

# *the* Ōākura Post

SEPTEMBER 2024

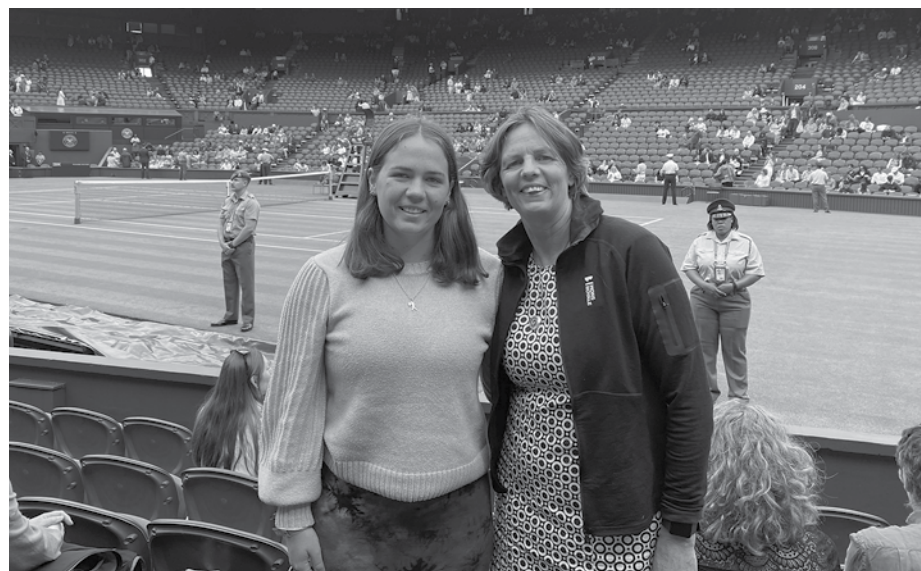
*the* SPRING  
GARDEN  
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Cover Pic: Thanks to Ryan at the Holiday Park for this drone image taken on 24 August. He captured the merging of the streams while getting images for the new beach store coffee cart, Sip'n Surf. Coffee to go from 2nd September.





Taylor (left) and Jackie Mitchell at No1 court.

## Wimbledon, Worth the Wait.

Going to Wimbledon had always been a lifelong dream, so being able to go with my daughter, Taylor, this year became a dream come true!

Matt Stringer, Ōākura Tennis Club's previous tennis coach, lives one block away from Wimbledon. Matt kindly let us set up base there and gave us expert tips on how to navigate the famous Wimbledon ticket 'Queue' to get tickets, after we missed out on the international ballot earlier in the year. You can't just jump online and buy tickets to Wimbledon, there is a bit of a process which makes it all the more special to finally get court-side!

Taylor and I wanted two days of Wimbledon action so opted for a ground pass for our first day and then to camp overnight to guarantee centre court tickets the following day.

On day one we got up at 5am to get into the Queue by 6am. At that stage we were already row K! By 8am we received an official queue ticket and we were 3999 and 4000! Phew we were getting in! There are 500 tickets each day to each of the three top courts - centre court, number 1 court and court 2 and several thousand for the ground/outside courts. At 3999 and 4000 in the Queue, we were going to get a day one ground pass.

Being day 1, the outside courts had lots of top seeds and some big queues so we opted for Casper Rudd on court 3 and then thought we better support the kiwi Lulu Sun, next on the same court. This was a tight battle with Lulu serving well and clinching the break points to win the match. Myself and another kiwi were giving Lulu lots of support and I had my Go

Kiwi sign! Next we watched the American Tommy Paul also on court 3, then we watched some centre court and number 1 court action on the big screen from 'The Hill'.

We wanted to see some top names in action on the main courts so the next day we pitched our tent in the Queue at 2pm. We overnighted in the tent to keep our place in the Queue, and the next day we were awarded queue tickets 214 and 215! Stoked as this guaranteed main court tickets! The main court tickets are the front rows close to the action!

We had a choice of Carlos Alcaraz on number 1 Court or Jannik Sinner on Centre Court. We went with Centre Court and Sinner. First up on Centre Court was Daniil Medvedev versus Alexandre Muller which was a four set battle. Muller fought hard but Medvedev hung in there to take the win. We were 4th row back from the court in line with service line! So close!

Next game was Emma Navarro vs Naomi Osaka. Wow! It felt like they were hitting the ball as hard as the men. We wanted to go smack some tennis balls ourselves after that game!

Then Jannik Sinner vs Matteo Berrettini, his fellow Italian friend. This was such a good game - a tight battle that lucky for us Sinner won in four sets as it was now 10.30pm - a 5th set would have been played the next day and we would have missed it!

Wimbledon - such an amazing atmosphere, the gardens and flowers around the grounds were beautiful, the Pimms, and strawberries and cream, and being so close to the action! It was also extra special to be where Taylor's grandmother had played the English number 1 on number 1 Court in the 1962 Wimbledon championships!

The trip of my life!

**Jackie Mitchell**

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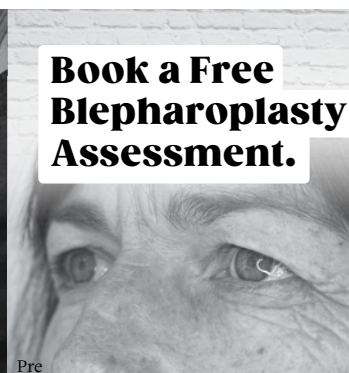
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# In the Spring Garden with Glyn Church.



Remember to walk around your own garden in the spring, no matter how large or small it is, and enjoy what is there.

Spring: This is the final of the four seasonal articles with Glyn Church sharing his extensive knowledge on flowering plants in our area. Look back at the December 2023 issue for summer flowers, March 2024 for autumn colour, and July 2024 for winter colour (All available online [www.theoakurapost.co.nz](http://www.theoakurapost.co.nz) under the archives tab). Now we're into spring, the time of year when everything wants to bloom.

Spring is a long season here, says Glyn, compared to other places and it's especially long around our Coast. In the Northern Hemisphere spring is more like a two month season; here we have four months of spring after a short winter [so says the horticulturist, but it doesn't always seem that way]. Winter weather is some of our best weather because we have calm blue sky days. Spring is really the worst weather for us in Ōākura because it tends to be squally and stormy, windy and showery. To make up for it, we gain a profusion of flowering trees and shrubs at this time of year.

