

the Ōākura Post

AUGUST 2026

Lina Tung & Kurt Hikaka

AMBROSE Winners

Page 3





Tsunami Sports Kaitake Netball Club

Round 2 is now underway and we've had some good results, even for the teams who have moved up a section. It's great to see the commitment out there even when the weather is not always balmy. Thanks to all our supporters too! This is the second grading round before moving into the final Championship Round which consists of 5 games starting on Sat 8th August.

Our Sunday sessions have not taken off this year. With so many of our crew now playing Saturday it's been hard to fit in playing Sunday games as well.

JINGO NIGHT - Reminder for our Jingo (Music Bingo) fundraiser at the Hub. This will be a fun night with food provided, raffles and prizes. The bar will be open too. For more information

see our flyer on Kaitake Netball Facebook page or contact Toni Peacock 021 661 912.

Netball Dates to note:

- 1st August – Jingo Night at Kaitake Community Sports Hub
- 12th September – Closing Tournament
- 13th September – KNC Prizegiving at Kaitake Community Sports Hub

Kaitake Football Club

Kaitake FC is nearing the end of our 2026 season. We have had a positive season so far with great energy and enthusiasm from our players across the club. Our Senior Women's team is currently top of the table, Men's Masters is tied for first, and Men's Championship is sitting in fifth place.

We would like to thank all our volunteers, parents and supporters. We would also like to give a special shout out to our amazing sponsors: Cunningham Construction, Webber Building, Contact Energy, Integrative Dermatology, Flex Projects, Taranaki Surgical and Endoscopy, The Rent Shop, Surf 'n Sip,

Beach Holiday Park, Oakura Pharmacy, Oakura Meat Co, Four Square, Tsunami, Three Sisters, and Butlers Reef. We couldn't offer football for our community without them.

Keep wearing the yellow and black. Go Kaitake!

KCSH Social Membership and Table Tennis

Become a KCSH Social Member for just \$15 per adult or \$20 per couple! Your membership helps keep the Hub free for local children, youth and schools, while giving you access to great community activities, including Thursday night Table Tennis (7.00–9.30pm). Social members play free and enjoy the bar. Already a member of a KCSH club? You're already covered! Join today: <https://www.kcsh.co.nz/viewform/513911>

Thanks to our KCSH Sponsors!

A big thanks to our Gold Sponsor, HouseMe (www.houseme.co.nz), and our Bronze Sponsor, FMG Insurance (www.fmg.co.nz), for supporting our hub for another year.

Cheers from the team at the Rivermouth Hub – your team!



The July 13th Board meeting had a great turn out.

The meeting started with a public forum regarding the Ōākura to Greenwood Road walk/cycleway. Mr Neil Farrant provided a report based on the previous 2016 reporting and requested the project be reconsidered. The forum attracted many interested constituents including two of the major landowners this project impacts.

A good discussion ensued and the board is well aware of the high interest in our community and of some of the challenges we must consider. The best outcome is for the walk/cycleway to go ahead with all concerned parties properly consulted and heard. Let's make it a good experience for all.

The NPDC project management team will develop a plan to include full consultation with all affected groups and the project is logged in our three year plan for your input over the next few weeks.

Which brings me to our plan. The survey is out now through to the 12th of August so have your say.

The options for you to get involved are as follows:

- We will have a drop in Ōākura Hall: Saturday 1st August 2pm – 4pm and at
- New Plymouth (Council Civic Centre Liardet St): Tuesday 4th August, 5.30pm
- QR Code
- The website link: npdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay

Our survey asks you for your views on a range of topics including:

- What services are most important to you
- How satisfied you are with the current council services
- The choices and trade-offs between service levels, fees, charges, and rates
- Where we should prioritise investment over the next 10 years

Please contact us and have your say. Get involved, we need your input.

Next meeting: Monday 10 August 11am Kaitake Community Sports Hub

Mike Anderson

Chair Kaitake Community Board on behalf of Teresa Goodin, Paul Lobb, Ewen Darling, Kerry Vosseler (Councillor).



Open for feedback.

Help us shape a 10 year Plan for our district and you're Community Board Plans. Feedback closes 12 August.

Point at the QR Code with your phone camera and head straight to the website.

