiful wooden floor back to its usual sheen. Costumes had to be cleaned and put away, and lighting equipment returned. One week later, dance classes resumed.

"I keep running into people who say they came to the show and really enjoyed it."

Yes, *Belonging* was terrific, what's next? Well, planning has already begun for the next Val Deakin Dance Theatre performance. Whenever it is, take my advice and don't miss it.

by Elayne Kessler

Note: For more information on the Val Deakin Dance Theatre, see last month's issue of the The Ōākura Post, available online at theoakurapost.co.nz



ŌĀKURA LIBRARY

25 August is National Poetry Day. Here are a few of the titles in our collection.

- Roar squeak purr: A New Zealand treasury of animal poems
- The gobbledegook book: A Joy Cowley anthology
- A treasury of NZ poems for children
- My American chair by Elizabeth Smither

- Wild Honey: Reading New Zealand women's poetry by Paula Green

- Home body by Rupi Kaur

Pre-school story time - Thursday 3rd August at 10am.

Last month we boogied to Topp Twins sing along songs and decorated superhero masks. Lovely social time for tamariki, too.

Reserve a book

It's free to reserve a book in our libraries (Puke Ariki and community libraries) and have it sent to Ōākura Library for a fast and convenient pick up!

Printing service

For efficient printing services, email your document from your phone or laptop to print@pukeariki.co.nz. You will receive a job ID number. Come in, pay and pick up your printing via our self-serve kiosk.

Happy reading - The Ōākura Library team

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Ōākura School road patrol team

ŌĀKURA SCHOOL



Let's go

The Let's Go school programme is run by the New Plymouth District Council. This programme aims to encourage all tamariki and their whānau to use different options other than taking the car to get to school, such as walking, scootering, bussing, 'park and walk' and any other non-car choices. The hope is that by encouraging whānau and friends to get to school actively, everyone's health will improve, we will help the environment, and we will make Ōākura a more sustainable place for everyone. Last, but not least, following the Let's Go school programme will mean that our roads are less busy, so there is less traffic danger for younger tamariki.

At our school, Mrs Zieltjes is in charge of our Let's Go programme. To encourage the tamariki to come actively to school, Mrs

Zieltjes runs a fortnightly Let's Go prize draw. Every child who comes actively for one week is entered into a prize draw. If they are lucky, they might get drawn out to come and collect one of Mrs Zieltjes' lucky prizes. At every school assembly, Mrs Zieltjes reminds us to wear bold, bright colours when we come to school, so that drivers can easily see us when we cross the road.

If you ask Ōākura School tamariki about Let's Go, they'll tell you one of the most popular ways that students like to come to school is by using the 'park and walk'. This is when you get driven by car to the bottom of Donnelly Street, the Ōākura Hall, The Outlook or behind the Four Square and walk the rest of the way. This is good for all tamariki no matter where they live; in town, in the village, down by Okato, or even if parents go to work early and drop their children off on the the way to work.

Lots of students also prefer to bike or scooter to school and they keep their bike or scooter in the bike shed. Sometimes, during play times students are allowed to use their scooters out on the senior basketball court or the front court on 'Little Wheels Tuesdays'. Some students also say that they prefer to walk to school.

Another way tamariki choose to travel to school is by catching the bus. This is useful for some tamariki that live out of town or in more rural areas. They share the bus with tamariki from other schools. At our school, the bus is available before school and after school. In the mornings, the bus normally gets to our school around 8am and after school normally comes to pick up at a little around 3:30ish.

We love having Let's Go at our school and enjoy having the chance to win cool prizes while keeping fit and healthy.

Another way that we look after our tamariki as they come to and from school is by having road patrols in the afternoon. You might have seen children from our kura down on the crossing holding up 'lollipop' signs and making sure that all the tamariki get across safely. The Year 6 - 8 students do this in pairs after school on the bottom crossing or the crossing close to school. In the mornings volunteer parents help students cross the main road from 8:30-9:00 and a staff member helps at the Kea Crossing nearest to school, which we are also very grateful for.

Our road patrollers think road patrol is good as it lets them be a leader to other younger tamariki, and being able to help your classmates cross over the road is cool. To carry out road patrol duty you have to be patient as you wait for traffic to calm down before you can open your signs up. Overall, all the road patrollers say that they enjoy road patrol very much and look forward to doing more and being a leader at Ōākura School.

As you can see, there are a lot of people working really hard to keep all the tamariki safe on their way to school and on their way back home after a long day working. Next time you see one of our wonderful teachers, parents or tamariki doing their bit to keep everyone safe, give them a big thumbs up. A safer Ōākura means a better place to live.

by Paige Manning (12) & Lily Hawkes (12)



Ōmata community Puanga gathering



Ruru Run Revolution

The Ruru class has been lucky enough to be involved in the Run Revolution clinics again this year. Hayden Shearman and Gemma Chambers from Ōākura, again supported us with the programme designed to address the massive health problem of teenagers (and then adults) becoming inactive as they get older.