Cherry trees are the epitome of a spring flowering tree, loved by Tuis. The Awanui cherry tree is the most popular here. It was selected in the late 1980s by Keith Adams,

a local nurseryman who was also an explorer seeking new species of plants in Borneo.

We have a climate that is magnificent for magnolias in the spring. Our warm summers and no-frost winters allow magnolias to set seed. NZ can claim four of the top magnolia breeders of the world, some who worked in Taranaki in the late 80s and others still breeding new plants. For a region of our size and remoteness, that's saying something and makes us realise how our climate and 'owning' these world class breeders in our region has impacted not only our local gardens but also gardens worldwide.

Os Blumhardt lived and worked in New Plymouth before moving to Whangarei. He created the magnolia named Star Wars. Felix Jury of Waitara bred both magnolias and camellias and is credited with the magnolia named Vulcan. His son Mark Jury is currently a well known plant breeder in Waitara. Vance Hooper, also in Waitara, is still breeding plants and especially magnolias. Glyn says he "dabbles" in breeding new varieties of magnolia and gave one of his own breeds the whimsy name "Church Mouse". He's working on a new colour now that is exciting him, with no name yet.

Most shrubs flower in the spring: camellias, daphnes, pieris', and evergreen azaleas. By flowering in spring they have sufficient time, a whole summer, to produce seeds for perpetuating the plant for the following year. You should prune flowering shrubs immediately after flowering. That gives the plant a whole 11 months to grow flowers for the next year (except hydrangeas which should be pruned mid winter).

Lots of shrubs have fragrant flowers that will attract pollinators. In fact, Glyn says, "When a horticulturalist comes across a plant they don't know, the first thing they do is smell the flower or crush a leaf. Even if they think they have never seen it before, the scent may trigger a memory."

Coastal Taranaki is not typically a good climate for traditional perennials, though we do some

of them quite well such as tractor plants (named for their resemblance to the old metal Ferguson tractor seats) and reinga reinga lilies, day lilies, hostas and Bearded and Siberian iris'. These last three come up in the spring and completely disappear in the winter.

If you planted bulbs last season they will be popping up in the early spring.

Daffodils are amongst the first to signal spring is coming. Many traditional bulbs don't thrive in Ōākura because we don't get cold enough. For instance tulips don't do well but we can grow South African freesias quite nicely.

Spring is the easiest garden season. Everything seems to want to bloom in spring and our gardens look the best in spring. At a flower show in the 1980s in Hawera Glyn met Bernie Hollard. (Hollard gardens in Kaponga bears his name.) "Bernie recognised me as a fellow plant fanatic. I got to know him and he generously gave me cuttings and plants." "As we walked around his garden one day he was grumbling about all the jobs that needed to be done. His wife Rose told him to look at the beautiful things, to be more positive and just enjoy what is there." Glyn and his wife Gail decided they would walk around their own garden one day every week, rain or shine, and enjoy what was beautiful rather than focus on what needed to be done. They look at what pleases them and ignore the garden chores that are awaiting. "We walk around as if we are tourists."

Glyn is on the Advisory Panels to both Pukekura and Pukeiti gardens. "Their young staffs learn from the 'grey manes' but they won't be needing our advice after awhile." He is a contributing writer for the New Zealand Gardener magazine and provides information to a modern online professional reference to trees and shrubs that maintains up-to-date data worldwide. It is reputed to be the best reference in the world, freely available to all at [treesandshrubsonline.org](http://treesandshrubsonline.org). Glyn's interest in trees is far-reaching, and over the past 30 years Glyn and Gail have gone on 'tree tours' of Bhutan, Korea, China, Florida, the Carolinas and California.

*Elayne Kessler*



*Improv Taranaki, Franz Maciej.*



*Improv Taranaki, Adam Harris.*

# Improv Taranaki

Improv is short for improvisation and is a form of live theatre in which the plot, characters, and dialogue of a game, scene, or story are made up in the moment. I met with two members of Improv Taranaki who live here in Ōākura, Franz Maciej and Adam Harris.

Franzi - Moved from her home in Germany to New Zealand in 2015 and to Ōākura in 2021. She thought it would be her last chance to travel before 'settling down' in Germany. Much like where she had come from, she wanted to live in a small coastal community. She loves to surf and is fascinated with the ocean. "Actually I quite like it here and plan to stay awhile."

She says she has always been drawn to the performing arts, drama and theatre. She became a teacher in Germany and often used storytelling to get a message across to young children and to help them with self regulation. In pursuits outside of teaching she says she noticed the power of the arts for her own well-being, learning and quality of life.

Franzi is passionate about ensuring that children have access to the arts. She has a small business called 'Imagine Play Inspire' in Ōākura, which provides play experiences for children that focus on the creative process and sensory play. She currently also offers messy playgroups for 1-5 year olds, while an after-school art programme for 5-8 year olds is in the planning stage. Check out FB and Instagram at [imagineplayinspire](https://www.imagineplayinspire.co.nz)

Adam - Came to live in Ōākura from Nottingham UK in January 2020 so his two children could attend the Green School. He describes performance as part of the culture he was raised in, with stories and theatre around holidays and traditions. He was in school productions in his youth and a couple of bands, and now he gets paid as a professional

speaker and 'master of ceremonies' for various corporations and their staff trainings. Adam is also Managing Director of a local IT company OurCloud New Zealand.

He did some improv in the UK and was searching for it here. There was nothing here until he saw an advertisement for a six week taster course in improv offered by Phill Spear.

Phill Spear moved to New Plymouth from Auckland and brought his passion for improv with him. Both Franz and Adam did a beginners'/tasters' course with Phill about a year and a half ago. It was after that Phill decided he wanted to progress improv in Taranaki and build a performing group for the community. Phill is described as "a good teacher who is skilled in knowing peoples' limits and pushing them just a little bit further so they grow."

Phill got funding for their first live show in August 2023 and there has been a show every month since then. What he's created in a year and a half is pretty amazing. Happy one year birthday, Improv Taranaki.

While the audience is encouraged to shout out a suggestion such as where the scene will take places, no one is ever called upon to come on stage or participate in any way (even if you're sitting in the audience front row). The audience can enjoy feeling part of the show without thinking they might be called up to perform.