DEKEN MOTORS

VEHICLES FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE

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

PH 06 759 9943

Ton Deken 027 493 8146



Junior Men Finalists: Brodie Ferguson and Joseph Doyle



Intermediate Men Finalists: Lee Hughes and Peter Grylls



Senior Men Finalists: Horry Hubbard and Merv Foster

Kia ora from the Kaitake Golf Club

We have had a few wild and windy days of late and sad to say that not all of our trees survived the strong winds. Greenkeeper Dom and his helpers have been doing a big clean up so if you need to stock up on some firewood for next year we have some for sale – talk to Penny in the office. Our new shed took a bit of a battering as well, as it was only at the framing stage – however nothing that New Style Homes wasn't able to put right and the build is back on track.

June saw the club host an open Mixed Ambrose tournament with over 70 people competing. Ambrose is a great format, where you both hit your own ball – but it is a scramble format and you get the advantage of hitting your next shot from where the best shot of the partnership landed.

The tournament was well supported by the club and as it was open – we had many from other clubs as well. A big thank you to Vaughan from Oakura Meat Co for his sponsorship support. We were lucky with the weather and couldn't have asked for better playing conditions

Congratulations to Lina Tung and Kurt Hikaka who placed first on the day with a very tidy 67 off the stick. Also congratulations go to Kat

Novak and James Crighton (2nd) and Roseanne and Evan Parkes (3rd). Due to the number of people competing, we were able to pay out to the 10th placed pairing – congratulations to all those who placed. The rest of us had an enjoyable game of golf and a delicious lunch!

Our Men's Club Championship finals were played at the end of June. There were 48 entries which is a 50% increase from last time (golf is so addictive!). The matches are played over 36 holes and the games were a tight match with the Intermediates having to go to 37 holes to get a clear winner. It's always good to see the club members out supporting the matches, following the players round the course. Congratulations to all finalists and championship winners - Joseph Doyle (Senior men), Peter Grylls (Intermediate men), Horry Hubbard (Junior men) and Norman Loftthouse (Limit Matchplay).

That's it from us for the month – remember – keep you head down and follow through.





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

Some of our services include:

- Convalescing
- 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



Cherish RESPITE

In-Home Care



BOON

- Architecture
- Interior
- Landscape
- Urban Design
- Development
- Building Compliance
- Project Management

Boon.co.nz

Stories of the Past

Professional Imposter, Embezzler and Fraudster.

In 1902 "The Otago Witness" reported that a person of German nationality, Mr.H.E.Bunger, smart address and good education, treated several men of the community with a pitiable tale of distress he and his family were "undergoing". His story was to the effect that illness necessitated their removal from Sydney to Naseby,(New Zealand's gold Eldorado!- L.J.) in the hope that the salubrious climate of the goldfields would work a change for the better.

His wife had died, and all his 'financial belongings' had been swallowed up in expenses. The result was that he and the children were in sore need. Some 'good samaritan' Dunedin gentlemen loaned him sums of money, some up to £25 on the strength of expected money from Germany. He also advised, with 'persistent declaration', of his dealings with several well-known businesspeople in London. Investigations in London proved that there was no such person with the name Bunger, but another with the name Vendon, and his whereabouts was unknown as he had skipped elsewhere owing sums of money.

The Otago Witness noted - The same "dealings" which had been so successfully operated, news has now come from Wellington that a Mr. Zunger had been arrested there for imposing on people. At the same time, it was ascertained that he has a wife (formerly Davidson) living in South Dunedin who has just given birth to a daughter. A birth notice (NZ, Birth Index 1840 - 1950) named the child Mildred Wilhelmina Bunger. Her husband's first initial in the notice was R. The doctor who attended the birth was told Mr. Bunger was in Wellington and would be returning to Dunedin soon. The article then noted that it was highly unlikely he would be seen in these parts for some time, unless under escort. There was little doubt he was the same man. Nor doubt that Bunger alias Vendon was also a professional imposter and apparently has a successful career at his special game.

On 10 December 1906 Mr. Nelson, a director of the New Plymouth Petroleum Company, arrived back in New Plymouth from United States accompanied by a Mr. Bunger, an oil drilling expert secured by Mr. Nelson to be manager for oil drilling at their proposed site at Ōmata.

On 20 Feb 1907 ninety packages of boring machinery had arrived from Australia. The bulk of the capital for this purchase was held in New South Wales. Drilling, however, was terminated in October 1907.

The Taranaki Herald 17 December 1907 reported Mr. H.E. Bunger was suing the company for £150 - £75 for 5 weeks wages and £75 in lieu of notice. His lawyer claimed that Mr. Bunger had been deliberately humbugged. He argued the delay in payment by the company was to force Mr. Bunger to take a sum less than

they originally offered. (Last month's "TOP" July issue.)

