

the Ōākura Post

NOVEMBER 2023



**Ōākura
Artist**
Caz Novak



Photo credit: Milla Novak

Kaitake Community Board

The weather reports tells us that spring is here, and as I look out the window I see that flowers and trees have started to bud and bloom. However recent weather events around our country and around the globe have brought in to sharp focus the fact that something of concern is happening to our planet at present.

Huge temperature spikes, massive wind storms, unheard of levels of rainfall, loss of Antarctic sheet ice, rising sea levels, increasing ocean temperatures; No matter where you look you encounter irrefutable evidence that something is seriously wrong.

Climate change became very real, but what difference can an insignificant nation at the bottom of the world like New Zealand make – especially when you look at the volume of emissions generated by the likes of China, USA, India and Russia.

It further begs the question then: What is the point of the New Plymouth District Council committing rate payer money into Climate Change initiatives when, in the global scale, the effect of those efforts would be infinitesimal?

In a similar vein to that question I heard a comment in the Council chamber recently, during an emission reduction strategy being discussed, that went along the lines of, “Any efforts we made would only result in half a teaspoon of emission savings out of an Olympic swimming pool sized problem!” The person who said that, and those of a similar mindset, need to remember that a journey of a thousand miles starts with one single step!

So what can we do to make a difference?

During the national COVID lockdown it was noted by scientists that, as the weeks went on, there was a measurable improvement in New Zealands air quality and a gradual improvement in the weather conditions. This was directly attributed to the reduction in the number of cars on the road and the number of people at work, and this resulted in an associated reduction in emissions into the atmosphere.

As a first small step, if we all look to cut back on the use of our vehicles this action would have a two fold benefit. Firstly with the price of fuel at over \$3 a litre and rising, it would help our wallets, and secondly it would reduce our motor vehicle emissions.

To do our small bit the Kaitake Community Board presented a submission to Council recently, making recommendations to develop and introduce recycling facilities for agricultural plastic items including bale wrap, silage pit covers, small, low density polyethylene feed bags, shrink wrap, pallet covers, woven polypropylene bags, Ecolab drums, vineyard nets, twine, and the like – rural waste items that have gained increasing public prominence and scrutiny in recent years. We further recommended the need to improve services for diverting waste back to the New Plymouth base through a rural recovery plan. Currently the most economically viable way for farmers to deal with this waste is to dig a hole and either bury it or burn it. Recycling or repurposing this waste would result in a reduction in its environmental impact.

We also made recommendations that the Council pursue and develop local, environmentally friendly, organic waste management systems through the introduction of a green-waste collection service, the establishment of an organic material processing facility, and by supporting the creation of community composting initiatives and/or biogas generation. Taking this organic waste out of landfill bound trucks would significantly reduce the vehicle trips required for its transport,

thereby providing a direct saving to ratepayers It would cut back on the emissions of that transportation, and eliminate the methane emissions generated by that waste when it gets to the landfill.

The New Plymouth District Council believes it has a role in helping the community to reduce emissions through:

Advocacy and Education:

The NPDC can advocate for Government support where emissions reduction policies and legislation will have a direct impact on our community. Helping to ensure a fair transition to net zero emissions, they can continue work within the community providing education about waste and recycling, offering advice on biking and walking to work or school, and by providing information about how to reduce energy bills and create a healthy indoor environment.

Delivery of Low Emissions Options:

The NPDC will continue to deliver services to the community so we can all make low emissions choices. This includes zero waste services such as recycling and food scrap collection, and water conservation measures. Also, while they continue to maintain walkways and cycle ways to provide a safe connected network, they are also developing an Integrated Transport Framework with low emission options in mind.

Planning and Infrastructure:

NPDC planning needs to take a long-term view of what our community will need to live, work, and travel in a low emissions future. They continue to encourage a compact urban form, and focus on building communities with infrastructure that enable active travel, such as walking and cycling. As well, they continue to plant green spaces to offset those emissions that we cannot yet reduce, and follow legislation to consent homes and buildings that are warmer, drier, and more energy efficient.

NPDC’s Organisational Emissions:

The NPDC is a medium-sized organisation responsible for all its own emissions, and as such needs to address the way they design, operate, and maintain their assets, and think carefully before building new ones. The NPDC has developed a regional emissions inventory in collaboration with the South Taranaki and Stratford District Councils, and applying this information to their current Long Term Plan, they have worked out potential pathways for further investigation and cost estimates to meet national targets of producing net zero emissions by 2050. This action, along with community input, has resulted in the creation of a District-wide Emissions Reduction Plan - a plan that has been designed to provide a roadmap for our climate change journey, a journey we really need to be on now. After all, as the TV ad reminds us: - There is no planet B

Well that’s it for this month, so for me it’s back into early mornings with the Rugby World Cup and the Cricket World Cup.

Tangohia tiaki tätou katoa (Take care everyone)

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board is at the Ōākura Bowling Club on Monday 20 November.