There are eight performers in the Improv Taranaki group. In addition to Franz and Adam who both live in Ōākura, the other six live in New Plymouth. Performances to date have been held at the New Plymouth Little Theatre, and many have been sold out. "Something we value as an organisation is 'Collective Joy' - we want to create joyous experiences for all

that come in contact with our community. This means that laughs don't come at the expense of others; we find humour in the everyday and the experiences of being human. One of our favourite things about improv is the joy that it sparks in performers and audiences alike. People who have come to one of our performances have said that they left with their cheeks hurting from so much laughing."

But Improv Taranaki isn't just about performing. They have adult coaching/practise group sessions that allow you to learn, play and have fun. You don't have to be funny or confident to enjoy these sessions, just be willing to allow yourself to make mistakes.

If you are interested in joining the community, you don't have to aim to be on stage, you might just want to become more confident and have fun. You can move into performing only if that's what you want, and the community attracts people from all backgrounds and walks of life.

Improv is live, we don't know what will happen. it's about being comfortable with uncertainty and having the resiliency to carry on and deal with those harder moments in life — to be present in the moment, trust and let go. It's a space where there's no judgement and making mistakes is normalised, encouraged even. It's normalising 'messing up' and realising that nothing bad is going to happen as a result.

Improv Taranaki currently runs classes after school for 8-12 year olds. The kids are learning about Improv and important life lessons that are also part of the process. After school classes for 6-8 years olds are being developed and expected to start next term.

The vibe and energy keeps growing as more people find out about Improv Taranaki. They plan to continue their regular performances, expand classes for adults and children, and branch out into communities and special events. They want their positivity to have a widening ripple effect. As someone who was in the audience at their last show, I highly recommend you catch one of their shows and have a really good time.

It's best to keep up with what they are doing by following them on Facebook and Instagram at Improv Taranaki.

*Elayne Kessler*







From Hokonui Fashion Design Awards (Still Photography).



Oscar's workbook. Photographed by Oscar. Model - Emily Wood.

## Oscar Darling wins at the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards



Oscar Darling (formerly Robertson) is in his 4th and final year studying fashion at Massey University in Wellington. As part of his course he had to enter into a competition. He chose the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards. Into it's 36th year, it's the longest running fashion design awards of their type in New Zealand. It is held in Gore in July and attracts amateur fashion designers from all over New Zealand.

He entered the Open competition in the 'upcycle' section. The outfit he made was all from second-hand clothing, a jacket made from a pair of jeans, the trousers from a blazer and the shirt from the blazer lining. The outfit was sent off for judging and he didn't know if it would be in the show.

Oscar watched the awards show online and it was the first time he knew his garment had been selected. This was followed by the announcement that he was runner up in his section and winner of 'Garment with the most Commercial Potential Award'. The prize was \$400 for being runner up and \$700 for best commercial.

See more: <https://www.hokonui.fashion.co.nz/results-2024>  
See the post on the sponsor of the award instagram page - [theshelternz](https://www.instagram.com/theshelternz)

Readers may remember Oscar when he was on the front cover of the July 2020 POST in basketball mode. This is an excerpt from that story: 'A keen basketball player, Oscar represented New Zealand in 2017 for the U18 National team at the Oceania Championships in Guam where

his team placed second. He earned a full basketball scholarship and last year was spent at a college in Denver, Colorado. He returned to Ōākura early due to his college closing, due to Covid-19, and is now playing for the Taranaki Steelformers Mountainairs. Oscar has decided to stay in New Zealand and study at Victoria University, Wellington. His greatest passion outside of basketball is fashion and he'd like to start his own clothing brand in the future.'



Oscar's workbook. Photographed by Oscar. Model - Emily Wood.



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## David Macleod MP for New Plymouth

Last month I had the pleasure of stopping by Ōmata and Ōākura Schools in my endeavour to visit all schools in the New Plymouth electorate this parliamentary term.

It's clear both schools are exceeding national averages and setting tamariki up for success. Our rural schools offer unique learning environments for students from year 1 to 8, like woodfire-heated classrooms and a school library that doubles as a Puke Ariki community library. Our rural schools also have strong relationships with local hapu, are learning te reo and tikanga Māori, and are provided opportunities to work in nature; whether through outside classrooms, growing vegetable patches, or working on environmental projects like water quality testing of local streams.

It's fantastic to hear that a focus on the basics has long been the standard, and the Government's policies in education are enabling schools to develop consistency for all students.

Last month the Government announced a new maths action plan with changes to the curriculum, assessment and workforce. A new curriculum will be introduced from term 1 next year, and twice-yearly assessments for maths in primary schools will help to show where extra support is needed. Teachers will have to meet new NCEA level 2 requirements and will have access to professional development and greater resources.

I also want to take a moment to congratulate Victor and the team at the Bach on Surf Highway. I enjoyed a delicious lunch and warm hospitality

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Authorized by David MacLeod, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



at the newly opened café in the Ōākura village. I wish them the best in this new venture.

I'm always interested to hear about the issues that concern you and to learn about some of the world class businesses we have here. Please contact my office, or if you see me around, please do come and say hi.

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The now accessible bathroom facility at Ōkato Swimming Pool.



# Kaitake Community Board

The post Long Term Plan lull in significant Council activities provided me the chance to take a few weeks out to catch up with my whanau in Australia's New South Wales, in Wellington, and in the Bay of Plenty. The time away provided me the opportunity to compare first hand what life is like in those locations compared to what we have here at home.

The most striking standout first off for me was how "rubbish" most of our roads truly are. Driving on both urban and rural roads in Australia was an absolute dream. Also experiencing the expressway/motorway from Otaki to Wellington was so different to the last time I travelled down that way. The new roading around Tauranga, Mt Maunganui and Papamoa is simply amazing, although negotiating your way around the process of paying the road toll charges was a bit of a mission.

There is clearly a lot of work that needs to be done to our existing local roads to lift their standard, and a lot of upgrading of sections of our highway networks to cater for increased traffic volumes, the size of the trucks we are seeing on our roads, and to improve road safety on those networks. Unfortunately it doesn't look as though Central Government will have the funds to address our roading needs in the foreseeable future, and it doesn't look as though anything is going to be done regarding the quality of the repair work that is being carried out around the district.

The next thing I was surprised to discover was, whilst the wages in Australia are significantly higher than here in New Zealand, the cost of housing, the cost of food, and the day to day costs of living are reported to have risen sharply in the last couple of years. We seem to be a lot better off here in Aotearoa, New Zealand in many of those areas – so much so that expat Kiwis that we met up with are seriously considering moving back home. So while it was lovely to get away and reconnect in person with whanau I hadn't seen since COVID-19 arrived, it really was great to get back home to Taranaki.