Two days later (19 Dec1907) The Taranaki Herald recorded Mr and Mrs Bunger sailed for Onehunga on "S.S. Takapuna". Two years later a H.E. Bunger was in the news in San Francisco and Eldorado, California!

1926. Once again, it is OIL, OIL, OIL, at Omata!

Great excitement was in the air! Elbof a famous German group was contracted to conduct a survey in Omata. Their expertise in the 1920s was in high demand elsewhere around the world. This survey identified the geological site for what would become an early hydrocarbon exploration in the Taranaki Basin (National Library, Wellington). Elbof, after exhaustive tests, reported the structure of land



in the Omata/Ngamotu area and around New Plymouth needed further investigation. In1930 boring began for oil on Mr. E.D. Ansford's property. Some readers will remember Ted and his farm on Beach Rd. The large Te Ngahoro Pa close to the rig can be seen in this photo.

Drilling would be on a 24-hour basis of three shifts, each overseen by a drilling expert from Mexico. Previously no oil venture had created such hopes as this one. Elbof scientists, in their opinion, claimed they had discovered a large petroleum deposit. This needed the import of only the latest and elaborate plant, suitable to recover the oil in commercial quantities. It was claimed the steel derrick,130 ft (nearly 40 metres) high and the plant was of the most modern design. The plant was equal to the largest in the world, being capable of drilling to over 8000 ft (2,400 metres). Mr. Thomas F.B.A.S., F.I.I.S. manager of the company, at the 'digging in' operations commented that today was the result of 3 ½ years of scientific investigations of this field.

On 8th May 1930 a dinner to celebrate the Official Opening was presided over

by Senator (Australian Upper House of Parliament) J.D.Millen, chairman of Directors from Australia, and was held at the White Hart Hotel. Over 80 dignitaries of Taranaki attended including Members of Parliament, A.H.Kimble (Under-Secretary for Mines), The Hon. W.A. Veitch, a Cabinet Minister, mayors of local towns and other local dignitaries and geologists Dr. L.Bossard, Dr. Prendergast Knight, and Dr. Ernest Modriniak.. Geophysical research had often been, at the time, likened to a scientific x-ray of the earth. The objective of the company was to produce oil without the usual policy of blind stabbing. After its war experiences (WWI) British interests had progressed until they controlled 75% of the world's oil supply. Only 6% was on British soil (similar to the USA/Iran current conflict).

In September 1930 a report to the Shareholders noted £74,913 (equivalent to \$10 million dollars today) had been spent on development. Most of the money for drilling and equipment had come from Australian investors. The immediate area (presumably Ngamotu) had yielded over 1.5 million gallons of high-grade oil to other operators. The drilling attracted local newspaper headlines such as: **DRILLING PLANT HERE ON FRIDAY. EXPERT ARRIVES FROM MEXICO. OIL BORING TO COMMENCE. ROTARY BORE AT NEW PLYMOUTH.**

Further headlines continued to heighten the fever: **SOME INTERESTING PROSPECTING, BORING FOR OIL, THE SCIENCE OF GEOPHYSICS, INTEREST IN OMATA DISTRICT, WILL IT BE STRUCK? FINDING OIL BY "X-RAY"** and so the headlines continued to flare in excitement. (Taranaki Herald/Taranaki Daily News). It was reported that if oil was found in commercial quantities £1 shares would be nearer £50 per share. There were signs of oil at 2,300ft to 2,600ft (700 - 790 metres). The bore had been shut down for the testing. This testing due to the nature of the rock caused problems of caving in and the drill became stuck. It was another seven months of costly 'fishing' before drilling could be resumed.

A year later the headline: **AFFAIRS BEING INVESTIGATED.** The bore was at 3,500 feet (1,050 metres). A further £23,949 was needed to continue. Then the telegram from Sydney (August 1931) commanded that operations cease immediately (Taranaki Daily News). Mr.Ansford and neighbour Mr. Henchman on Beach Road sued for breach of contract. In 1936 the saga started all over again. Perhaps one day?

Len Jury

(Thanks once again to Mr. Mike Gooch - Puke Ariki and his research team for their assistance in the investigations and providing newspaper reports, used for this article. The photograph of the Derrick is from Mr. Rigby Allan's records, a past Director of the then Taranaki Museum now Puke Ariki.)

Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade



It's easy to notice us when the sirens are on and the truck is heading out of the station, but what happens during the rest of the month?

For our volunteers, every month is a balancing act between family, work, training and being ready to respond at a moment's notice. The pager doesn't wait for a convenient time. It can sound during dinner, in the middle of the night, while we're at work, or while we're cheering on our kids from the sidelines. When it does, we respond because serving the Ōākura community is something we're proud to do.