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

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

Bronwyn O’Hara, Chocolate Maker

Bronwyn O’Hara, a resident of Ōākura for almost 20 years, has created a business making cacao (pronounced kuh-cow) and chocolate delicacies from scratch using ingredients ethically sourced from our neighbouring Solomon Islands. She gets great satisfaction from buying directly from, and thereby helping, the cacao farmers there, and also in making high quality handcrafted products for her customers to enjoy and share. She spends a lot of time carefully making her products and also gets to deal directly with customers.

Bronwyn was born and raised in the South Island. She studied food science at Otago University and has always had a fascination with making food from scratch. For more than a decade she worked in the dairy industry. She met her husband to be, Adrian, at one of the South Island dairy factories where he was doing project management work. “We met under a cheese trommel, which is a big rotating drum where the curd and the salt are mixed to make a cheddar cheese.”

Adrian, being from New Plymouth, was the stimulus for Bronwyn to transfer to a job in Eltham. She became the technical services manager at both of the cheese manufacturing sites at Eltham, overseeing the laboratory and research and development, and being responsible for quality and food safety compliance.

Bronwyn is clearly passionate about cacao and her chocolate making. One has to wonder how that came about, and she is eager to share her story.

Growing up in Oamaru and spending time with her grandmother in Dunedin, she was familiar with the large local chocolate factory that dispersed a rich aroma of chocolate. “It was more than 20 years ago I began a plan to make chocolate from scratch. You couldn’t buy the scale of equipment that I needed or access small volumes of high quality cacao beans; at that time no one was making craft chocolate in New Zealand.

The large manufacturers produce a highly processed product that presses out the natural cacao butter and replaces it with fillers like palm oil, emulsifiers and preservatives. In contrast, Bronwyn’s chocolate has only two ingredients, cacao bean and raw cane sugar. She has a direct link to the cacao growers and processing community in the Solomon Islands who are starting to thrive from the regular and direct supply chain.

Four years ago Bronwyn met a woman named Oonagh Browne, the founder of ‘The Cacao Ambassador’. She describes Oonagh



as someone with a big heart for the cacao farmers, and the mentor who was able to link her directly with them also.

While Bronwyn had known of Oonagh’s work as a chocolatier, it was when she saw a notice of a cacao retreat in Samoa that she actually met her. “We spent time at a cacao plantation, and I saw the cacao trees for the first time and harvested cacao pods. Seeing those magnificent trees with their tiny white flowers that form pods on their trunk and the hanging pods put everything into context for me. I knew I wanted to go down the path of



making my own chocolate. That’s when I got my insight into the magic of cacao. The tree is my inspiration.”

The chocolate happens mostly downstairs in Bronwyn’s ‘Making Room’. Husband, Adrian, is a fitter and turner by trade, and was able to build and recondition the key equipment that Bronwyn needed. The processes are always from scratch with natural ingredients, and made with environmental and social elements in mind.

There are three main products that Bronwyn makes:

Honey Caramels, made with local bush honey, hand dipped in 70% cacao stone ground full bean chocolate. The GOLD Medal Winner, NZ Chocolate Awards 2022.

Cacao Three Ways, sun-dried cacao beans, gently roasted before being rolled in layer upon layer of stone ground full bean dark chocolate.

Bean to Bar, 70% cacao stone ground full bean chocolate. It takes three days to stone grind the cacao bean to reduce particle size so it will be smooth in the mouth.

The chocolates are sold online and at cacao and chocolate festivals. Because of her commitment to leaving a low environmental footprint - and because she enjoys it - Bronwyn offers free delivery to post code 4314 using her e-bike. This summer she will be part of the tours when cruise ships dock at Port Taranaki.

Bronwyn wants to say how grateful she is to have so much local support. Friends and neighbours and the wider community have been outstanding. Three Sisters Brewery buys chocolate husks to make a triple chocolate stout named ‘Ode to Malva’ and Toret Cucina Italiana buys blocks of chocolate to make their desserts.

Chocolate giving is based around celebrations, Christmas being a big one. New products are underway in Bronwyn’s ‘Making Room’. You can keep up on the latest by checking the MALVA Chocolate website and on Instagram.

Website: malvacholate.co.nz

Instagram: [maker_malva_chocolate](https://www.instagram.com/maker_malva_chocolate)

Elayne Kessler



surfshine

windows and solar cleaning

surfshinewindows@gmail.com

0210 260 6632

the Ōākura Post 5

HEYDON PRIEST LTD

Locally owned. Serving Taranaki for over 50 years

JUMBO BINS

- Fast and efficient
- Reliable service
- Casual & permanent rates available

752 7753

f

book online: www.heydonpriest.co.nz

HEYDON PRIEST

bp OAKURA

Go Local Go Local Go Local

Open 7 days - 6.00am to 8.30pm

Call: 752 7753

f

DOOREYS DOORS

TARANAKI GARAGE DOOR INSTALLATION

JARED BARRON

027 208 6113

sales@dooreysdoors.com

www.dooreysdoors.com

ROLLER DOORS / SECTIONAL DOORS / TIMBER DOORS

MALVA

Chocolate

Delectable handcrafted chocolate

MADE IN ŌĀKURA with local honey and ethically sourced cacao from Solomon Islands

malvachocolate.co.nz

Using Technology to Write an Article

ChatGPT is an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot that uses natural language processing to create humanlike conversational dialogue. Chatbot - a computer programme designed to simulate conversation with human users, especially over the internet.