On to Community Board matters – A great deal of advocacy work has been put into the accessibility space over the past year or so, and some

of that effort has finally begun to bear fruit. A new wheelchair, pushchair and elderly friendly shower and toilet facility has been completed at the Ōkato Swimming Pool. Previously this demographic had next to no access to the existing facilities at the pool – a situation that flew in the face of the Council's Accessibility Strategic Vision and Goals. These new facilities are the first steps in the journey to living up to that vision and those goals, the next stage of work pitched at addressing the entry into the pool complex itself.

Another project that is gaining some traction is addressing the accessibility issues on the beachfront at Ōākura. The bureaucratic landscape and significant sensitivities surrounding a piece of work such as this are complex and multifaceted, with a requirement to account for issues such as the needs and concerns of manawhenua, technical risks, consent ability, constructability, maintenance requirements, intervention requirements, cultural and public stakeholder input requirements, impact on wildlife, climate change considerations, impact on significant surf breaks, to name but a few. There is no denying the magnitude of the task ahead, however to enable every demographic of our community the opportunity to easily access and enjoy the treasure that is Ōākura Beach is absolutely worth the effort.

Other projects that are well underway or progressing are the Storyboard Signage for the Wreck of the SS Gairloch, and Lucy's Gully, a basketball half court for the Ōkato Neighbourhood Park, and new seating for Shearer Reserve. However these will be stories to be told in future issues.

In the meantime, stay safe and warm, and roll on spring.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at 5pm, on Monday 14 October 2024, at the Kaitake Community Sports Hub in Ōākura.

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

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

## ON THE HOUSE Supporting the community with surplus food

On the House is a Charitable Trust that began in New Plymouth in 2017.

The aims of OTH are to reduce food waste, feed people who are in need and to build a community through connection and participation, creating a social solution to an environmental issue.

Surplus food is collected from supermarkets by volunteers in an electric van and taken to a warehouse aptly named The Hub. Here, more volunteers weigh the boxes of mixed food items, then sort their contents into categories eg tinned food, bread products, fruit and vegetables, dairy products and meats etc.

Excess food is also donated to OTH by growers, caterers, food producers and cafes.

There is a very large walk-in cold room and equally large walk-in freezer to properly store the food until it is taken to the free stores on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for distribution. Items also go to foodbanks and other community groups.

During the 2023/2024 financial year, 10,000 households received rescued food from the pop-up free stores. Over the same period, more than 100 volunteers put in more than 5,900 hours collecting, and sorting of food, recycling packaging, repackaging food items, setting up at the free stores, greeting clients, making a cuppa and handing out muffins (at the Over 65 Year Old's pop-up Store), 'shopping' for recipients and packing up again. Many hours also go into Administration to ensure the smooth operation of this charity group.

I have been volunteering with this fabulous group of people for the past three months and have really enjoyed meeting so many



From left to right: Denise Roper, Corbyn Honnor, Cathy Ardern, Claudia Lua, Malcolm Silby, Sally Wildman, Trish Davidson

lovely people also volunteering, and all of the wonderful recipients who are helping to 'Save The Planet' by stopping excess food going into landfills.

I also love that we have The Pig Bucket... broken eggs, spotty fruit and veg, contents of containers that have split open and any other food that is not quite 100% for human consumption go into the blue pig bin. Those pigs must smile when they see our bins arriving!

The pop-up free stores are at three different locations:

**Mondays 5pm to 6pm**  
St James Presbyterian Church,  
Lawry St, Moturoa

**Wednesdays 2pm to 3pm**  
(time may change)  
Whitely Church Hall, 66 Liardet Street  
For customers Over 65 Years of Age - just show your Gold Card on arrival. Come for a hot drink, baking and a chat before 2pm.

**Thursdays 5pm to 6pm**  
Holy Trinity Church Hall,  
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On The House Charity is not religious, not political and no questions are asked of customers, other than if you have any food allergies or dietary requirements. Our hope is that everyone who receives a bag of groceries from us can enjoy a few meals.

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**Cathy Ardern**




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# Ōākura Bowling & Social Club



## Opening Day

The club warmly welcomes any experienced and/or new bowlers to join with the members for the Opening Day roll up (all equipment provided) on Sunday 15th September starting at 1pm. These days are a great opportunity for the wider Ōākura community to experience the club's friendly hospitality and roll a few down. The Ōākura club is also keenly interested in providing opportunities for women to get more involved with this great game going forward. For those interested in playing, Opening Day also provides an opportunity to have any questions answered around membership, competitions, and the upcoming season.

A full bar will be available and a sausage sizzle will be provided after the bowls around 3.30pm. For further information, please contact Steve Muller 021 169 5863 or Paul Coxhead 027 505 0520.

## Playing Bowls

There is a common myth that to play bowls one must sacrifice every weekend of the season to the bowling gods. Yes, there are bowling tragedies amongst us who tend to have withdrawal symptoms if an afternoon is cancelled due to inclement weather, however you can select and organise to play when and where your life schedule allows. There are opportunities for both the social and serious bowler with competitions held midweek and over the weekends. A full programme of both club and centre tournaments are provided at the start of the season and together with the captain and/or selectors you can choose a bowling programme that best suits your availability and lifestyle.

## Special Membership Offer

Building the playing membership base is an important and challenging issue for any sporting club. The Ōākura Bowling Club is offering all first-year bowlers a package deal with the offer of \$50 fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, coaching sessions and the use of club bowls. For more information about this great offer please call Steve Muller – 0211695863.

## Club News

Well done to the Ōākura boys in winning the Wednesday interclub competition played at the Paritutu stadium over the winter break. The team of Jim Priest, Allan Bridgeman, Roy Phillips, Rex Wright and Ray Haslip lost only 1 game over the 9 weeks of competition and were well deserved winners.

Steve Muller flew the flag for NZ in making the final of the blue-ribbon singles competition at the Sunshine Coast Winter Bowls Carnival. Defending champion Muller narrowly lost the modified singles format 7-6 in a high-quality final played at the Nambour Bowling Club.

Congratulations to Wayne Robinson for winning the Taranaki 2023-2024 greenkeeper of the year award, a well-deserved accolade for Robinson who has excelled in providing the club with a world class green and beautiful place to bowl. Also, thanks to all the volunteers who assisted in keeping the surrounds and facilities in pristine condition over the winter break and those who helped with the winter green maintenance programme. A special mention goes to Aotearoa Gaming Trust for providing funding for the purchase of green chemicals for the upcoming season.

