

the Ōākura Post

NOVEMBER 2024

While you're out Trick or Treating drop by the fire station where our fire frighteners will be serving up hot severed fingers from the bbq.

Make your way through the haunted escape house or would you have eaten too many lollies to fit through?

FIRE AND SCAREMERGENCY **54 DIXON ST** 31st October 6pm





With Christmas very quickly approaching we are looking forward to the season ahead and hoping for a great summer.

NPOB volunteer lifeguards will be back on the beach every weekend starting Saturday, 30 November, from 1 PM to 5 PM, and will continue through to Taranaki Anniversary Day, Monday, 10 March.

In addition to weekend patrols, regional weekday patrols will kick off on Monday, 16 December, running through to Friday, 24 January 2025. From 27 January to 21 February, the beach will be patrolled 4pm to 7pm, Monday to Friday.

If you are interested in becoming a lifeguard, we would love to hear from you! Contact the club for more information on how to get involved. If you can't volunteer for patrols but want to show your appreciation for our lifeguards, remember that they all love home baking!

Junior Surf starts Sunday, 3 November. Sessions will start at 10 AM sharp. Please ensure you arrive 15 minutes early to get organised. Parents, please note that children aged 7 and younger must be accompanied by a participating adult each Sunday. For kids aged 8 to 14, a designated adult is required to supervise on the beach. Any changes or cancellations will be communicated through the NPOB Surf Club Facebook page, so make sure to follow us!

For any membership inquiries or general questions, please email us at npobsurfclub@xtra.co.nz.

Keep up with the latest news and updates by following us on Facebook at NPOB Surf Club.

NPOB Surf Club thrives thanks to our dedicated volunteers, who come in all shapes and sizes with various skills. There's a role for everyone, so don't hesitate to reach out if you can lend a hand!

Enjoy the beach, stay safe and swim between the flags.

CURRY HUB INDIAN TAKEAWAY



Convenient takeaway just 10 minutes drive from Oakura

Any Chicken Curry \$18 (Lamb \$19)
Pick up or phone order only

Home Delivery through Uber Eat and Order Meal
Please like us on Facebook Curry Hub Indian cuisine page & menu

Open Tuesday to Sunday 3pm - 9pm
61 Omata Road, New Plymouth

Phone 06 753 5565



The Cancer Society would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who supported Daffodil Day by donating or volunteering at the Ōākura Four Square.

We were excited to bring Made With Love to Ōākura which provided volunteers with an opportunity to bake goodies and craft items for sale to help raise funds for Daffodil Day. By having local volunteers create goods it saved on shipping costs and merchandise costs, meaning more of the money raised in our local community gets to stay in our local community.

One in three New Zealanders will experience cancer at some point in their lifetime, and by supporting Daffodil Day you make sure that nobody has to go through cancer alone.

Daffodil Day helps fund free transport to and from treatment, accommodation grants to those needing to travel away from home, counselling services for those experiencing cancer and their families, and so much more.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your support makes a huge difference for us and those in our community experiencing cancer.



NEEDING A CREATIVITY BOOST?

Unscramble this brain teaser...

N A D F L I M O

CLUE:

I'm the place where productivity meets community, where freelancers and teams find focus. I offer a desk, a chair, a meeting room and great coffee. People come to me for a balance of work and social connection. No cubicles or walls to confine your space, just flexible memberships and a welcoming smile.



Hint: For those seeking **freedom from distraction**

Just like a brain teaser, our **creativity and productivity** are also **stimulated when working from coworking spaces.**

The Harvard Business Review published an article saying "there must be something special about coworking," with research showing that 84% of people feel more engaged and motivated compared to working from traditional workspaces.

Shake up your work week and find out for yourself at one of our free upcoming Open Days manifold.co.nz/opendays



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

027 746 1313



Coastal bus service

ŌPUNAKE - NEW PLYMOUTH



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
for NPBHS, NPGHS,
FDMC & SHGC boarders



SCAN TO VIEW
FARES INFORMATION

New improved timetable

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	Friday only		PM
		Mon-Fri	Mon-Thu			
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	11.30	5.05	New Plymouth	FDMC	4.25
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	11.33	5.08	New Plymouth	NPGHS	4.40
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	11.40	5.18	New Plymouth	SHGC	4.45
Oākura	Oākura Hall	11.50	5.20	New Plymouth	NPBHS	4.55
Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.	12.00	5.30	New Plymouth	Egmont Street	5.05
Pungarehu	Town Hall	12.10	5.40	New Plymouth	Liardet Street	5.08
Rahotu	Four Square	12.15	5.45	New Plymouth	Spotswood College (pick-up only)	5.18
Ōpunake	Dreamtime	12.28	5.58	Oākura	Oākura Hall	5.20
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	12.30	6.00	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

Southlink Coastal service is operated by Pickering Motors Ltd
with support from Taranaki Regional Council



COWORKING OPEN DAYS ŌAKURA

FREEDOM FROM DISTRACTION

MON 30 SEP TUE 15 OCT
WED 30 OCT FRI 29 NOV THUR 14 NOV

MANIFOLD

manifold.co.nz/opendays

Kaitake Golf Club

MENS NEWS

The club Top Dog was completed on Saturday 24th August, with defending champs Nev Jans and Colin Woodward taking on Dave Te Whare and Mitch Cocker. The match was a tight run affair with Mitch and Dave just heading off Woody and Nev, 1 up. We ran a round robin for the competition with play offs. Turned out to be a well contested and social event. Thanks to all who entered!

In other competition news The President's Cup played on Sat 27th July was won by Alan Crawford with a very tidy Nett 63. Stumpys trophy was won by Dan Keegan and Brian Milestone with a countback with Roger Cloke and Ian Johnson. Well done boys.

SUMMER MEMBERSHIP

Do you know anyone that is keen to play summer golf, come and give it a go?

1st November 2024 – 28th February 2025

We are offering a special Summer Membership of \$300 for this period. Summer will soon be upon us and we are running our summer membership again so take this opportunity and join Kaitake Golf Club. Should you want to become a full time member, \$100 will be deducted from the 2025 membership.

Phone Denise at the office for more information on all categories of membership or contact the Club Captains. Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date.



CHIPPERS

Funding was applied to Te Manawa Active Aotearoa which was successful and therefore we have managed to purchase six new sets of Junior Golf Clubs which is awesome. The first chippers day of the season will hopefully have been 20th October. For further information please contact the office or Jamie on 022 6773663.

New players are always very welcome. Chippers ages range from 5 – 12 years. Just bring them along with flat soled footwear, a hat and perhaps a drink. Clubs, balls and coaching are provided. It costs \$50 to join as a member for the year, allowing the children access to the course at any time as long as they are under supervision.

TARANAKI VETS GOLF

All golfers over the ripe old age of 50 may join the Taranaki Vets Golf. The sub for the year is \$10. Once a month a game is held at a golf club in Taranaki, Ladies and Men are all welcome. Tee times are daylight saving 9.00am, winter 9.30am.

TWILIGHT HAGGLE – THURSDAY from 4pm – 5.30pm
7th November to 12th December 2024.

We will be doing a TWILIGHT HAGGLE for six consecutive weeks. Please take note of our first date. Non Members are more than welcome to come along and enjoy 9 holes of golf. Weekly winner, overall winner, jackpot draw and lucky draw for non-golfers. Entry \$10 per week includes a hamburger and coleslaw. Any queries please contact Karen Avison 027 665 9430 or Denis Avison 027 481 2199.

Two nights into the week one of the accommodations was red stickered by the Council with 10 minutes to evacuate due to a slip, which required a bit of logistics to get the kids re-homed.

The first few days saw all 12 in the team getting through their heats with some having to surf in 2 x re-qualifying rounds.

All seven from our Boardriders Club did very well; Nate Florence, Kai Shearer, Drew Florence, Occy Tapara and Ben Dixon all made Quarters and Jordie Luke and Poppy Entwisle made Finals.

The Taranaki team came 6th over all the regions which is a fantastic achievement.

Thanks again to everyone that contributed to helping get these groms to this National event.