This following text is generated using GPT-3, OpenAI's large-scale language-generation model. The content has not been altered as it is intended as an exemplar.

Yes, I'm familiar with Oakura, New Zealand. Oakura is a small coastal settlement located on the west coast of the North Island, about 15 kilometers (9 miles) southwest of New Plymouth. It is part of the Taranaki region and is known for its picturesque beach and relaxed seaside atmosphere.

Oakura Beach is a popular destination for surfers and beachgoers. It offers beautiful views of the Tasman Sea and is known for its consistent waves, making it a great spot for surfing. The beach is also a great place for swimming, sunbathing, and picnicking.

The village of Oakura itself has a charming and laid-back vibe. It features a few local shops, cafes, and galleries. The area is surrounded by scenic landscapes, including Mount Taranaki (also known as Mount Egmont), which is an iconic volcanic cone and a popular hiking destination.

Overall, Oakura offers a tranquil and natural environment, making it a popular place for both locals and visitors who enjoy the beach, outdoor activities, and a relaxed coastal lifestyle.

Editor

Pump Track Funding Falls Short

In May 2022 we published a piece on a proposed Pump Track behind Shearer Reserve playground. A pump track is a circuit of rollers, banked turns and features designed to be ridden completely by riders "pumping" – generating momentum by up and down body movements, instead of pedaling or pushing. It was originally designed for the mountain bike and BMX scene.

I touched base with John Shewry, who was leading the project, to see how things were going.

John reported back: "sadly nothing moving, had some great response but not enough money to make any difference. Council didn't approve the amount they had said they would contribute originally which left it pretty short of funds. Ideally we need to find a couple of people willing to contribute much larger amounts to make it work.

The community would love to have it but at this stage the work involved to make it work is way too time heavy for me to follow it through. I'd love to make it work".

The story is available online in our archives - theoakurapost.co.nz

MORNING TALK COFFE GROUP

Come along to the NPOB Surf Club

Every Thursday from 10am - 11am

Any enquiries call Tracey 752 7875

WOULDN'T IT BE EASIER IF JUST ONE PLACE DID IT ALL

STOP LOOKING YOU'VE FOUND US

TP TOPPRINT

www.nakiprint.co.nz

• GRAPHIC DESIGN • PRINTING SERVICES • BRANDED APPAREL

• PROMOTIONAL • BANNERS & FLAGS • & MORE

(06) 754 4980 sales@nakiprint.co.nz

SURFSIDE

ELECTRICAL

Your Local & Registered Master Electrician

Residential · Commercial · Professional advice · All your electrical needs

CONTACT

027 873 7433 / 02 SURFSIDE

surfsidetaranaki@outlook.com

@surfsideelectrical

MASTER ELECTRICIANS

New Coastal Bus Timetable

Ōākura and State Highway 45 from Ōpunakē to New Plymouth is about to get a new bus service – or a one-year trial, at least – starting November.

Recently announced by Taranaki Regional Council (TRC), the new service involves two buses on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, replacing Friday's Southlink. You might not be able to get by without a second car just yet, but it will save petrol dollars, with fares from Ōākura to New Plymouth just \$2 each way if you get a bus card called a Bee Card, available at iSites. Off-peak travel is free for Super Gold Card holders.

At time of writing, TRC has released scant few details, but I got hold of this timetable:

Ōpunakē to New Plymouth
6.50am (Ōākura - 7.35am)
3.20pm (Ōākura - 4.05pm)

New Plymouth to Ōpunakē
9.30am (Ōākura - 9.45am)
5.20pm (Ōākura - 5:35pm)

It's plainly a service aimed at those living on the coast who work 9-5 in New Plymouth, although city folk could use it for a day at Ōākura or Ōpunakē beach.

If the timetable doesn't suit you, tell TRC what you'd prefer. If you're reading this before 30 October, do the survey at trc.govt.nz/transport, otherwise email thoughts to transport@trc.govt.nz. They should soon have more service details on their website.

Public transport users are concerned this opportunity may be wasted as TRC has a history of poorly publicising new bus services. It will be a challenge to make sure everyone who lives along SH45 knows about it. No doubt if they're reached out to, community venues and businesses will happily help spread the word.

Suraya Sidhu Singh ('I love public transport' founder)

I Love Public Transport Taranaki - a public transport users' group
Email: ilovepublictransporttaranaki@gmail.com

Cicada.