*The underarm bowler*



## Coral Moller, longtime wife and companion of Norton, passed away in July.

Coral had been unwell in recent years and she knew it could become a terminal illness. It was comforting to know that she died without pain and was able to be cared for by her family.

I was inspired by Coral. Her early life was interesting and we sometimes forget to ask the women who have spent most of their public lives being homemakers and all that entailed, what they did before that. Coral grew up in Lower Hutt and came to New Plymouth to train as a nurse at Barrett St Hospital. It was considered one of the best places to train and

Coral loved nursing. She and Norton married in 1954 and she gave up nursing when they started their family.

When they moved to Ōākura their newly built home was surrounded by paddock and over time she and Norton, with the help of the children, landscaped and planted a beautiful garden.

We can only wish for these kind, lovely people to be in our lives forever. Coral's and Norton's dedication to Ōākura and the community are beautiful reminders of them.

You can read more on Norton Moller's legacy - July 2024 issue. Available in the archives section on our website. *Tracey*

# Taonga gifted to Oakura Pa



Recently two carved stones (taonga) were found nestled by the gateway to Oakura Pa, the meeting place for whānau of Ngati Tairi, an uplifting moment for us knowing that such treasures were still being located in the area. Whanau of Oakura Pa wanted to take this opportunity to give our heartfelt thanks to the person(s) who took the time to honour these taonga through gifting to Oakura Pa. While there was no detail of the thoughtful person who deposited the taonga we would appreciate it if the person(s) who located them could somehow let us know some more detail around location of these items to enable us to continue to build the picture of where our people of Ngati Tairi lived. The email address below is one way to make contact to share those details.

We would also welcome others who may have similar items that have been found in this area by contacting us at: [oakurapa.trustees@gmail.com](mailto:oakurapa.trustees@gmail.com)

We can then make arrangements around collection of these treasured taonga.



# Medical calls outstrip fire call-outs

Did you know that volunteer firefighters attend 55 per cent of all medical emergency call-outs across New Zealand? Yip, as much as we love lugging around hoses the reality is medical calls outstrip fire call-outs by a long shot - of course a low amount of fire is a great thing but to attend medicals we need to be just as prepared and trained.

Mid - August the crew recertified in co-responder first aid with Red Cross, a two yearly refresher that we take to ensure that we are able to respond to patients with the latest techniques. The fire service is called to some medical events because often we are the closest to the incident, and we have on board a defib that could be the difference in saving a life before an ambulance crew arrives. The procedure for a medical emergency still stands though, simply call 111 and state your emergency. The dispatch will make the decision on what agency to send to you for help.

We would also like to acknowledge the many medical professionals who stop and help at an incident. We are certainly blessed with a great number of highly trained medical staff in the village.

*Photo caption - "Clumsy" James Page as a patient for first aid training.*

*The Ōākura Volunteer Fire Brigade*



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## Attention US citizens

Vote from Abroad is a non partisan organisation that assists people who want to vote by absentee ballot. The US presidential election will be in November and if you are a US citizen living in NZ, you are eligible to vote in that election. Register and request your ballot by email asap from: [www.FVAP.gov](http://www.FVAP.gov) (Federal Voting Assistance Program). It's usually easy and straightforward, but if you are having a problem and/or have questions, email Elayne at [ekesslernz@hotmail.com](mailto:ekesslernz@hotmail.com). She has undergone voter assistance training with Vote from Abroad and would be glad to help.

Please share this information with your American friends and spread the word.

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# Kaitake Golf Club

We are now into Spring golf, and recently we have had some really nice days. The course has been busy with club competitions and also lots of green fee players taking advantage of our lovely course.

Unfortunately there is an increasing number of divots on the course not being replaced and pitch marks on the greens not being repaired, so please look after the course and replace your divots and repair your pitch marks.

## LADIES CLUB NEWS:

In May, Kim Woodward hosted a Pink Ribbon Lunch at the Club with about 50 ladies attending. \$1,290 was raised, which included \$250 from raffles, one of which Dom won. I hope he enjoys the Pilates! Last year \$524 was raised. Thank you to all the ladies who generously donated to this very worthy cause, Breast Cancer Foundation, and thank you to Kim for organising it.

Pennants have finished for the year. Our Weekend Pennant Team with Kaitake ended up 6th equal after a promising start. Our Mid Week Team finished in the middle of the pack. Congratulations to our 9 Hole Kaitake White team who came runners up in their Division with the Blue Team 4th equal.

### Reminder

Tuesdays and Thursdays are Ladies Club Days and they use both the 1st and the 10th tees for starting. If you are wanting to play on these days it would be preferred if you would not come out to play until after 11am. Please give consideration to these players who are playing competitions and let them through.



### CHIPPERS age 5 - 12 years

Chippers will commence 20 October.  
Contact the Club or Jamie on 022 677 3663.

Club contact - Denise Phone: (06) 752 7665  
Email: [kaitakegolf@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kaitakegolf@xtra.co.nz)

## At the Library NOW

## Te Wiki o te Reo Māori 2024

This year we celebrate Māori Language Week 14 – 21 September with a range of activities here at the Ōākura library and across all our libraries, museum and the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre. Visit us to check out our two beautiful kete full of children's books in te reo and bi-lingual te reo and English, and take a Te Reo book home with you.

Some favourite titles:

- Te Tanguruhau - The Gruffalo
- Te haere ki te Rapu Pea - We're Going on a Bear Hunt
- Ngā Wīra o te pahi -The Wheels on the Bus
- Peppa's first 100 Māori words, a lift the flap book

## Crackerjacks

Thursday 5 September, 10am-10.30am  
Pre-schoolers, bring your whānau for a relaxed story time and craft.

Happy reading

### *The Ōākura Team*

# *Taranaki Women's Refuge Fundraiser*

Just a reminder that the annual Pop Up Shop fundraiser for Taranaki Women's Refuge is coming up on the 11th to the 20th October. This coincides nicely with spring cleaning season - a chance to set free some of those items hiding at the back of your wardrobe. They are accepting donations of quality men's and women's clothing, shoes and accessories which you can drop off right here at the Ōākura Medical Centre. There is also a VIP shopping night on the evening of the 11th October - grab some friends and a ticket for this event, or go along to the Pop Up Shop at the N.P. Racecourse to snap up some bargains, all in aid of a good cause.