Kaitake Community Board

I don't know if you are aware, but the New Plymouth District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw is due for review. In addition to the Bylaw review, the Self-contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023 (MVLA) received royal assent on 6 June 2023 and is now law. The purpose of the MVLA is to improve the management of vehicle-based freedom camping by creating a robust regulatory system that central and local government can rely on to reduce the negative effects of freedom camping on communities and the environment.

The Kaitake Community Board made submissions to Council on proposed amendments to the current Bylaw. Speaking to areas within the Kaitake rohe, and I have discovered that this is a Bylaw that continues to have a polarising effect across the community – an effect felt since its introduction in December 2017.

The term 'Freedom Camping' has tended to elicit negative connotations since its inception, with images of transient overseas visitors travelling on a shoestring budget, living out of the back of crudely converted station wagons, and desecrating the landscape wherever they roam.

Unfortunately this 'Freedom Camping' label is also applied to those at the other end of the scale; the responsible motor home operators who are, more often than not, New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Members (many of whom travel the country in 'five star hotel rooms on wheels' motor homes), who have paid a good deal of money to have their vehicles brought up to the required standard and thereby certified as fully self-contained vehicles. These are folk who stick to the rules, who respect the areas they stay in, work to leave them better than when they arrived, and who have a level of disposable income that sees them contribute significantly to the local economy.

What has created such a division in opinion over this issue is concern over the protection of sites of sensitive environmental, cultural and historical importance from the impact of the negligent, irresponsible and uncaring freedom camper sect, the loss of access to desirable areas for those in certified self-contained vehicles who understand their privilege and feel they have paid a significant premium for the right to access these places, and the observations of locals who have experienced the overcrowding of vehicles around where they live.

From the KCB perspective, while it seems manifestly unfair that the majority are being disadvantaged by prohibiting overnight stays at particular sites because of the conduct of a few, we are of the opinion that until Council develops and introduces an enforcement regime that

acts as a genuine deterrent to undesirable behaviour, the safest option for both our community and our whenua is to exclude all camping in those sensitive areas. Hence our submission supporting the Bylaw as a whole, and our recommendation to prohibit freedom camping at Tataraimaka Pā, Weld Road, Ahu Ahu Road and Greenwood Road, and the continued ban on freedom camping at Corbett Park.

On the maintenance front, questions have been asked as to why the repairs to the slip area of Surrey Hill Road has been stopped. Following our enquiries the Council Transportation Infrastructure team has reported that initial work on the restoration of this piece of road had been prioritised within the Wakamure Stream, and at the culvert inlet and outlet while weather conditions were good. This work has now been completed and has strengthened the toe of the new embankment adjacent to the road.

Work was then started building the next layers of the embankment up towards the existing road height to return the road to its original width; however, due to wet ground conditions during winter, work on the site has been paused to enable the soft earth to compact and to provide a solid base to work from once the weather clears. The finishing of the embankment and road reinstatement is expected to recommence between late October and early November.

Another project that has experienced a delay due to weather has been the basketball half court at the Ōkato Neighbourhood Park. Contractors have finally managed to get the earthworks finished and the concrete poured, and it is hoped that the hoop and markings will be in place sometime in November.

As we move into October the current Kaitake Community Board is moving into its final year of the current triennium, and elections for a new board and a new Council will be held in October of next year.

So, if there are any of you good folk out there in our sector of the New Plymouth district who might be interested in getting involved on the Community Board, you should consider reaching out sometime in the next 12 months to Teresa, Paul, Renee or myself to learn a little more of what the role of a board member entails, to either help make up your mind or to help prepare you to put yourself forward for the role.

Well, that is me for this edition as I look forward to spring weather finally arriving and to what the next month might bring.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at 5pm, on Monday 25 November, 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, Paul Lobb,
and Cr Bryan Vickery



Bryan Vickery



Renee Hohaia



Paul Lobb



Graham Chard



Teresa Goodin

Scholastics Surfing Competitors in Dunedin got more than they expected.

What a week 7 - 11 October was, great surf and stunning weather for the National Scholastic Surfing comp in Dunedin.

Not without its hiccups with Dunedin having a State of Emergency due to heavy rain. The team was waiting until the last minute to see if the comp would go ahead.



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

Cherish RESPITE
In-Home Care

Some of our services include:

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

~ NO REFERRALS REQUIRED ~

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

100% of Properties, One Address... **eieio.co.nz**

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

TRUSTED IN TARANAKI SINCE 1912
Specialising in Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural, Pastoral, and more.

McDonald REAL ESTATE

Do you need payroll support?

We can do as much or as little as you need with our dedicated payroll team.

Contact us today to find out more:
06 757 3155
shannon.goodwin@bakertillysr.nz

bakertilly
STAPLES RODWAY



DOMESTIC JOINERY
AND KITCHENS

NEWTON
Gordge
JOINERY

COMMERCIAL
JOINERY



67b Breakwater Road • New Plymouth • Phone 06 751 5065 • Email designs@newtongordge.co.nz



RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL

HEATPUMPS
FAULT FINDING &
REPAIRS

027 849 05 98
wairauelectrical@gmail.com



Ōākura Tennis Club

The tennis season is underway with midweek ladies hitting off first at the start of the school term. We have two senior Saturday interclub teams entered this season, with play starting after Labour weekend. Junior muster was Friday 18th October so coaching and playing teams will be sorted after this. We have coaching available with Monica mornings before school or after school on a Thursday.

Reminder that anyone doing coaching with Monica is asked to please join the tennis club as at least a social member. Thanks a lot. This

helps with our maintenance costs of court grooming, net repairs and clubhouse upkeep.

Anyone still keen to join in on club activities or competition teams - adults or kids - please get in touch asap so we can place you in an appropriate team.

Rafa Nadal announced his retirement last week. Congratulations on a stellar career Rafa! Vamos!

Contact Jackie 027 673 2900

green school
NEW ZEALAND

2025 Enrolments Now Open

Green School New Zealand's High School Diploma (Advanced) was recently accepted for University Entrance by Universities New Zealand - Te Pūkai Tara.

www.greenschool.nz @greenschoolnz

MORNING TALK COFFEE GROUP

Come along to the
NPOB Surf Club

Every Thursday from
10am - 11am

Any enquiries call
Tracey 752 7875



helloworld
TRAVEL
THE TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

**HOLIDAYS
START
WITH US**

Helloworld Travel Strandon, New Plymouth
487b Devon St East, Strandon, New Plymouth
strandon@travel.helloworld.co.nz 06 757 5666

David Macleod MP for New Plymouth

October marked a significant milestone with Keytruda now fully funded for patients with five life-threatening cancers, and insulin pumps and continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) funded for all type one diabetics in the country.

In a previous column I explained that the Government allocated an additional \$604 million to Pharmac—an unprecedented boost—providing up to 26 new life-extending cancer treatments to be made available for Kiwis in need.

Keytruda will benefit patients with advanced triple-negative breast cancer, head and neck cancer, colorectal cancer, bladder cancer, and Hodgkin lymphoma, offering renewed hope to thousands of families.

The decision to fund insulin pumps and CGMs is life-changing for many New Zealanders living with type one diabetes. I have heard this directly from a number of individuals and families. This funding will help patients manage their diabetes more effectively, reduce complications and comorbidities, and alleviate pressure on our health system.

Currently, nearly 5,000 people use insulin pumps, a number expected to double over five years. Pharmac anticipates that around 12,000 Kiwis will receive CGMs in the first year, increasing to over 18,000 in five years.

Our Government is focused on improving lives. Recently, our FamilyBoost package came into effect. Families can claim up to \$975 every three months to help with childcare costs. You can apply through your MyIR account via ird.govt.nz

As the days become longer and warmer, I like many others, start looking forward to the good times of summer holidays and the festive season.

david.macleodmp@parliament.govt.nz
(06) 759 2580
37 Gill Street, New Plymouth

Office hours:
Mon-Thu: 9am-3pm
Fri: By appointment

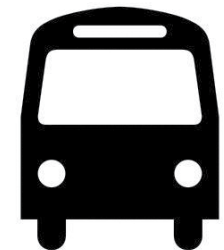


Authorised by David MacLeod, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



It's an opportunity to spend time with family, and for me, a chance to get out and about, connect with locals, and enjoy what our community has to offer, like markets, barbeques and summer events.