This past month has been another reminder that no two callouts are ever the same. From medical emergencies and motor vehicle crashes to alarm activations, weather-related incidents and assisting neighbouring brigades when required, every incident calls for teamwork, professionalism and a commitment to helping others.

Monday nights are our regular training evenings, and while they can look like fun from the outside, they're an essential part of keeping our skills current. We might be practising hose drills one week, road crash rescue the next, followed by breathing apparatus, pump operations or medical scenarios. We train in all weather conditions because emergencies don't wait for fine days.

Being part of the brigade is also about supporting one another. We celebrate achievements, welcome new members, learn from every incident and make time for a laugh together. The friendships formed through volunteering are one of the things many of us value the most.

As winter continues, we'd also like to remind everyone to take a few simple fire safety

steps around the home. Have your chimney cleaned if you use a fireplace, keep anything that can burn well away from heaters, never leave cooking unattended, and check that your smoke alarms are working. These small actions can make a huge difference.

Finally, we'd like to thank the Ōākura community for your continued support. Whether it's giving way to our appliances on the road, supporting our fundraising events, or simply stopping into the station on a training night to say hello, your encouragement means a great deal to our volunteers.

Stay safe, and we'll see you around the village - hopefully not because you've dialled 111!

Puanga @ Ōmata

By Ramina Antill, Year 8

Every year, Ōmata School goes all out to celebrate Puanga. You might wonder why not Matariki? Well, from our view here at Ōmata the Matariki star cluster is hidden so we look to Puanga instead.

In our classrooms, we don't just learn the basics. We dive deep. This year every class got crafty. The Korimako class made 3D zentangle stars, while Kiwi created midnight sky posters with big, bright silver stars. Ruru took on a massive challenge of creating great stellated dodecahedron stars. Other classes showed their respect through writing and research.

The best part though is our dawn celebration. We woke up at 5:00am and headed to school while it was still pitch black. Holding our lanterns, we took a solemn hikoi (walk) through the bush. We gathered around the bonfire and as the sun started to rise there was karakia, we sang waiata, shared stories, listened to korero from Tāne Manu and remembered those who have passed. We ended the morning perfectly by sharing breakfast together in the hall.

Our principal, Ms Brisco, said, "What a wonderful way to begin the day as our community came together to celebrate Puanga. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us, and especially to those who helped make the morning so special with lovely kai and conversation. These shared experiences bring us together and strengthen our community. Mānawatia a Puanga!"



Still pitch black and holding lanterns, a solemn hikoi was taken through the bush.

Coming Up

August

12 3D Conferences 2-7pm

13 3D Conferences 2-7pm

14 Y5/6 Chess Tournament 9am
Ōākura Hall

Y7/8 Chess Tournament 1:30pm
Ōākura Hall

21 Y7/8 Winter Sports Tournament

27 Ōmata Cross Country Ages 5-7

28 Ōmata Cross Country Ages 8-13

31 Y5/6 St John's First Aid Training

September

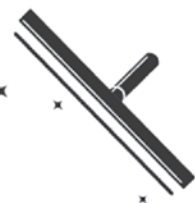
1 Coastal Cross Country Years 4-6

3 Coastal Cross Country Years 7-8



surfshine

windows and solar cleaning



surfshinewindows@gmail.com

0210 260 6632

Rahui Update

The Western Taranaki Rāhui kaupapa continues to gain momentum, with strong community involvement helping to shape the future of our coastline.

Over the past three months, the Rāhui Steering Committee has been busy holding regular meetings, alongside a series of marae, pā, hapū and community workshops across the Taranaki coastal region. These gatherings have provided an opportunity for local people to share their views, contribute their knowledge, and be part of important discussions about the long-term health of our coastal environment.

Significant progress has also been made behind the scenes. The Rohe Moana application as well as the Section 186A Temporary Closure applications have now been lodged, marking an important milestone on the pathway towards a future Mātaitai application and a long-term plan for the protection and management of our coastline.

The Rāhui continues to bring together a diverse range of voices, including local communities, tangata whenua, recreational and commercial fishing interests, environmental groups, and government agencies. While people may not always agree on every issue, there is a shared desire to ensure the coastline remains healthy and thriving for future generations.

The Steering Committee is also currently strengthening its operational capacity, with several support roles now being recruited to help manage the growing workload and support the many volunteers who continue to contribute their time and expertise to the Rāhui.

As we move into the next stage of the process, community participation remains vital. The Steering Committee is encouraging anyone with an interest in the future of our coastline to come along to the upcoming community hui and be part of the conversation.