## *Ōākura School's Andy Shearer*

Andy has been at the school for three years now as Property Manager and has been instrumental in numerous environmental projects undertaken by pupils and staff. "Trees for Survival" (run in cooperation with DOC) is one such project. In August the school receives 1,100 seedlings which are potted up into bags by the Junior school. They are nurtured in a specially built seedling house until April when an area or farm is chosen, and the children then travel there to plant them in their permanent home. Seniors are involved in the Envirocentre – an area on the school grounds where skills such as planting and maintaining the environment are taught. Bigger projects Andy has led them in are the fence and viewing platform construction. Most recently, raised vegetable beds have been added to the school site where fresh produce is grown by the children. Andy is quick to acknowledge all the help staff and parents add to the mix. It's a great place to work. Everyone mucks in and no two days are ever the same"

## *The Crafty Fox Co-op*

The Crafty Fox Co-op on Ōākura's main street arose from the original Crafty Fox so loved by locals and ably run by John Sole (sadly deceased) and Tony Barnes. The souvenir side moved to new premises and added New Zealand made arts and crafts, with around 30 artists, many of them local, offering a very wide assortment of items. The shop is coordinated by Louise, and all the artists contribute time to running it. It was great to be welcomed by Louise's in-house security guard Zeus, who apparently has plenty of local doggie friends he catches up with while on the job. Louise says it's nice for people to see what people create and is happy that people come in just to look sometimes. Well worth a visit, especially if you are hunting for gifts.

## Toret Cucina Italiana recognised

Cuisine magazine has named this lovely local restaurant as one of the outstanding restaurants in the region and the country. Nicolo and wife Katie opened the restaurant in 2020, and are both humbled and honoured to be chosen. All aspects of a quality restaurant are considered in awarding a restaurant "hats". They use locally sourced ingredients and follow Italian recipes and techniques and I believe singing (Nicolo's) is also part of the restaurant's ambience. Living in Okato the couple have three children, Enrico, Cecilia and Giulio. They are big fans of Ōākura and its people, and keen users of the Village's local cafés, eateries and suppliers. As Nicolo says, "The beach is awesome. What's not to like about Ōākura?" Bellissimo!

# New improved timetable

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### Coastal bus service

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Ōpunake to New Plymouth (Mon-Fri)		AM	PM
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	6.55	1.30
Rahotu	Plunket Rooms	7.08	1.43
Pungarehu	Opposite Town Hall	7.13	1.48
Okato	Carthew St. (opp. Sinclair's)	7.25	2.00
Oākura	Oākura Hall	7.35	2.10
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	7.50	2.25
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	7.57	2.32
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	8.00	2.35

New Plymouth to Ōpunake		AM	PM
		Mon-Fri	Mon-Thu
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	11.30	5.05
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	11.33	5.08
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	11.40	5.18
Oākura	Oākura Hall	11.50	5.20
Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.	12.00	5.30
Pungarehu	Town Hall	12.10	5.40
Rahotu	Four Square	12.15	5.45
Ōpunake	Dreamtime	12.28	5.58
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	12.30	6.00

Friday only		PM
New Plymouth	FDMC	4.25
New Plymouth	NPGHS	4.40
New Plymouth	SHGC	4.45
New Plymouth	NPBHS	4.55
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	5.05
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	5.08
New Plymouth	Spotswood College (pick-up only)	5.18
Oākura	Oākura Hall	5.20
Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.	5.30
Pungarehu	Town Hall	5.40
Rahotu	Four Square	5.45
Ōpunake	Dreamtime	5.58
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	6.00

\*Spotswood College - AM drop off only & PM pick-up only

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## Bryan Vickery

### Kaitake Ngamōtu Ward Councillor

My name is Bryan Vickery. I am one of five Kaitake Ngamōtu Ward Councillors that represent you. The others are Deputy Mayor David Bublit, Anneka Carlson-Matthews, Bali Haque and Gordon Brown.

I am better known for my popular Facebook page, Bryan Vickery Media Taranaki, a not for profit media platform. Because I eschew self promotion, I am seldom in my videos, so most people don't recognise me. However, many know my voice.

So there is a good chance that my more than 800 edited videos (in the last three years) will have showcased your friends or a group you are involved with. Most recently I did a piece on the NP Menz Shed. Recently I emceed and filmed the very successful Cape Egmont Half Marathon, organised by the legendary Nicky Smith. And in the lead up to Anzac Day I filmed New Plymouth RSA President (and Kaitake Community Board Chair) Graham Chard at the Ōmata Cemetery talking about the meaning of Anzac Day.

My Background: I've had more than twenty years in regional media: Newstalk ZB radio journalism, breakfast radio, and Taranaki

regional TV. I have probably spent more time monitoring council meetings over the years than anyone else. Previous to that I was a Deputy High School Principal and an English teacher. I also tutor the radio broadcasting course at WITT.

Fun facts about me: I am a Shakespeare and history scholar, and a regular actor in local plays. But these days my passion is tramping and filming nature, plus representing the district.

I live in Strandon, in close proximity to former Mayor Peter Tennent, and next door to Cr Murray Chong. I like the centrality of Strandon, but my heart's in Ōākura, as my closest friends live there.

I pride myself on being well read, inclusive and an independent thinker. I am a very polite person, but can be very confronting in the debating chamber. I am currently on the Council's Sustainability Working Group, the CCOs (Council Controlled Organisations), Te Huinga Taumatua, and Strategic Projects. I also represent the NPDC on Heritage Taranaki and the Friends of Pukekura Park. I work well with all councillors, but I work most closely with Max Brough, who is committed to improving



council operational efficiency, and Bali Haque who is passionate about improving affordable housing.



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## NPOB Surf Club Indoor Bowls



After a fairly mild winter, it won't be long before we can look forward to another fantastic summer. Junior Surf will kick off on the first Sunday of November, which this year falls on November 3rd. We're always in need of volunteers in any capacity, so please don't hesitate to get involved. The more support we have, the better the experience will be for your children.

In mid-October, we will offer the first opportunity this year to sit for the Bronze Lifeguard Award or Patrol Support Award. If you're interested in becoming a lifeguard or patrol support member, please reach out to us. We are in urgent need of more lifeguards. We won't require you to volunteer every weekend; any support is appreciated. What we really need is a 'wise head' to assist and mentor our younger members.

Patrol Support involves all the essential tasks away from the water, so there's no need to pass swimming competency assessments. It's a great way to learn about keeping our community safe around water, gain first aid skills, use radios, and support the patrol tower.