Please keep an eye on facebook.com/davidmacleodmp for details on where I'm going to be in the coming weeks, including when I'm next in Ōākura. If you need assistance or would like to talk with me, please contact the office at 06 759 2580 or david.macleodmp@parliament.govt.nz



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

McDonald Real Estate Oakura has all your real estate needs covered.

	Rachel Hooper Residential + Lifestyle 027 235 5284 rachel.hooper@eieio.co.nz
	Robyn Burnett Residential + Lifestyle 027 414 0733 robyn.burnett@eieio.co.nz
	Blair Burnett Rural + Lifestyle 021 190 7728 blair.burnett@eieio.co.nz
	Jodie Dahlkvist Property Management 027 666 0464 jodie.dahlkvist@eieio.co.nz

eieio.co.nz
06 752 1340

McDonald REAL ESTATE
RENTAL LICENSED REAL ESTATE LIMITED

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW MECHANIC?



Bang smack in the middle
between Oakura & Okato on the
main road
Bring your car, trailer, lawnmower
and maybe you need that item
welded up - bring that too!

WOF TYRES SERVICING

AUTOMOTIVE + ENGINEERING 1759 South Road TATARAMAKA 0274416330 7524933



Bryan Vickery

Kaitake Ngamōtu Ward Councillor



Locals Giving Back to the Community

I admire people who give back to the community. They often shrug their shoulders, as if it was nothing, when you thank them. I saw this recently when I attended a gig at the Most FM Lounge in NP. I was invited by one of my WITT Radio students to watch his band 'Too Much Soul.' Richard Shearer, who is so integral to the success of The Most FM, was there overseeing the evening. Without him the three youth bands would have struggled to organise the show. Thank you Richard.

Nicki Procter cares about the village. I used to work in radio with her husband Barney, the star of the Hits Breakfast Show. I was always in awe of his deep resonant voice. Nicki, with thoughtful efficiency, summarised feedback from the community facebook page relating to concerns about safety issues around the crossing in Ōākura. These collated comments have been forwarded to the Kaitake Community Board. Chair Graham Chard has been working with senior NPDC officers and Cr Harry Duynhoven (Council's representative on the regional transport committee) to ensure these concerns are addressed.

Speaking of locals who love their neighbourhood. I got to attend my first Tracey Lusk 'community conversations' at the Morning Talk coffee group. Everyone was there except Tracey (she was in Wellington on important business). Her parents and her twenty-one-year-old son made me feel very welcome. Fourteen locals showed up for this informal gathering. What a passionate, friendly bunch of people. We traversed a wide array of topics. On occasions things got very lively. The yummy home baking (thanks to Tracey's mum) was most appreciated. In fact, it was a welcome distraction from complaints about the hike in rates and freedom camping prohibitions.

I don't think of myself as a leader, but I love people. My talent is seeing the good in people, especially young people. I am enjoying my weekly forays to Ōākura and Ōkato.



BRYAN VICKERY | BVmedia
E: bryanvickerymedia@gmail.com
M: 027 449 8896

Bryan Vickery Media Taranaki



LANDSCAPING FOR SUMMER?

We have you sorted!

Elevate your outdoor space with our premium, high-quality pavers. Crafted for durability and designed for elegance, our pavers are perfect for:

Courtyards & patios
Garden edging
Retaining walls

Pathways
Swimming pools

Explore our extensive selection of pavers, concrete sleepers, fence and retaining wall panels, tree rings, and aggregates online, or visit us on-site.



67 Colson Road, NP | 021 300 785 | epicpavers.co.nz



Dr Jill Devlin is an Obstetrics and Gynaecology Specialist who has devoted the last 15 years to serving women of all ages.

Practising at Taranaki Base Hospital since 2020, Jill is now available for consultations within her own practise, Honour Women's Health, two days a week by appointment only.

Mondays

Southern Cross Specialist Centre
205 St Aubyn Street, NP

Tuesdays

iderm (shared space)
56 Molesworth Street, NP

Email: info@honourwomenshealth.co.nz
Phone: (06) 758 8646

www.honourwomenshealth.co.nz



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

butlers reef the locals' local	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
daily specials	quiz night	tiger tuesday	pool club	locals night	free stuff friday
	6.30PM - FREE ENTRY GREAT PRIZES!	\$45 3L TIGER TOWER FREE POOL	FROM 7PM NEW MEMBERS WELCOME	HANDLE + WINE CLUB	SOMETHING FREE EVERY WEEK
	\$20 FISH AND CHIPS + BEER OR WINE	\$20 STICKY PORK RIBS	\$20 ANY BURGER	\$25 STEAK SPECIAL + BEER OR WINE	JUG SPECIALS + RAFFLES

WE CAN TAILOR
MAKE BASKETS
AND GIFT BOXES

...For businesses
and individuals.

Simply let us know your theme
and your budget and we will
give you a few different options.

Click & Collect now available
www.oakurameatco.nz

Everything Xmas...

1/2 and whole ham orders,
duck, turkey, sides of salmon.

Have a crew to feed, small or large?
Come and have a chat with us.

We have a variety of
packages available from
as little as \$8 per person.

Gift Vouchers
available.

**OAKURA
MEAT CO.**
& FINE FOODS

OPEN HOURS
TUES - SUN 10am - 6pm

1139 South Rd (behind the bottle store) • Phone: 06 752 1157 • Email: info@oakurameatco.nz

Rynne Leadbetter wins a Youth Award at this year's Citizens' Awards



From left - Back: Major Michael Fabish, Colin Johnston, Ann Hatch, Mayor Neil Holdom, Ron Payne, Vicki Meijer, Wesley Milne, Second Lieutenant Stephen Bovett. Front: Brian Eriksen, Tiri Porter, Diane Jones, Trevor Bremner, Rin Leadbetter, Kaden Rowe - Absent: Karen Eliason, Hayley Flay and Faith Lokeni.

have had a lot more time to make these amazing efforts because I'm only 18 and I've still got a long way to go, but it felt really inspiring to be seated next to them. They were all genuinely wonderful people and I left feeling like I wanted to keep pushing for everything I stand for and see where I can take it to make change outside of my close community.

Do you have future aspirations for these causes?

I plan to get involved in the environmental scene in Wellington when I move down there in 2025 for my first year at university. I'm studying ecology and biodiversity and hopefully this will give me the knowledge and skills to make some changes within my passion for the planet on a bigger scale. I think charities like the Prostate Cancer Foundation and YouthLine are really important and even if you can't donate money, you can donate your time to getting the word out and getting involved in their events. I plan to continue to show my support for these organisations because they do amazing work.

Where do you find the time and energy to devote to this because I have knowledge that you are pretty handy in the kitchen creating meals and cakes!

I love to bake! A number of my fundraisers are centred around baking and cooking because I think it's a really fun way to get the word out about a charity. I get to do what I love in the kitchen and support an amazing cause and selling baking really creates a positive environment for the fundraiser that makes people want to help out and donate.

Do you have a role model that inspires you?

My role model is Wesley Milne. He is an amazing and kind role model for so many LGBTQ+ people in New Plymouth and I really look up to him. He also got a NPDC Citizen's Award and it was well deserved. He has inspired me and many people around me through his leadership and work with rainbow youth and I would love to be that person for someone else when I'm older.

Established in 1979, the annual awards honour residents who go the extra mile and make a big positive change to lives of people in their hometown.

This year was the first time Youth Awards have been included, to honour outstanding 12 to 24-year-olds who didn't meet the long service criteria of the Citizens' Award but do amazing work in the community.

Nominated by the public, recipients are then selected by the Mayor and Councillors. Neil Holdom said "I am particularly proud that we introduced the youth award to honour the young people who volunteer and do tremendous mahi in their school and community.

The winners are role models for people of all ages and demonstrate just what can be achieved when individuals decide to work for the benefit of others. The New Plymouth district is recognised as a truly special place to live, learn, work and play because of their immense work."

Three youth award recipients and 11 citizen award winners were announced at an event hosted by New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom in July, recognising the contributions the residents make to the district.