Hayden taught us how to pace ourselves correctly and how important it is to show good form. He said "Intermediate is a great age to

introduce some new exercise habits. Running is a super convenient and versatile form of exercise that everyone can do, whenever, wherever they are."

As a class we made the most of every session we had with Hayden and Gemma, lapping the courts and the field, and pushing ourselves to our personal limits. We selected one of two groups to be part of, during the clinics.

1. Boost speed - for the really keen runners. It was a true running workout to show us how to structure our own running programme.
2. Have a Blast - for those of us who enjoy sport but are unsure about running. It was running made fun with plenty of practical tips.

A favourite activity during the clinics was the water race, where we used sponges to collect water to fill our buckets up to a mark. The added distraction of water and our competitive natures made us run further and faster to benefit from the exercise and also have fun. The culminating event for our running clinics was a fun Fluro run. Hayden had the music pumping as we paced ourselves around the 500m track for 20 minutes.

We are grateful for the experience offered to us by Hayden and Gemma and we will be implementing some of our new skills and understanding as we prepare for our school and inter school cross country this term.

Puanga

On Tuesday the 13th June at 6:30am we had our Ōmata Puanga gathering. Students made lanterns that they walked through the orchard and bush. Our community gathered on the field and looked to the stars, as we lit a fire to signify the Māori New Year. It was a time to be with family and friends to reflect on the future, to think of those that have passed and share stories. Then there was time to share kai together. Much appreciation goes to Tāne Manu who once again led our Puanga gathering.

A special thank you to Home and School for supplying and organising our breakfast as part of the Puanga gathering. Thank you also to the many individuals and companies that donated kai to share.

Taranaki and Whanganui iwi, and some on the West Coast of the South Island, recognise the rising of the star Puanga, or Rigel, as signalling the start of the new year, rather than the appearance of the constellation Matariki, or Pleiades.

Puanga rises to the left of Mount Taranaki at this time of the year, while Matariki is often still obscured.

Coming Events

AUGUST 18

Y7/8 Chess Tournament

AUGUST 24

Y7/8 Sports' Tournament in Hawera

AUGUST 31

Ōmata 5-7 year old Cross Country

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TOP Activities

Ōākura

Ōākura Hall Bookings
Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Bowling and Social Club

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

Dancing in the Dark

Glenys Farrant 027 753 0120

Golf

Practice net. Non members welcome. Clubs and balls can be supplied. \$5.00 WEDNESDAYS. Casual competition for non-members. 8am to 1pm open to everyone. Denise 752 7665

Inferno 45- 4 X Bootcamp fitness

Mon and Wed 6am, Fri 9am.
Boxfit Friday 6am. All 1 hour sessions.
Ōākura Hall. Graeme 021 536 990

Indoor Bowls

Enquiries to Marvin Clough 752 7531

JKA Karate

Jim Hoskin 752 7337

Justice of the Peace Estella, Anne and Lynn

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.

Ōākura Maimoa Club - after school care

Monday to Thursday 3pm to 5.30pm
Bookings essential through Facebook
@oakuramaimoaclub or by text to
022 323 7210

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 027 937 7173 or Vincenza 027 739 6574

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

Probuss 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

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

Scrabble - Ōākura Library

Mondays 1:30pm - just turn up.

Surf Lessons

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

Running for Kids

TempoFit Kids - get fitter and faster and have a blast along the way! Wednesdays at Corbett Park. 3:25pm 8-11yrs, 4:10pm 11-14yrs. Hayden Shearman 027 483 5942
tempofit.org/tempofit-kids

Tennis Club

Coaching for all ages and levels, go to www.blitztennis.nz
All other enquiries contact Jackie 027 673 2900

Tai Chi Classes

Every Monday 9-10am at Ōākura Hall. Judi 027 268 2601. Just come along or contact: taranakitachichuan@gmail.com

Val Deakin Dance School

Ōākura Hall Tuesday 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 Hall

5 Elements Fitness Bootcamps and Kickboxing Fitness classes

Monday to Thursday 5-6 pm, 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 Community Church meeting

At Hempton Hall on Sunday mornings 10.30am - all welcome.
Contact Nicky 027 497 3764

Okato and District Historical Society

Meg Cardiff 752 4566

Okato Lions Club

John Hislop 022 565 8929

Okato Squash Club

Monday nights from 6.30pm. All welcome. Ladies morning Friday 9.30 -11am. Rachel 020 4092 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 Wednesday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm, okatocp@gmail.com

TOP Information

The Ōākura Post

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Located in the beautiful seaside town of Oakura, Maiden is more than a hair salon, it's home to an experienced team of professionals, specialising in blondes, balayage, luxury hair extensions, basin bliss rituals and more.

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"I have always been inspired to create spaces to welcome people into and just treat them and make them feel really beautiful. I am extremely fortunate to have such an incredible team who are specialists in what they do. The girls are also genuinely wonderful, kind women too which naturally aligns with the goal of making our clients feel relaxed, comfortable and their most beautiful." says Rachel.

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