Weekend patrols will commence on Saturday, November 30th and will continue every weekend until Taranaki Anniversary Day on Monday, March 10th. Lifeguards will be on duty from 1-5pm.

Back in August, a group of our Oceans kids competed at the Taranaki Pool Rescue Champs. The NPOB team had a fantastic day, securing numerous placements and creating many memorable moments.

Lifeguards, keep an eye out for updates on lifeguard refreshers, first aid, patrol captains, instructor, and rock module courses. For any information about the surf club, how to join, or lifeguarding, please email npobsurfclub@extra.co.nz.

Follow us on Facebook at NPOB Surf Club to stay updated on our activities and events.

We've had a whirlwind last few weeks with plenty on at the club. First up the club championship singles, which was played over three nights, consisting of a 10 game round robin with the four top players by wins and ends going through to the semi-finals. Marvin Clough and Peter Anderson qualified top with 10 wins, with Greg Jans and Nev Jans making up the quartet. Marvin played Greg in the first semi-final which was a close affair, neither getting ahead by more than 1-2 points. Going into the last end Marvin held a two shot lead and managed to hold on to win 9-8. In the second semi-final Peter outplayed Nev to win comfortably 12-5. In the final, both were playing good bowls with Marvin leading a number of the ends. On the last end Marvin was up 10-8 putting pressure on Peter to score a couple of points, although missed with his final bowl meaning Marvin won 12-8.

We had our annual visit from the New Plymouth Club which was played in good spirits and we all had a lot of fun.

We hosted the four clubs tournament at the Belt Road Centre Hall. This is a fun event where the teams are randomly created and it is a good opportunity to mix with other players and learn a few different ideas on how to play the game. There were four teams on the night with three wins, and after a 'closest bowl to the jack' playoff our very own Marvin Clough won first prize, who by chance also had Nev Jans in his team. A good result on the night.

We are coming to the end of the season so the next update will conclude with central division champs and prizegiving.

### The President



## Weaving our Story Country Connections

By Charlotte Connolly and Charlie Hill

This term students at Ōmata School have been learning about their country connections. Since the Olympics have been happening in Paris, it seemed like a good time to dive into our ancestry. When we interviewed students, they shared that they were very excited to learn more about where their whānau have come from and what countries people have strong connections to. A particular activity that has been enjoyed by all members of the Ōmata community is checking out which country's flag is on the flag pole each morning.

Students think it's really special when their connected country's flag is up on the flag pole, stationed right next to the drop off and pick up zone so families can view the flags from the comfort of their cars. Our school has a wide range of connections from all around the world such as: South Africa, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Australia, Sweden, China, Japan, Poland, Lebanon, Italy, USA, Switzerland, Canada, Russia, Germany, France, Chile, Netherlands, Denmark, Indonesia, Lithuania, Samoa, Norway, India, Egypt, Iraq, Croatia and of course we all connect to New Zealand.

Our principal, Karen Brisco, is the one who hoists the next flag up each school morning so that it is ready for the new school day. She said that she loves looking at these flags after she



Photo caption: Back row: Martin, Charlie, Blake, Taj, Carter, Talia. 3rd Row: Mckayla, Ramina, Aylah, Tara, Mica, Milly, Olivia, Leon 2nd Row: Lucas, Emma, Isobelle, Charlie, Maja. 1st Row: Ivy, Isla, Anakin.

puts them up knowing that someone within her school community is connected to these countries.

Students across the school, including ourselves, have found country connections very enjoyable. It's also a great chance to learn about others' connections to countries as well as our own. We have heard stories about immediate connections such as Annika and Malte who moved from the Netherlands to New Zealand in 2014, as well as distant connections of family members who migrated to New Zealand in the early 1900s in search of opportunities to provide a better life for their families. We are from many different places around the world and that is what makes us interesting.

## Coming up

### September

- 3** Coastal Cross Country Year 4-6 1pm @ Waireka
- 4** Y7/8 E-Pro8 Competition 5pm
- 5** Coastal Cross Country Year 7/8 1pm @ Waireka
- 13** Ōmata Disco
- 18-20** Y5/6 Camp at Vertical Horizon
- 19** Y7/8 Volleyball Tournament
- 25** Taranaki Cross Country - Hawera
- 27** Term 3 finishing

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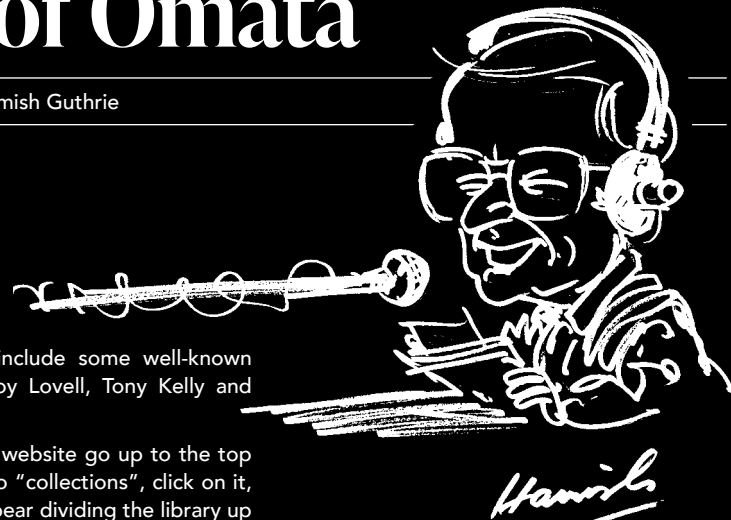
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# Stories of Ōmata

by Hamish Guthrie



## Lost History of Ōākura and Taranaki.

Where do you go to access our past on sound and film? Well until recently, the short answer was - you couldn't. Our libraries have a little, but it's not easy to get at, however now there is a website with an amazing collection of our treasures from the past where, with just a click, you can immerse yourself in Taranaki's rich history – and it's all absolutely free – no memberships – no paywalls.

The Taranaki Media Archive (a charitable trust), was launched in March 2023 and has grown from an initial collection of 250 files to a library with well over a 1000 sound and video files – and it's being added to almost every day.

The oldest film is the 1911 Axeman's Carnival. It's a fascinating look at the fashions and people of that era. The film quality is quite good when you consider that the film maker was 'Hand Cranking' the film as it was being shot. Our films then age right through to the

present day, and include some well-known film makers like Roy Lovell, Tony Kelly and Keith Finnerty.