Rynne Leadbetter was one of the youth recipients. 'Rynne organised numerous impactful initiatives focusing on environmental sustainability and began a recycling campaign at Spotswood College. She leads the Queer Straight Alliance group at her school, creating a supportive and inclusive environment for all students and staff', the Council reported.

Tell us about yourself Rynne: Age, years living in Ōākura, schooling, what year level are you now?

I am 18 years old and I have lived in Ōākura for my entire life. I am currently a year 13 at Spotswood College.

Can you expand on the media release information on what your citizen award is for?

I received a NPDC Youth Award for leadership efforts in the community. The main things highlighted were my efforts on the sustainability scene around school which involved leading my school environment club, being part of the introduction of a recycling campaign and removing single use plastic from the school canteen. I was also recognised for other leadership things I've done such as fundraisers for the New Zealand Prostate Cancer Foundation, World Vision and YouthLine.

When did you learn about receiving the award, was it a secret until award night?

I got an email a few weeks beforehand to inform me that I was receiving something and that they would like to invite me to the award night.

Has this changed anything since you received it, ie: has it generated more interest outside of school?

I think the main thing about the event wasn't the award itself but actually everyone else who was receiving awards because they really inspired me. Everyone sitting next to me had some incredible achievements and had given so many hours to the community. Obviously I know that they

HPWASTE
SKIP BIN HIRE

Organise a skip and save yourself a load of trouble.
HP Waste Ltd - Formerly Heydon Priest Ltd.

- Hardfill
- Greenwaste
- General Mixed Waste

WE RECYCLE WHERE POSSIBLE

CALL US NOW
06 758 6874 or 021 741 312
BOOK ONLINE www.hpwaste.co.nz

HEYDON PRIEST
bp **OAKURA**

Go Local Go Local Go Local

Open 7 days - 6.00am to 8.30pm
Call: 752 7753

Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust Update

Spring is here and feels like it has been here for some time already. There has been a good mixture of rainy, windy days, interspersed with sunny days that feel like summer. If you can, I would strongly recommend getting out for a walk on one of those nice days to bask in the sunshine and enjoy the bush in the Kaitake Ranges.

The birds are remarkable yet again this year. Take a walk in the bush early or late in the day and you might get greeted by a cacophony of calls from tomtits, tui, fantails, grey warblers, kotare/sacred kingfisher, kereru/New Zealand pigeon and, in a sure sign of spring, shining cuckoos. Or maybe you can take a night walk and hear some kiwi or get lucky as one trumper

did when returning from Piwakawaka hut at night and spied a kiwi in the wild!

The volunteers have still been at it checking traps and keeping tabs on the kiwi over the past few months. Excitingly, many of the kiwi have been breeding and successfully hatching eggs, so the local kiwi population of the Kaitake Ranges is continuing to grow! Even better is that the unfortunate incident of kiwi deaths in August 2022 and 2023 did not happen again this year. Possibly the hard work to prevent that paid off as volunteers diligently checked and baited traps during that time. Additionally, Taranaki Mounga Project set up heaps of ferret traps on the farmland adjacent to those high-risk areas.

The past few months have been a bit slow as far as catches. Hardly anything was caught in the traps for the first several weeks following the 1080 drop, which is a good sign that it did its job to knock down pest numbers. Over the past few weeks trap checkers have reported that they are very slowly beginning to find a rat

now and then – for example 1 rat caught in 35 traps. In the past the catch numbers were much higher, between 6 and 15 catches per 35 traps. Coming into spring, the pest numbers will pick up again, so we need to keep baiting and checking those traps to keep their populations under control.

We are coming into an incredibly important time of year when birds are breeding and when juvenile stoats start to leave their burrows and disperse. The past couple of years have seen high numbers of stoats caught between November and February. Hopefully, the low catch numbers over the past couple of months means that those stoat numbers will also be super low. Fingers crossed.

A huge thanks to some of the new volunteers who've joined our ranks recently: James Crighton, Adele Bitner, Steve Kelly, Hamish Maxwell, Jeremy Pritt and Callum McKercher. If you are ready to help out, please get in touch with Pete Morgan at morgpt@xtra.co.nz

BTW
COMPANY

SURVEYING
ENGINEERING
PLANNING
ENVIRONMENT

06 759 5040 / www.btw.nz

Jacqui Penn
Ph 027 602 770

- Holistic Massage Therapist
- Reiki Practitioner
- Bach Flower Essence Consults

Therapeutic,
Relaxation, Pregnancy
& Sports Massage

Text Alexia today
021 414 76904

497 Plymouth Rd, Koru
www.mymuscles.kiwi

surfshine
windows and solar cleaning

surfshinewindows@gmail.com
0210 260 6632

DEKEN
MOTORS

Check out our selection of SUV's, Euros & EV's
dekenmotors.co.nz

VEHICLES FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE

PH 06 759 9943

Ton Deken 027 493 8146

Nine local artists on show until 10 November

The current exhibition Home Work Maunga Auaha: Taranaki Art 2024 showing at the downstairs gallery at Puke Ariki finishes 10 November.

This exhibition is a curation of 73 local Taranaki artists that have been selected from over 200 entries and includes nine from Ōākura: Beth Armstrong, Ross Bennett, Brian Clark, Richard Landers, Fay Looney, Belinda Lubkoll, Oriah Rapley, Kirsty McLean (unable to contact), Portia Roper.

We asked them about their art and the piece chosen for the exhibition.

Belinda Lubkoll

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? I designed a sterling silver topaz and diamond ring that represents Mt Taranaki, including frozen patches of icy gems.

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? I have used barnacles that I found at Ōākura beach as design foundation. One of the gems is set upside down.

Is this your first time exhibiting? This is my second time in the Home Work exhibition and I have been displaying my jewellery in New Zealand, Australia and Germany for the past 4 years.

What inspired your piece? Creating a mountain with what I can find at the beach.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? Yes, I work full-time at Ringcraft Moana Jewellers, creating one-off designs for clients, repairing jewellery and running jewellery workshops for the public.

When you aren't working on your art, what are you doing? I love being outside, the beach, hikes, a surf, mountain biking and artistic skating are a great contrast to sitting hunched over at the workbench.

Where can we see more of your work? Most of my work is online and I have an instagram page. Ringcraft Moana studio in Ōākura of course, Hanmer Springs Gallery and all the exhibitions the Taranaki Arts Trail artists are involved in.

Fay Looney

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? Stent Road Power - Digital Print on brushed aluminium.

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? Print medium is suitable for indoor and outdoor display. UV protected.

What inspired your piece? From a lifetime on the Coast.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? Now in the twilight years of a long Photographic career I always carry my camera with me watching for magic light on our landscape.

When you aren't working on your art, what are you doing ? Much time is spent managing Koru on Devon Contemporary Gallery which grew from my home space Koru on Koru. Over time many local artists have exhibited in this beautiful space which is staffed entirely by volunteers.

Where can we see more of your work? Koru on Koru Gallery is open from Labour weekend for the Centuria Garden Festival. Koru on Devon Contemporary Art gallery 13 Devon St. West. Ph. Fay 021 4100 30 or 06 752 7807 (Check opening hours)

Ross Bennett

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? My exhibited piece titled "Old Zealand" is a single colour, large format woodcut

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? The piece is a fantasy-scape, seen through the eyes of a tui as the first waka arrived to Aotearoa.

Is this your first time exhibiting? It's my first time at Puke Ariki but I have exhibited in the Ōākura Arts Trail as well as the Dowse Museum in Lower Hutt.

How was your piece inspired? I often wonder how stunning and frightening it must have been for the first people to set foot in Aotearoa. This image captures New Zealand before it was so named, therefore the name "Old Zealand". I wanted to depict its young age as a land forming from volcanic and geothermic activity and put the viewer in the position of the Tui, viewing the arrival to provoke the thought how would you feel seeing something so alien to your knowledge and at the same time what emotions does this stir knowing that from that moment on, the Tui's environment will change forever.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? I am a part time artist and usually spend around 5-6 hours a week on my art.

When you aren't working on your art, what are you doing ? I'm a designer, marketer, copy writer, volunteer firefighter and show host on the Most FM.