Landscape Design & Build

Call Duncan 021 22 999 38

Website & Instagram: cicada.biz

Coastal Antennas

- UHF & Satellite installations
- HD & Digital Distribution
- Cable Runs • TV Set-ups
- Domestic & Commercial

027 746 1313

HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY

May help in the treatment of varied health conditions

NOW AVAILABLE IN OAKURA

Contact Lisa Tamati

- Health optimisation specialist
- Epigenetics certified coach
- Longevity & anti-aging consultant
- Author & pod-caster

MOBILE: 021 844 743

EMAIL: support@lisatamati.com

WEBSITE: lisatamati.com



In Memory of Kerry Lilley

Prior to The Ōākura Post I was a co-founder of TOM (The Ōākura Messenger), and in 2007 we launched TOM Ōkato. Kerry Lilley and Milly Carr were the story writers and scouts for local events and news. It is a pleasure to read back through those issues knowing that the communities stories have been preserved forever. These issues are all online via the TOM website archives -thetom.co.nz I invite you to take a look.

Milly Carr Remembers Kerry

Being a local in Ōkato, my sister Tracey must have been rapt to think she could create a local TOM in Ōkato and rope me into being a writer!

My time with the Ōkato TOM was an enlightening one, learning a lot about our tight knit community, writing some interesting articles, and getting to know what was going on within our village. I am especially grateful that it gave me an opportunity to get to know one of our long-standing local identities, Kerry Lilley, a little better. It is with sadness we said farewell to Kerry, who unfortunately passed away in October.

In 2008 it came to light that Kerry needed to join the TOM team. Not only would she be able to share some light with her knowledge of Ōkato, but she had an ability to put together articles in such an eloquent and sophisticated way, which always left me in awe.

Over this time working together with the TOM, it became more evident how humble Kerry was. With the stories she shared, I learnt about her diverse work history, her involvement with local groups and clubs and her prodigious community minded spirit.

Kerry was always very encouraging, interested in what we were doing in our lives and supportive of our own personal endeavours. She was articulate, a perfectionist and I will not forget her gorgeous clothes and her bright outfits, along with her smile. It was a time in my life I will treasure and hold fond memories of.

Ōākura Library

Scrabble - Every Monday 1pm

If you love word games, join us for a friendly game. No booking required, just turn up and give it a go.

Crackerjacks - Thurs 2 November 10-10.30am

Under 5s fun! Join us for a range of stories, rhymes, crafts, or songs. It's fun for the tamariki and a great way to meet others!

Prepare for your summer holidays. If you don't already have a library card, come and sign up for a library card, it's quick and easy. In addition to books, you can download a host of e-books and e-audio books for yourself and/or the kids during travel time.

Okato Playcentre

Jumble Sale 4th November

Okato Playcentre is hosting a Community Jumble Sale. This fundraiser goes towards a giant sandpit upgrade, with a cover, sunshade and mortar sand. Come along for a fun family morning, with a drop off kidzone, pre-loved goods, art, chocolate, cake stall, face painting, music, bouncy castle, yummy food, raffle and spot prizes. Cash or bank transfer is accepted. Thank you to all our amazing sponsors and donations so far. It takes a village!

If you'd like to book a table for your own stall, contact Ruby 0211980078. Community Jumble Sale is on November 4th, 10.30am -12.30pm, at Okato Playcentre, 37 Carthew St, enter on side street Gossling.

TEAM BAAS

021 444 073

No. 1 TOP SALES OVERALL
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
SALES TRUST & SERVICE

BAYLEYS

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLY. LUXURY WEEKEND TO BE DRAWN ON FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2023.

SPRING PROMOTION

LIST your property with Team Baas before 22nd December 2023 to go in the draw to **WIN a luxury weekend for two in Taupō to the value of \$2,000***

HAVE LUNCH ON US!

Have an APPRAISAL on your property presented by Team Baas between now and the 22nd of December 2023 you will receive a lunch voucher*

Oakura Pharmacy
your coastal community pharmacy

Come and Talk to our friendly staff
about your health concerns & medication

Prescription/Pharmacist Consultation/ Health Supplement & Vitamin/ Gifts / Ear Piercing

1132 Main South Road, Oakura 4314
Phone: 06 752 7557

THE CRAFTY FOX

OPEN IN A NEW LOCATION

Mon 9.30am - 1pm
Tues Closed
Wed - Sun 9.30am - 4pm

Ground floor - The Village Mews (opposite the hall)

NPBHS Tiger Jacket Awards

First established in the late 1920's, the distinctive tiger stripes were instigated as a blazer for cricketers, prefects and rugby players.

The criteria has expanded over the last eighty years to include a wide range of sports and arts along with top academics.

It is awarded to Year 12 and 13 students who must reach a certain criteria in order to be considered for the honour.

Nate Florence for winning his first National Title in the NZ National School Surfing Competition Under 18 boys held in Raglan in August.

James Rielly-Leadbetter and **Owen Ellington** for Adventure Racing - being part of the winning Hillary Challenge team.