When you visit the website go up to the top right hand corner to "collections", click on it, and a menu will appear dividing the library up by area, town, interest, and also by decade. If you see what is available from say – the 1950s, there is an amazing lot there, including Bullen's Circus visit to Taranaki, Rugby - when Taranaki played the Spring Boks and the Lions, and the Royal Visit of the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth the 2nd.

Our History on sound recordings includes the series of over 40 audio documentaries made by the Audio History Trust, Choral performances and the brilliant 'Big Broadcast 1959'. This was a charity concert featuring the best of Taranaki Talent compered by Selwyn Toogood raising money for Plunket.

When you click on the Ōākura collection you'll find films made by Stan Jury which include the

beach horse racing meetings, life on the farm in the 50s, and the Ōākura, Koru, and Kirihaui Schools 80th Jubilee in 1957. There are also films on the 'Bowl Jams', Tom Cruise's visit, The Green School and our award-winning artist Maryanne Shearman.

We know there is a lot more film out there which we would love you to share – has anyone got some film of the Ōākura New Year Carnivals? You'll find our contact details on our website. [www.taranakimediaarchive.co.nz](http://www.taranakimediaarchive.co.nz) – just google Taranaki Media Archive - and don't forget you can view the site on your cellphone, tablet or PC. Now who's got some old Taranaki film? Get in touch with us – we'd love to hear from you.

## A little bit about Hamish Guthrie

Hamish is from the Canterbury region, and when asked where he is from, he always says Parnassus or Cheviot.

On leaving school he gained his first job at 3ZB as an administrative clerk, later getting an on-air announcer job. He worked in radio for the next 30 years or so with jobs in Australia, Radio Waikato, some freelancing then Radio Pacific before he came to New Plymouth. Here he did the morning shift on Radio Taranaki in the mid 80s. Next was Palmerston North before his job was disestablished as Radio began its nationwide networking.

We came back to New Plymouth and purchased a cafe. Following this Hamish entered the Taxi business and was the Executive Chairman of the New Plymouth Taxi Company before getting back into radio in Hawera. He retired from that and started doing interviews of local figures and making Audio Documentaries. He formed an Audio Trust and went on to make over 40 CDs.

We went overseas for over two years and on coming back Hamish started the Taranaki Media Archive, wanting somewhere to both house his Audio CDs, plus to salvage other audio and video footage showcasing Taranaki's history.

**Sharyn Guthrie**

Hamish and his wife Sharyn live in the wider Ōākura area.

Taranaki Media Archives want your film. See the story above for details.

## Driftwood Corner 2 poems

You'll never be alone when you find home  
I'll never want a clone you never need a loan

I'd like to be a fan I'd always know if you ran  
I'll have a big plan

**By Reggie Emans**  
Ōākura School student

## 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 - Bootcamp fitness

Mon and Wed 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](mailto:morgpt@xtra.co.nz)

**Kaitake Social Netball** - Sundays 3pm during Term 2 & 3 Oakura School Netball Courts Contact Jenna 027 489 4929.

#### 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

#### 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 Crop Swap

3rd Saturday 3-4pm  
Ōākura Village Hall. Contact Adam Harris  
[adam@frankandfearles.com](mailto:adam@frankandfearles.com)

#### 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](mailto:oakura@playcentre.org.nz)

#### Pony Club

Tracey Mackenzie 027 319 0238  
[traceymackyle@gmail.com](mailto:traceymackyle@gmail.com)

**Pool Club** - Meets every Wednesday night 7pm over winter commencing April at Butlers Reef. All welcome. For more info call Margaret 027 232 1899

#### Probus Club

Meets once a month at Ōākura Bowling club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month 10-11.30am. Contact Brenda Ryan 757 3537 or 027 748 9698

#### Running for Kids

TempoFit Kids breakfast run club every Friday 8am before school at Ōākura Hall, 8-13yrs. Hayden Shearman 027 483 5942  
[tempofit.org](http://tempofit.org)

#### St James Church

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

**Strength & Balance** on the Library deck (school term only) Monday 10:30  
Jane 06 752 7743

#### Sunday School - St James Church

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am.  
[stjamesoakura@gmail.com](mailto:stjamesoakura@gmail.com)

#### Surf Lessons

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

#### Te Reo Māori Lessons

Toni 021 661 912 [thowison@hotmail.com](mailto:thowison@hotmail.com)

#### Tennis Club

Coaching for all ages and levels.  
All other enquiries - Jackie 027 673 2900

**The Coastal Dippers** - Mon-Fri 7.00am, Sat & Sun 8.00am. Turn up in front of the Surf Club for a quick sea dip. Facebook or Kama 027 769 1101

#### Tai Chi Classes

Every Monday 9-10am at Ōākura Hall. Judi 027 268 2601. Just come along or contact: [taranakitaichichuan@gmail.com](mailto: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. Adult classes, Fridays 10.30am.  
[val@valdeakindance.org.nz](mailto: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](mailto:barney@5efitness.com) or visit [www.5efitness.com](http://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](mailto: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 begins Term 2 - Wednesdays 10.00 -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](mailto:okatocp@gmail.com)

**Te Ruru Market** - crafters, growers and makers. Wednesdays, Hempton Hall, Okato, 4-5:30pm

## TOP Information

### The Ōākura Post

**Editor:** Tracey Lusk  
06 752 7875 / 027 636 8060  
[editor@theoakurapost.co.nz](mailto:editor@theoakurapost.co.nz)

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

#### Advertising:

[advertising@theoakurapost.co.nz](mailto:advertising@theoakurapost.co.nz)

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





Taranaki Taku Tūrangā  
**Towards  
Predator-Free  
Taranaki**

# **ZERO POSSUM** **open evening**



Come along to this informal open night to hear the latest results,  
news and plans for the groundbreaking Zero Possum project.

- **Successes** - 2,000ha no resident possum population for 3+ years
- **Tools** - Farmland trap barrier, dogs, traps, self-reporting cameras etc
- **The big picture** - Mustelid control, a regional view and the Predator Free 2050 goal





**Thursday 5 September**

Between 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Butlers Reef 1133 South Road, Ōakura

*All welcome. Nibbles provided.*

 **Towards Predator-Free Taranaki**  
 [trc.govt.nz/towards-predator-free-taranaki](http://trc.govt.nz/towards-predator-free-taranaki)

  
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