Where can we see more of your work? You can see more of my work on my Instagram /rossmbennett and my website rossbennettart.com

Richard Landers

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? Tephra Fall – Recycled Window Glass

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? It is very interesting to learn the history of the landform of Taranaki. Layers of glass in a small way represent the layers of earth form and the centuries of buildup that contributed to how our province has benefited.

Is this your first time exhibiting? I am one of only four artists that have been selected in all Home Work Exhibitions.

What inspired your piece? The powerful Tasman Sea swirls against the high cliffs of Taranaki's shoreline, the tide moving in and out in an endless cycle. Wind and ocean erode the ancient layers of land formed from the ash and lava ejected from and local volcanoes and from afar. The transparency of the Glass in Tephra Fall mimics the action of light moving across the Taranaki landscape. Undulating, fertile plains cause the light to ripple- therefore the mood is everchanging.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? I have been a fulltime artist in Taranaki since 1987 and spend most days in my studio.

When you aren't working on your art, what are you doing? Reading of Architecture and Art/Light.

Where can we see more of your work? I exhibit at two major events each year...the NZ Art Show in Wellington and a similar event in Auckland. I also have a Gallery at my Studio open to the public most days by appointment.

Oriah Rapley

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? My piece at Home Work is Waka Of Solace. The materials are Taranaki Andesite, stainless steel, corten steel and Serpentine.

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? The concept is the Waka moves through the trees at night guided by the bird answering the call of those in need.

Is this your first time exhibiting? I have been exhibiting around New Zealand for over 10 years now and with Home Work since its inception.

How was your piece inspired? The Waka series has been with me right from the start, there are a few quite distinct threads, each with its own story. New concepts arrive fully, all at once at any time, the work, the title, the story. I just have to remember not to doubt it will arrive when needed.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? I am a full time artist, which is basically all consuming. Each year is a long list of deadlines. Creating in the studio is one thing, after hours is emails, applications, photographing, packing, installs and often crazy road trips; loading the van is an art in it self.

Where can we see more of your work? You can find my work at Artis Gallery Parnell, Brick Bay winery, Snells Beach, Auckland Botanical Gardens and at a number of Exhibtions in the South Island. Oriah Rapley@weebly.com

Beth Armstrong

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? For the latest 'Home Work' Exhibition I submitted a framed watercolour of one of our New Zealand native ferns, Raurenga, also known as Kidney Fern.

Featured next to the watercolour is a sample of my wallpaper that I made using the Kidney Fern watercolour motifs.

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? I am passionate about nature and conservation so when I was coming up with my first collection of pattern designs a couple of years ago, I decided to focus on our native flora here in New Zealand.

Raurenga is one of my designs from this collection. New Zealand has over 200 different species of native ferns from 10m high tree ferns to 20mm long filmy ferns, which is an unusually high number for a temperate country and 40% of these occur nowhere else in the world.

I wanted to raise more awareness of the beauty of our native ferns and demonstrate how uplifting it can feel to bring a little of our outdoors into our interior spaces.

Is this your first time exhibiting? Yes this was my first time exhibiting at the 'Home Work' Exhibition.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? No, I am not a full-time artist. I have two daughters, one with disabilities so I paint and draw whenever I can find the time but would love to have the opportunity to do more.

When you aren't working, on your art, what are you doing? I work part-time as an Information Officer at the Len Lye Centre/Govett-Brewster Art Gallery which is a highly inspiring environment to work in and at home I love to spend time in my garden but also in our region's beautiful parks and gardens, particularly Pukeiti.

As the main caregiver for my eldest daughter, I spend a lot of time taxi-ing her to appointments and activities and helping her at home. She finishes school this year so we are currently working on her transition into the community.

Where can we see more of your work? You can see more of my work on my website: <https://www.betharmstrongdesign.com>

Portia Roper

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? My piece is called Zeke and the medium is collage and embroidery.

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? My piece is made out of cut outs from books which I have collected from op shops and book fairs.

Is this your first time exhibiting? This is my first time exhibiting in the Home Work show but I have also exhibited in many other exhibitions and galleries.

How was your piece inspired? My piece was inspired by the idea of morphing different animal parts together to create unique creatures.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? I am not a full time artist, it is more of a hobby which varies in how much time I spend making; I'd say I spend a couple hours each week.

When you aren't working on your art, what are you doing? When I am not doing my work I have a full time job which is earthmoving and demolition.

Where can we see more of your work? I have works exhibiting in many shows and competitions throughout the year and I also have an instagram which is where I regularly post my artworks, the username is _portiaart_

Brian Clark

What is your exhibition piece, what medium did you use? Artwork Title: Synthetic Strato, Polyester Surfboard Resin.

Is there something you would like the viewer to know about your piece? This is up-cycled waste from the run off of excess resin after laminating surfboards. It's normally broken up into small pieces and sent to the landfill. Each colour represents one surfboard. After 30-40 surfboards it becomes 25-35mm thick. I've been manufacturing surfboards for 47 years. Sadly, these are the first pieces I've re-purposed as art. Everything has a second life... zero waste is achievable.

Is this your first time exhibiting? It's my first time at Puke Ariki but I have exhibited in the Ōākura Arts Trail for three years.

How was your piece inspired? Living and surfing in Taranaki for the last 16 years there is one constant that follows me wherever I go and that's Taranaki Maunga. Like the surf, Taranaki Maunga is never stagnant, with constant change. Every day and every location has its own aura. It's a beautiful and inspirational connection with the natural environment of land and sea. We're very lucky to live in such a place.

Are you a full-time artist/how long do you spend working on your art daily? I am a part time artist and usually spend around 15-20 hours a week on my art.

When you aren't working on your art, what are you doing? I'm still surfing and shaping surfboards, I subcontract the fibreglassing out now.

Where can we see more of your work? At my home studio at this time.



Ōākura Artist Margaret Scott



A Solo Exhibition by Ōākura Artist Margaret Scott called 700x700 opened at Percy Thomson Gallery in Stratford on the 19th of October.

It is a celebration of Margaret being 77 years, she was born on the 27th (of September) 1947 and is the 7th child in a family of 7. All the work in the exhibition will be 700x700 and have been completed in the last two years.

Margaret also loves that in numerology the number 7 symbolises luck and wisdom, and is associated with creativity, knowledge and spiritual enlightenment.

This means that for the first time in 22 years Margaret will not have her Art by the Sea Studio open for the Ōākura or Taranaki Arts Trail or be involved in the Garden Festival.

The work in this exhibition covers many themes as over the years her style has evolved and developed and as her circumstances have changed so has Margarets approach to painting. A lot of the work is realism and other work is more contemporary in nature but it is all about the environment where she lives between the Maunga Taranaki and the sea. Margaret calls this work Personal Symbolism as it relates to her experiences of growing up on the Taranaki coast.

Margaret has had 15 solo exhibitions and exhibited throughout New Zealand and been involved in group showings in England, Paris, New York, Tokyo and Melbourne. She paints mainly in acrylics and mixed media but works also in watercolours, printmaking and ceramics.

A 2025 Calendar with images from the exhibition will be for sale during the exhibition which will finish on the 10th of November.

Little Library.

A little library has appeared at the bottom of McFarlane Street. Kindly set up by Fe, anyone is welcome to borrow or donate a book to this little cupboard. Fe was inspired by a similar set up in Palmerston North where she enjoyed going for a walk with her nieces and choosing a book to share together. With the help of her friend Roger, who had built one for a spot in Colorado, the little library was built. Fe, who has a background in Early Childhood, loves the concept of encouraging reading and fostering a sense of community where everyone, especially children, can freely access something to read. Her vision for summer is maybe some chairs where children can sit and have a quiet read. She is working on a name that will help people realise that the library is for everyone, and looks forward to seeing people stop outside the house. What a great idea – maybe it will spread?

Beach rubbish pick up.