Hillary Challenge 2023 - 1st place to NPBHS/NPGHS

The Hillary Challenge is a navigation-based outdoor team challenge on both foot and mountain bike with a 'rogaine' (an orienteering sport of long distance cross-country navigation, involving both route planning and navigation between checkpoints using a variety of map types) element. This nationwide event is the only adventure racing competition for senior secondary school students and has been running annually since 2001. There are teams of 8 students who are scored on their skill, speed and endurance during the 5-day series of outdoor adventure challenges.

This years combined New Plymouth Girls/ Boys High team of elite athletes included three members from Ōākura: James Rielly-

Leadbetter, Owen Ellington and Jack McNeil (reserve)

On Sunday 2nd October, 96 students descended on the Hillary Outdoors Centre in Tongariro National Park for the 23rd annual Hillary Challenge event.

On the first two days the 12 teams rotated through problem solving challenges, high ropes, technical rope work, navigation challenges, mountain bike skills, paddling skills, climbing skills, and complex communication challenges.

Days 3 and 4 were the rogaine. This was a huge trek with full packs navigating to as many checkpoints as possible, including one night

spent camping. The trek started at the Turoa skifield road carpark and finished at the Tukino skifield carpark. Unlike in 2022 the weather had cleared to a stunning fine couple of days with high freezing levels, so heat rather than cold was the issue. This year the rogaine was our team's strength with awesome navigation coupled with great pace, giving us the top score for the rogaine.

Day 5, the multi-sport race was made up of four stages, 8k of kayaking followed by a 9k mud run, a 30k+ mountain bike ride, and the final leg another gruelling 6k hilly run.

At prize giving on the final day it was as we had hoped, our team result was a first place!

Taranaki Scholastics Surf Team

The Taranaki Scholastics Surfing Team travelled to Gisborne over the school holidays, competing against 10 other regions around NZ and placing 6th overall. Seven of the 12 surfers were OBC (Ōākura Boardriders Club) groms.

Coach Kane Rowson has been working them through mobility sessions, workouts, heat drills

and ice baths. Great to see so many of our local groms representing,

The team was captained by local Nate Florence. Nate was also awarded the Adam Clegg breakthrough award, a prestigious award to receive as this is voted in by all other surfers in this competition. Well done team!



Nate with Kane Rowson

NEWTON Gorge JOINERY

KITCHENS • DOMESTIC JOINERY • COMMERCIAL JOINERY

67B BREAKWATER ROAD, NEW PLYMOUTH • PH: 06 751 5065 • EMAIL: designs@newtongorge.co.nz



BOON

ARCHITECTURE
INTERIOR
LANDSCAPE
URBAN DESIGN
DEVELOPMENT
BUILDING COMPLIANCE
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
BOON.CO.NZ

Kaitake Golf Club

We are now giving the frontage a paint job and it's looking very smart.

It is a never ending job keeping up with all the maintenance of our club and a huge thank you to our volunteers who help with these jobs.

We have had an overwhelming response to our Quick Six programme which starts in October 2023. Since this is fully booked Andrea has decided to also hold another session on the 29th November 2023 at 5pm and again in February 2024. If any of you Ladies out there are still keen to learn golf please contact Andrea 0274 3587001 or email andrea.jarrold@xtra.co.nz and she will add you to her list.

Men and Ladies had their yearly Shootout which was a great fun day although the weather was not kind to us this year. With only 11 Ladies participating and a full field for the men, they all braved the elements and came into the Clubhouse for some well deserved Mulled Wine. Geoff Andrews won the Mens section and Dianne Jones the Ladies. Hopefully better weather for next year.

CLUB XMAS HAMPER coming up Sunday 19th November 2023. A flyer will be going out soon to advertise this very popular event.

FOOS

(Friends of Oakura School) are holding their fund raising event on Sunday 26th November 2023. They are still looking for teams to enter so if you are keen please contact Nik at nikpoulton@hotmail.co.uk or Eddie at eddiegear@gmail.com

SPONSORSHIP

We are still looking for more sponsors especially for our tee signs. If you are interested please contact Denise in the office Ph: 06 7527 665

CHIPPERS

The next Chippers Day will be coming up soon. Chippers will be informed in due course via group text.

TARANAKI VETS GOLF:

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



House and Pet Sitter

Local mature woman available to house and pet sit.

References available, please contact Christine on 021 0295 4415



Are you looking for care or support in your own home?

Cherish RESPITE
In-Home Care

Some of our services include:

- Convalescing
- Post operative support
- End of life care
- Companionship
- Dementia aid
- Post natal support

We tailor our services to meet your needs - contact Milly Carr
Phone: 027 320 1414 Email: milly@cherish-respite.com



Professional Property Management
Let me manage your rental investment...

- Legal tenancy agreements
- Reliable rent collection
- Financial management reporting
- Regular property inspections
- Repairs and maintenance service

Jodie Dahlkvist
Property Consultant - McDonald Real Estate Ltd
M. 027 666 0464 O. 06 757 3083
E. jodie.dahlkvist@eieio.co.nz

LICENSED REAA 2008

eieio.co.nz

Ōākura Bowling & Social Club

Club Championships

The hotly contested Championship Fours have begun with several close and exciting games. Four of the five teams are evenly placed with 1 win from 2 games and it will be "do or die" for all the foursomes when they do battle in the second round.

The club Triples Championships will also be played over the weekend of the 18th and 19th of November. All members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club while watching some of Ōākura's finest bowlers in action.

Interclub Tournaments

Inclement weather forced the cancellation of both first rounds of the weekend Pennants and Shield competitions. However, round 1 in midweek play saw the Ōākura teams win 4 from 6 games in the Avery Cup and 2 from 3 in the Gilmour Shield. It's a solid start to the new season as the club sets out to win back-to-back titles in both these competitions.

Club News

Thanks must go to Rod Smith, Wayne Robinson and Jim Priest for their tireless work in ensuring both the surrounds and green are in excellent condition. The green playing surface has been amongst Taranaki's best over the past few years and with the Nationals fours and mixed pairs being awarded to Taranaki in the 2023/2024 season, you can expect to see New Zealand best bowlers in action at Ōākura throughout late February.

The club is running a bowls3five Melbourne Cup Day roll-up on Tuesday 7th November. Play will start at 1.30pm with two games lasting approximately two hours total. The community is invited along to either enjoy a game of

bowls or simply have a few drinks and view the running of the big race.

It was fantastic to see the Ōākura Boardriders Club enjoying the club facilities when holding their annual fundraiser at the clubrooms. It was a great night with the Boardriders showing us old bowlers a few things about partying. Thanks guys for supporting local.

A big welcome to the Eddie Sera and Mark Barraclough who have signed up as the club's latest 1st year bowlers. Just a warning, once bowls is in your blood it's there forever.

The Ōākura Bowling Club is still offering all first-year bowlers a package deal with the offer of \$50 fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, a set of pre-loved bowls and coaching sessions.

For more information about this great offer please call Steve Muller, Match Convenor 021 169 5863.

The underarm bowler

Community Police Officer – Constable Matt Stone



Kia Ora Koutou

Firstly, what a fantastic effort by the Taranaki Bulls in winning the National Provincial Rugby Championship. It was great to see Logan Crowley and Josh Lord from Coastal Rugby being part of the successful team.

Secondly, it is disappointing to have to deal with some bits of damage and graffiti around the Ōākura Village in recent times. Unfortunately, given the nature of this offending I am attributing this to youths. Could I ask that if your child is our socialising in the village during darkness hours that you give them a reminder about respect of others property. I'm sure your child is not involved but it's always good to remind/prompt them in these situations.

Lastly, we recently had a burglary at Vertigo. It's really disappointing that this occurs in our community. Thank you to those who have been assisting police and to those that have reported suspicious behaviour recently. It's surprising how insignificant some information may seem but it may be the final piece in a puzzle for us.

Until next time.

**Ngā Mihi,
Matt**



NKBA
National Kitchen & Bathroom Association - NZ

kitchens by
glenjohns

06 759 0940
www.glenjohns.co.nz

SHOWROOM: CORNER ELIOT & LEMON STREETS, NEW PLYMOUTH



Whaea Monica

Te Reo Māori

This term at Ōākura School, all classes at our kura have been taking visits into the Kauri Room to take te reo Māori lessons with our Kaiārahi i te reo, our te reo teacher, Whaea Monica. During these sessions, we have been doing lots of things such as learning new words and playing fun games in te reo.

Our te reo kaiako (teacher) is really kind. She is originally from the East Coast, Wairoa, but she mainly grew up in Waitara. She started teaching te reo at our school at the start of the term, but before she came here she taught at Te Kohanga Reo. She has enjoyed working at our kura for lots of reasons; setting challenges for the tamariki, playing games, seeing tamariki (children) remembering what they have been taught previously, and seeing tamariki have a 'light bulb moment' when they understand a word in te reo for the first time.

We also went around and asked some of the tamariki what they learned and thought of Whaea Monica's sessions, and everyone we interviewed said that they had enjoyed the lessons and learned heaps. Some students from the Yr 3 and 4 classes said that they learned how to say animal names in Māori, and played lots of fun games, such as Maui Matou. The Year 5 and 6 ākonga (students) also learnt lots of new kupu (words) and played lots of fun games. They also got to be taught other activities and games in groups with Yr 7 and 8 buddies.

Cross Country

With all the fun stuff that we have already done this term, we have also had cross country events. More recently, we've had the Coastal Cross Country and the Taranaki Cross Country. These are super fun races in which tamariki get to race through mud and over farmland. It's pretty tiring!

Eli and Pippa, who are Yr 5 and 6 from the Tawa Room competed in the Coastal race. Eli said that the course was easy-peasy, and Pippa said that it was pretty easy but there were some hard parts to it. They said that it helped that before the race people took them for a walk-through of the course, so that they definitely wouldn't get lost on the masses of farm land they had to run through. One tip for racing that Eli and Pippa suggested was to try your best to breathe through your nose. They said they wanted to do it because they wanted to try to challenge themselves and win. On the day, Eli and Pippa both came first in their races. Well done Eli and Pippa! We also interviewed Zoe who came 2nd in her race, and Sophie who came 3rd in her race. They said the run was kind of hard but it was okay in the end. A tip from them was to not sprint at the start and push your hardest right at the end. They wanted to participate because they wanted to try something new and challenge themselves.