I ran into a lovely family on the north end of Ōākura beach. Sam, from Highlands Intermediate, was picking up rubbish for his Environment Badge. Helping him were his mum and grandparents. I donated a plastic straw I had found to the bag and they told me they were struggling to find any rubbish, which is great! I know lots of locals pick up any obvious bits when they are out walking (I never walk past broken glass). The other day I saw an amazing lady drag a tyre up from the shoreline to the dunes, all while walking her dog! It seems like contractors are at the main beach most days emptying recycling bins and doggy do repositories. It all helps make our beach a nice place to be. Awesome.

Butlers breakfast with the All Blacks.

If you like the All Blacks and you like breakfast, there are three chances to get a great buffet breakfast then watch the 9am games on offer this month -Ireland, France and Italy. It pays to book ahead as these buffet breakfasts became very popular in last years World Cup. The great team at Butlers also donated another mountain of food in October to the Monday night On the House charity. What a great Local we have!



Update on water main works in the area.

Stage one of the Wairau Road water main renewal started in May and is aiming to be complete in November. These works include a new two-kilometre water pipe from the SH45/Wairau Road intersection to Pahakahaka Drive. The existing pipe is being replaced with a larger one, which will help the growing town meet its water needs while improving the supply for firefighting.

We're still planning water main renewal work for Dixon Street and from Pahakahaka Drive to the Ōākura Water Treatment Plant, with timings to be determined.

There's no planned water main works for Lower Wairau Road currently (North of the SH45 intersection), as this was replaced in 2018.

Attribution - NPDC's Manager Three Waters Mark Hall.

An Exhibition of paintings celebrating 77 years by Artist Margaret Scott

700 X 700
7 ORIGINAL ACRYLICS
AND MIXED MEDIA WORKS AND PRINTS.

Opening 20th Oct 10:30AM | PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

DATE: 19TH OCT - 10TH NOV OPEN 7 DAYS
MON - FRI 10AM - 4PM
WEEKENDS 10AM - 3PM

PROSPERO PLACE 56 MIRANDA STREET, STRATFORD 4332 | WWW.MARGARETSCOTT.CO.NZ

Koru on Koru

Oakura Contemporary Art Gallery & Sculpture Garden

283 Koru Rd (Route to Pukeiti) Oakura
Ph.021 410 030 / 06 752 7807

Open from Labour weekend through garden festival & Arts Trail
Exclusive limited edition images printed on UV protected medium

06 927 3491
skinonfortyfive.co.nz
51 Egmont St, NP

LEAVING Legacies

Compassionate, non medical support to individuals and their families.

Video Biographies - Delicately documented stories, memories and heartfelt messages for lasting legacies for future generations.

Support products - Fostering comfort and dignity with a range of specifically designed products aiding people through dying, grief and loss.

End of Life Doula - Belinda Price - Ph 027 314 6327
EMAIL: hello@leavinglegacies.co.nz WEB: leavinglegacies.co.nz

skin ON FORTY-FIVE

***FREE Skin Cancer Spot Checks**

*Conditions apply

06 927 3491
skinonfortyfive.co.nz
51 Egmont St, NP

Quality skin, vein & cosmetic care you can trust.

glenjohns KITCHENS

06 759 0940
www.glenjohns.co.nz

SHOWROOM: CORNER ELIOT & LEMON STREETS, NEW PLYMOUTH

THE SAUNA PROJECT Taranaki

FIND US HERE

Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Ltd

MASTER ELECTRICIANS
Electrical Contractors Association of NZ

OPUNAKE 761 8084 • OKATO 752 4084
sinclairelect@xtra.co.nz

- Electrical & refrigeration specialists
- All wiring for cowsheds & houses
- Refrigeration for milk vats
- Milk cooling solutions
- Aircon & heat pumps

FRIENDLY PROMPT SERVICE
COLOURplus



Highlights from Term 3 at Ōmata

by Paige Henderson and Olive Glasgow

It has been a big term at Ōmata School with plenty of opportunities for everyone to enjoy. Here are some of our highlights:

Vertical Horizons Camp

The year 5 and 6 students spent three days learning and challenging themselves off site, enjoying Vertical Horizons camp just west of Inglewood. They took part in many adrenaline pumping activities including the catwalk, flying kiwi and riding the grass cart. The mud run was messy but super fun, and the lake was freezing. Life skills such as cleaning up after their meals and washing their plates was part of the learning too! They had a fantastic two nights away.

Academic

Throughout term three senior students at Ōmata have been chosen to participate in many academic events and competitions including EPro8, the Taranaki Science Fair and Quiz and the Methanex Maths Spectacular.



AIMS GAMES Piper Johnson and Riley-Jean House, Mckenna Bray and Amber Haldane were the first all-girls' cross country team home - 19th overall

Both Korimako, Y5/6, and Ruru, Y7/8, sent teams to EPro8, a technology building and mechanics competition. The Ruru team finished first place in the New Plymouth competition and sixth in the Taranaki competition. The Korimako superstars got 3rd in the New Plymouth competition and won the Taranaki competition! In the Taranaki Methanex Maths Spectacular for Y7/8 students our team took out second place. Third time lucky might be true as the Ruru Science Quiz teams are only getting better. The first time an Ōmata team was sent they just missed out with fourth place, this time the team got third. Ōmata once again had great success at the science fair this year, winning all the prizes for the Year 8 essay competition and many other prizes for our science fair investigations, drawings, photos and posters.

During the last two terms, every class and the teachers have been really enjoying learning and growing Te Reo Māori with Whaea Aria

Broughton. Across the school, students are gaining new insights in our space focused unit of learning called 'Astronomical' which will continue into term four.

Cross Country

Last term we have taken part in heaps of cross country events. We have had our own Ōmata and our combined Inter-school cross country races held at Waireka. On a regional level, Ruru sent one girls' team and one boys' team to the TSSA trail relay run. The girls team did extremely well, beating all the competition to finish in first place. The Taranaki cross country, held in Hawera in the final week of term was an awesome event for keen runners. All the runners represented our school extremely well and should all be super proud of their efforts. Special congratulations to Penny House, Mckenna Bray and Piper Johnson for finishing top ten in their age brackets. AIMS games were held this term too, with four of our girls in this event. They all put in a huge amount of effort. In their relay they were the first all-girls team home and finished 19th overall.

Disco

The Home and School hosted the school disco with music by the one and only DJ Kelly. The theme this year was the letter 'S'. You were able to dress up as anything beginning with the letter 'S'. A wide range of costumes from sharks to smurfs and everything in between. There was pizza to fill our tummies and foam sticks to fill our hearts. It was a great night with lifelong memories created.

Coming up

November

4-5 Scooter skills

6-11 Cycle skills

6 Y1/2 Ball Skills at Ōākura

7 Y3/4 Ball Skills at Ōākura

8 Sustainable Backyards 1-3pm

9 Sustainable Backyards 10am-1pm

15 MoE Teacher Only Day

December

4 Show: Panto Pandemonium 6:30pm



Ōākura School 2024 AIMS Games

Football

In September we went to the Zespri AIMS games 2024 to participate in football. Ōākura participated in other sports including rip rugby, netball, cross country, tennis, and surfing. We had an amazing time and achieved 57th out of 69 teams. This is an elite competition against the biggest and best schools.

Some of the cool activities we did were rock climbing and going to the hot pools. We won two games in total. We beat Whenuapai School 1-0 and we beat St. Peters Cambridge 2-1. When we won our games we didn't show off and we showed our school values (pono, whakaaro pai and manawanui).

At the start of our tournament, we were against a team that came 7th last year. They beat us 8-0. We realised that this team was a very good team, so we moved on knowing we tried our best. Once we won a game, we felt really confident and that boosted us to keep trying. It doesn't matter if we lost or won, we still came back with big smiles on our faces.

Thank you Mr Smith, Mr Hartmann and Mrs Stringer for organising us to go to AIMS Games.

A BIG thank you to Gavin, Paul and Colin for coaching us. Thank you Narelle and Sarah for

your help. And finally, a huge thank you to our sponsor Greymouth Petroleum, alongside our other sponsor, Tsunami, for giving us money and gear.

By Eli (11) and Seth (11)

Netball

This term we were very lucky and got the privilege to compete in Tauranga for the Zespri AIMS Games 2024.

The school sent a rippa team, soccer team, individual athletes and a netball team. All athletes enjoyed their time away and even came home with some wins and great memories. Ana and I went for netball and we personally had an amazing time.