Josh La Franchie



L to R: Amelia Ander, Ana Shlosberg, Lacey Peacock, Lyla Termath

Zoe and Sophie have also decided to attend the Taranaki Cross Country, and are both super proud about their placings.

Lyla who got 1st, Bella who got 3rd, Tom who got 1st, Amelia who got 2nd and Ana who got 3rd all raced in the Y7&8 races. Most of them said that it was quite hard, as they ran 3km against students from six other schools. They said they decided to participate because they love running and want to have fun. One tip that they suggested was to stay at a steady pace and to push yourself.

Over all, we have had lots of great opportunities at our school, and have had a great term. Everyone has enjoyed Whaea Monica's lessons, as well as all the cross country races, but, what's even better, is that we still have so many cool and fun opportunities coming up!

By Lily and Paige (age 12 years)

the Ōākura Post

Never miss an issue through 'Sign up' to subscribe. Receive notification when the latest edition is available to view online. Visit www.theoakurapost and at the bottom of the Homepage is the 'Sign Up' button.



Ōmata 2024 Enrolments

Enrolment at Ōmata School, years 1-8, is governed by an enrolment scheme, full details of which are available from the school office.

In general terms the zone extends from Ōākura River in the west, to Herekawe Stream and from 180 Barrett Road in the East.

If you live within the Ōmata School Zone and have a child who would like to attend Ōmata School in the future, please let us know as soon as possible. This will assist us in planning appropriately for next year and beyond.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Y1/2 Ball Skills at Ōākura 1pm
Sustainable Backyards 1:30-3pm
- 2 Y3/4 Ball Skills at Ōākura 1pm
- 3 Sustainable Backyards 1:30-3pm
- 8-9 Y5/6 Science Fair
- 13 Y7/8 Camp to Wellington
- 20 Teacher Only Day
- 28 Parent Help Morning Tea -10:30am in the Hall

What is Art?

Ōmata School has been delving into the arts curriculum in depth lately with the aim of hosting an Art Exhibition on 31st October. Each class visited the Govett Brewster Art Gallery as inspiration for thinking about what art means and how it is presented. Our exhibition centres on the school whakatauki 'Poipoia te kākano, kia puāwai' - Nurture the seed and it will blossom. Visitors will experience a range of artistic interpretations of this message. We moved the students into collaborative, mixed-age art studio groups with different teachers to create an art installation using the whakatauki as inspiration.

Mrs Aylward's studio created a piece called 'Wings of Seasons'. Inspired by the changing seasons, the feathers on the wings change from dark to light representing winter moving to spring then summer. Words written on the feathers highlight the feelings and sensations the students have during different seasons. This installation can also be used as a photo booth, so come along and have your photo taken in front of 'Wings of Seasons'.

In the Kiwi studio they created a 'Springtime Cascade'. Their artwork was inspired by a springtime image and an installation made with feathers at The Govett-Brewster Art Gallery. They used egg cartons, designed, constructed and painted a frame with netting to hang strings of flowers in a cascade. A mirror



will be installed beneath the flowers to show a colourful reflection.

In the 'He Tanagata' studio, learners looked to a local artist for inspiration, creating people of various shapes and forms showing the difference in humanity and how each person's experience contributes to their growth. Learners used plaster of paris and modelling clay to build their sculptures.

In Mr Kelly's studio they took the concept of 'Nurture the seed and it will blossom' quite literally. They started by sculpting heads around pots and planting wildflowers in them. It has been a joy to watch our range of different flowers grow. They then painted the faces, adding smaller details such as eyebrows and freckles. Finally, the group plans to add a letter along the backs of the heads, spelling out the phrase 'Nurture the seed and it will blossom'.

Children have been experimenting with different ways to create flowers with paint in Mr Bennet's studio. They have been using straws, a leaf blower and even throwing paint. The group tried mixing paint with dye, dishwashing liquid and even cooking oil. After much experimentation, it was decided that using syringes and mixing paint and dye was the best way. The children felt that doing the art on transparent sheets, with the light shining through rather than on paper, would look the best.

Ms Coffey's studio discussed the word 'blossoming' and what it meant to us. They looked at different ways they could represent a seed coming to life through the exploration of colours, shapes and sizes. To do this they collected different leaves and identified that they were each in different parts of the plant life cycle. Students then collaboratively placed them on the board, taking a photo snap shot of each layer to create a montage of our art piece coming to life.

With nine different installations, there is plenty to see and a huge range in materials and interpretations. We look forward to showing the community some art in such a range of forms. Pop along and see us on Tuesday 31st October at the Ōmata hall.

Ōākura TENNIS CLUB



We are into perfect tennis conditions - the snow is melting and the beach gives you a sandblasting, so the tennis courts is the place to be.

Team entries are getting sorted with a couple of midweek ladies teams on a Monday, three teams on a Saturday, and some Junior teams on a Friday night. Practise nights are on Thursday nights for anyone keen for some regular game time.

Any adults wanting to get on court and have a go at tennis can contact Monika who is keen to help introduce adults to tennis. Junior and adult group coaching sessions are running this term so check out the website or give Monika a call if you are interested.

If you are interested in tournaments check out the Taranaki Tennis Association website for local events and Tennis NZ for national tournaments. The Taranaki Primary Schools tournament is coming up on 18th October. Competition doesn't start until after Labour weekend when courts will get a bit busier on a Saturday.

Our competition winners for the family meal vouchers at Serial Griller, Black Sand or Butlers Reef sponsored by Insure Taranaki will be announced next issue. For all memberships paid by 31st October we have a draw to win 1 of 2 WOFs sponsored by BP.

Enjoy some court time and go the ABs!

Contact Monika monika@blitztennis.nz or 027 555 1201 or visit the blitz tennis website blitztennis.nz

For Saturday competition contact Jackie 027 673 2900

BTW COMPANY

SURVEYING
ENGINEERING
PLANNING
ENVIRONMENT

06 759 5040 / www.btw.nz

OAKURA MEAT CO.

- & FINE FOODS -

Bringing back the "Old School Butcher" so you can buy only what you need.

VISIT US TO PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS HAM/DUCK/QUAIL AND WHOLE SALMON SIDE BEFORE 08 DECEMBER 23

OPEN TUESDAY – SUNDAY 9am - 6pm
1139 South Rd (behind the bottle store)
Ph: 09 752 1157 Email: info@oakurameatco.nz

- Quality fresh cuts of Beef/ Lamb/Free Range Pork/ Chicken
- Quality NZ Cheese & Cheese Tastings
- Hand Made Sausages made on site
- Award winning NZ made condiments
- Mokau Butchery bacon and salami sliced to your requirements
- Scooped Gelato (including a special dog Gelato - created by us)
- Gift Vouchers
- Personalised service and recommendations

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date on new products and specials



DEAN BROWN
Plumbing
Drainlaying

Commercial & Residential

(06) 753 9797
M: 021 457 046

DEANBROWNPLUMBING@GMAIL.COM



PICKERING MOTORS LTD
WE GET AROUND

Friendly services for all your transportation needs.

- Bus Charters
- Minivan Hire
- Trailer & Horsefloat Hire
- Scaffold Hire
- Coastal Bus Services

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 7:30am-5pm. Sat-Sun: Closed
PHONE: 06 761 8363 or 0800 22 11 20
AFTER HOURS: Tracey 0274 900 556 or 06 761 7053

11 Tennyson Street, Opunake
pickering.motorsltd@gmail.com

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 021 169 5863

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 Ōākura 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

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

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: taranakitaichichuan@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

Contact Colin Tyler 027 5421853 - Meet at Hempton Hall first Wed of the month.

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 open church – Pew for You, every 3rd Wednesday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm, okatocp@gmail.com

TOP Information

The Ōākura Post

Editor: Tracey Lusk
06 752 7875 / 027 636 8060
editor@theoakurapost.co.nz

Advertising: Jacinda McCallum
advertising@theoakurapost.co.nz

Design/Layout: Emily Bennett

Proof Reader: Elayne Kessler

Founded in Ōākura, NZ - 1st June 2020

ISSUE: No. 39

DECEMBER Issue

Delivered and online from 24 November.

Views expressed in The Ōākura Post are not necessarily those of the The Ōākura Post

www.theoakurapost.co.nz | editor@theoakurapost.co.nz

This page is kindly sponsored by the Norton Moller Family, trading as Ōākura Farms Ltd



Gail Tanner

PROGENEALOGIST

DNA and
Family History
Researcher

- Family history researcher
- Tracing family trees
- WWI & II personnel researcher/writer
- Unknown parent and DNA research
- DNA analysis and tracing
- Genealogy speaker and tutor
- Paleography - Old wills and documents

PHONE 027 376 0630
EMAIL genegirl2023@outlook.com

WONDERFUL MADE EASY

Amanda Donaldson and Jenny Rowe are local business owners and operators who bring the showroom to you. With helpful tips and advice on colours, patterns and styles during a free in home consultation with proposals on the spot. Flybuys with every purchase and finance options available: Buy now, pay later.

Amanda offers a variety of flooring options. Famous carpet brands (in every style, colour and texture including stunning wool carpets), vinyl, luxury vinyl planks, timber and laminate (with different colours and plank styles). Jenny offers her experience to help you select window furnishings across many different styles from curtains, romans, blinds, venetians, shutters, blockouts and sun filters and offers an EXCLUSIVE urban fabric range.



Call Amanda for Carpet 027 224 9899
Call Jenny for Curtains 027 314 7710