We surprised ourselves with the overall achievements of our team - 1st in the E-grade after some hard fought games.

Staying as a team at the Mount was a great experience and we think we all bonded even with people we don't hang out with on a usual daily basis. There were so many great memories formed during our stay that we can't even include them all in this review so we'll just name a few. The fun atmosphere at the courts, our pregame singing and dancing, watching all the other teams from Ōākura kura, hanging out in the house, and getting ready in the one big bathroom with everyone crammed inside!

Our team showed all the school values and embodied during the games, at the house and any other venues we visited. We had a great team spirit and amazing sportsmanship all throughout the tournament.

One of the few 'challenges' we faced was the short showers (2 minutes each) and that they took more than double that time to heat up! Another big one was the limited parking space available at Blake park. Also, we played against 'Skyscraper' players and men! They had full grown moustaches and were double the size and height of us. But we survived.

Last of all, we want to thank Hailey for coaching us and putting all your time and effort into our team, Kerry for organising everything and making sure we didn't take too long in the showers, Rin, Lisa and Wibbi for sticking with us and making sure we always had enough to eat and watching over us at the house, and all

the amazing parent help we had at the Mount and at home. Thank you to all our sponsors and the wider community. Thank you.

By Ana (12) and Lacey (13)

Rippa Rugby

AIMS Games 2024 were an incredible opportunity for Ōākura School students. AIMS has been held in the Mount, Tauranga since 2004.

The team sports we had the option to try out for were Rippa Rugby, Netball or Soccer. The individual sports were Surfing, Cross country and tennis. We would say everyone did pretty good.

On Sunday night, we went to the opening ceremony. We found out that this year's AIMS Games had more athletes than the Paris Olympics 2024 (10,500 people). There were 13,000 athletes at AIMS!! Tauranga Intermediate did an amazing haka, everyone sang the national anthem and a few past AIMS games athletes also talked. On the drive home, the traffic was crazy!

We competed in Rippa. We faced a whole different variety of skill levelled teams. Our first game was one of the several Auckland teams we played against. In this game we tied but we lost due to them scoring the first try.

We think our team did well in our last game. We won by 1 point to a team that we lost to the day before, so we would say we definitely got even better over time and we worked well as a team.

A big thank you to our coach Jono, manager Shylah and all of the parents/supporters. Also, our sponsor Cowdroy.

By Millie (11) & Milan (11)

Individual Sports

Eli competed in Cross Country. He had to run 3km. He completed it in less than 11 minutes. Unbelievable!

Koa, Clarence, Indy and Chloe all competed in surfing. Despite there being little to no waves, they were outstanding and very patient!

Luke represented Ōākura School at tennis. He came third which is a tremendous feat.

BOON

50

good years

Architecture
Interior
Landscape
Urban Design
Development
Building Compliance
Project Management

Boon.co.nz

Ladies!

EMBARRASSED BY
UNWANTED FACIAL HAIR?
Electrolysis is a permanent
method of hair removal

Tracey Lusk Clinic
Permanent Hair Removal Specialist

Ph (06) 752 7875
Txt 027 636 8060
No4 BUTLERS LANE, OAKURA



ŌAKURA
SCHOOL
GALA

SATURDAY 2ND
NOVEMBER 2024

11AM - 3PM

FOOD | STALLS | RIDES | FACE PAINTING | GAMES | RAFFLES
BOUNCY CASTLES & MORE!

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

Stories of the Past

As shared by Len Jury

Kaitake Rugby Club. Ninth Grade. The Good Old days but we had problems!

Problem 1. Weight. Under 7 stone (45kg), the bigger boys (and our coach) watched our weight better than any jockey. The flying squad arrived and weighed each player. Our players ranged from 9 – 12 years old and for most not a problem. Some were about 30 kg.

Problem 2. We played on Ken Marsh's Flat Paddock! It is flat! Problem the 'flat' paddock sloped from the trees at the top down to a creek. Sometimes after a goal kick the football floated away.

Problem 3. The paddock was green and had raised patches a darker, fresher green. Country boys had no problem it was not the first time, they were used to this smelly stuff. You trained in it. You threw it at each other.

Problem 4. No changing shed, well there was one of a sort, a little corrugated iron car shed painted red. Only some of the team at a time, the townies had to wait their turn. They were aghast and already on the back foot.

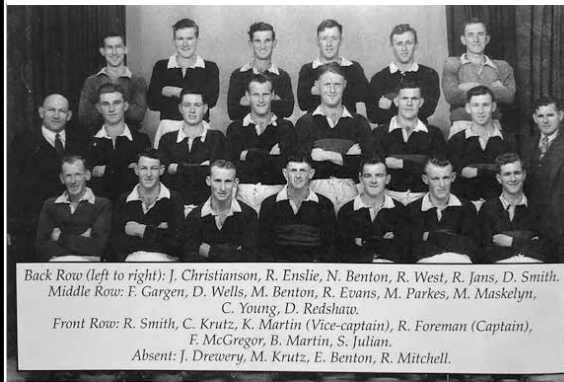
Problem 5. The coaches. The first we had, pumped with self-importance, had no idea how rugby was played. He was persuaded the career he had chosen was of far more importance, especially when his team of seven bigger players did not reach the semi-finals of the tournament for the schools, Ōmata to Rahotu, 7 aside. Our team of only 6 did! Then came coaches Alan Herbert, Evan Mita and then Roy. Roy? Roy West! The fastest winger in The West! The Kaitake First Junior Rugby team were legends. They won the Taranaki First Junior Championship, didn't they? There must be more stories there. They played Uruti when their river began flooding and eddying across the ground. And won!

The excited, loyal Kaitake crowd of supporters, for each match played on Ken's paddock chewed the sidelines into mud as they excitedly, even with frenzy, went up and down cheering (barracking those days) their team! This included yelling young Mums.

Stories like this were pumped into our mettle, into those lads still unable to hold the football let alone kick. The first training session still sticks in my memory. Roy sat us down in the middle of the school rugby field, set out in our team positions. We wondered what this coach knew. We only knew how to play 10 man rugby rushing rolling maul, something like 70-75 years before the Springboks of today. But unlike teams of today the youngest

uninitiated were put out on the wings to make up team numbers and to keep them out of trouble. They were kept out of trouble because some of the aforesaid mums were squeamish and were not ready for their darlings to have their first taste of manhood. Let's also face it, they did not have the skills of kicking, passing, tackling and catching a ball kicked high into the air. They were there to make up the numbers. We were however important, we puffed out our chests, we wore the famous Kaitake Jersey, black with a wide blue band. We felt sure wearing this alone would put the fear of God into the knees of the townies.

KAITAKE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB 1952 Runner Up Northern Junior Division



Roy West taught us vital rugby skills. Tackling for me was the best. A sack stuffed full and tight of hay was hung on the end of a rope slung over a strong pine tree branch. We took it in turns to run and tackle the sack. Then the sack was swung sideways and tackled on the move, more skill, towards you, more skill, otherwise a bloodied nose, backwards to cover every movement an opposition player could make. The sack was twirled; some did not like the exercise but for me, I loved it. The Mark Toleas of the day never had a chance. The sheer ferocity you could unleash on that sack was bliss. It was about then I moved from the wing to the forwards. We were moulded to not waste strength but to use it with skill. It was wonderful. Loved it and dreamed it! Before venting your rage at such a predatory practice, please remember this was the early 1950s. This was the Kaitake ninth grade boys, remember some only aged about 9 – 12 years and this was the only sport an Ōākura School boy played those days, the days when Roy Roper (married a young lady of Ōmata – thus an Omataite) became an All Black. We even forgave him playing for New Plymouth Old Boys.

Two of our games still stick in my memory, the first against Waitara High School. They had players named Rona, Tito and Pryme. They were just too good, too agile, too clever for us.

The second was against the ninth grade unbeaten New Plymouth Boys High School team. We were disgusted that some of their players the year before had gone to Ōākura School. We sniggered as some of their townie players daintily tippy-toed onto the ground avoiding the freshly made cow muck. Someone forgot to tell Ken not to use that paddock the night before. Purposely? They kicked off, the ball went high, their forwards rushed down on us making loud hissing and sissing noises. It was unnerving, this was not rugby. Well to be true it frightened the life out of us boys some remember, only 9 or 10 against players mostly hefty 13-year-olds.

By half time we had a fair bit of the stuffing knocked out of us. They were leading by a good margin. We had a big problem. Roy gathered us about him. He praised and lifted our spirits. Told us we would beat them. He told us what to do! Kick down to the left corner. Why the left corner? It had been a wet night, Ken's cows had camped there. Here, it sloped down even more towards the stream as it passed Marsh's cowshed. It seemed a darn good plan. And "we must give them better than they gave". We would copy with more ferocious noises – better Hissing, Sissing and chilling Blood Curdling Yelling". We were on a "winner" he said with an excited gleam in his eyes. We did have strong loud voices honed by being farm boys. Within minutes we had our first try. Again and again, then those turncoats played to our team weakness. They kicked wide across the ground to our wings and with much -issing they devoured our little fellas. The score mounted as each try was scored tit for tat. Big problem now! There were only minutes to go, we were still behind. That cold green stuff sticky with its own unique smell unleashed, was having effect. We kicked off into that already chewed up special corner, whistle blew, a scrum, we pushed with all our might, and they slithered backwards, our half back grabbed the ball, scooted through and scored. The final whistle! We had beaten the famed unbeaten NPBHS ninth grade team. We had won!! Great coach that Roy West!

A monument to our win still stands, the Marsh cowshed!

Pictured: Back Row (left to right): J. Christianson, R. Enslie, N. Benton, R. West, R. Jans, D. Smith. Middle Row: F. Garden, D. Wells, M. Benton, R. Evans, M. Parkes, M. Maskelyn, C. Young, D. Redshaw. Front Row: R. Smith, C. Krutz, K. Martin (Vice-captain), R. Foreman (Captain), F. McGregor, B. Martin, S. Julian. Absent: J. Drewery, M. Krutz, E. Benton, R. Mitchell.

Names per Phil Thomson, Kaitake Rugby Club.

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

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

Ōākura Walking Talking Group

Every Monday 10am. Meet in the carpark next to the skatepark on Messenger Tce. Phone Mae 027 314 2995 or just turn up.

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

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

St James Church - Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, 10am

Strength & Balance - Ōākura Hall, in the supper room (school term only). Monday 10:30. Jane 06 752 7743

Sunday School - St James Church

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am. stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Surf Lessons

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

Te Reo Māori Lessons

Toni 021 661 912 thowison@hotmail.com

Tennis Club

- Coaching for all ages and levels. 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

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 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 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

Te Ruru Market - crafters, growers and makers. Wednesdays, Hempton Hall, Okato, 3-4:30pm

Ōkato Tennis Club

okatotennis@gmail.com

TOP Information

The Ōākura Post

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

Advertising:

advertising@theoakurapost.co.nz

Design/Layout: Emily Bennett

Proof Reader: Elayne Kessler

Founded in Ōākura, NZ - 1st June 2020

ISSUE: No. 49

December Issue

Delivered and online 29 November.
Articles and advertising deadline 11 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



It's Europe
Early Bird Season
BOOK NOW & SAVE
for Summer 2025

With 20 years of experience you can
book your travel with confidence.


Tina Travels
creating memories


Tina Strachan - email: info@tinatravels.co.nz
PH 021 752 709

Join our Birthday Club! FREE meal worth up to \$25 for your Birthday

CAFE & RESTAURANT
The
BACH
ON SURF HIGHWAY



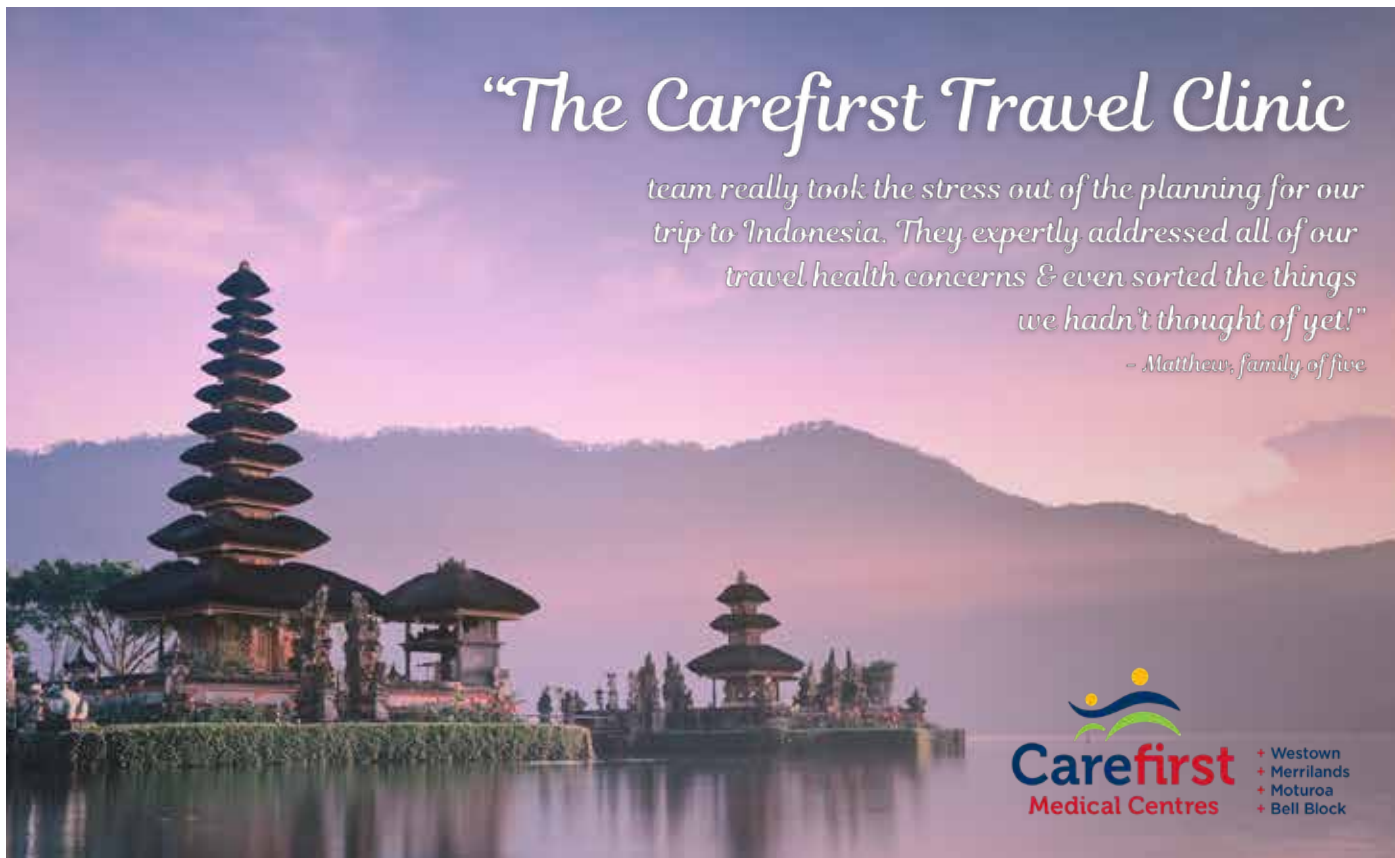
Open Monday – Sunday 9am – 3pm from November!

 **06 242 1266**

“The Carefirst Travel Clinic

*team really took the stress out of the planning for our
trip to Indonesia. They expertly addressed all of our
travel health concerns & even sorted the things
we hadn't thought of yet!”*

- Matthew, family of five




Carefirst
Medical Centres

+ Westown
+ Merrilands
+ Moturoa
+ Bell Block

Wherever your travels may take you, have the stress-free holiday you deserve. Book your appointment today!

As the region's only Worldwise accredited provider, we've got your travel health needs covered before, during and after your trip.

Email: travel@carefirst.co.nz Ph: 06 753 9505 99 Tukapa Street, New Plymouth www.carefirst.co.nz/travel-clinic