Upcoming Community Hui

Sunday 23 August – Ōpunakē Events Centre (11.00am-2.00pm)

Governance and Ongoing Community Involvement

Sunday 20 September – Ōāonui Hall (11.00am-2.00pm)

Bringing all strands together and setting a mandated direction

Sunday 8 November – Ōkato Domain (11.00am-2.00pm)

Final confirmation and collective sign-off

These meetings are open to everyone. Whether you are a fisher, surfer, diver, boatie, local resident, kaumātua, rangatahi, or simply someone who cares about the future of our coastline, your voice matters.

The future of our coastline belongs to all of us, and the Western Taranaki Rāhui Steering Committee looks forward to continuing this journey with the community as we work together to protect and strengthen our coastline for generations to come.

Korora Penguin Guardians

Edyta Materka and her family recently arrived in Ōākura from America. Edyta fell in love with Little Blue Penguins after a visit to Wellington Zoo. Their beach walks led them to notice penguin tracks travelling to and from nesting sites between Matekai Park and the Corbett Park rivermouth. A purchase of a trail camera assisted them in spotting the penguins at night as they made their journey up the beach. The Infra red camera works by detecting movement. They made contact with Wild for Taranaki's Emily Roberts and also the Ngamotu Marine Society. As they involved their three children Felix 8, Margaux 6 and Casimiro 3, the idea to set up a guardian group was decided on. Word spread, resulting in a spot on RNZ. Increased predator control could be accredited to some of the improvement in nesting numbers. To assist in helping these little birds over the nesting period (late June to January) keep cats inside at night when possible and dogs under control near nesting sites in coastal vegetation and rock walls. Take a walk down the beach and see those little footprints yourself. They are easy to spot and rather cute.

Village Vibes

by Elaine Jamieson

What a night!

Who knew Ōākura had so many foot stomping folk fans of all ages? The hall was packed for Graeme James' 'send off' with a family friendly atmosphere representing all age groups. After a nice, laid back introductory set by Graeme's dad Tom, we got exactly what was promised. Within minutes the dance floor was packed as Graeme switched smoothly between instruments, hyping up the rhythm and the crowd to a crescendo of enjoyment. Sing alongs were encouraged and the crowd delivered loudly but faithfully in tune. At one point we were all line dancing as one. Even a belt disfunction was quickly solved by Graemes 'roadie' dad, and the trousers stayed up! The encore cheer was responded to and ended by engaging the whole crowd into a ceidhli. Graeme loved the crowd and clearly was more than happy with his final concert of the tour in his home town. Let's hope he comes back, and if he does, don't miss it!



Get Ōākura Pumping again.

Earlier in July Toni from Butlers Reef Bottle Store emailed NPDC who are installing self serve fuel pumps at the former Heydon Priest garage site. "My work place is very close to the site and I'm getting bombarded with questions from my customers of when our small village will have a petrol station again. Can someone please give me any info I can pass on of when we expect Ōākura to have a self service station."

Two days later NPDC replied. "We are expecting to have the new Ōākura site open sometime in November. At this stage we do not have a confirmed date."



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

**David
MacLeod**
MP for New Plymouth

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.



OAKURA CRAINIOSACRAL

for pregnancy | children | adults | babies

birth trauma
ADHD/Tourette's etc
neck/ back pain
anxiety
digestive issues
emotional issues
plus much more -
please ask



Mira Watson BA, MA, MSc

(0)2108090172 www.mirawatson.com

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



Cicada.

Landscape design & build

Duncan 021 22 999 38

cicada.biz



CREATING A BETTER FUTURE
SINCE 1973



**BTW
COMPANY**

SURVEYING
ENGINEERING
PLANNING
ENVIRONMENT

WWW.BTW.NZ

DOMESTIC JOINERY
AND KITCHENS

NEWTON

Gordge

JOINERY

COMMERCIAL
JOINERY

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

MALVA

Chocolate

**Stone Ground, Handcrafted
Chocolate and Cacao**

MADE IN ŌĀKURA
with local honey and ethically sourced,
organically grown Cacao from the
Pacific Islands

malvachocolate.co.nz

W.O.F. • Mechanical Services • Engine Services

General Repairs • Dashboard warnings • Punctures

Batteries • Diagnostic • Floats • 2 +

4 Wheelers • Contracting

Equipment • Trailers • Mowers

machinery • Heavy

Pipework • repairs

Services • Mechanical

Dashboard warnings • New Tyres

Punctures • Floats • 2 +

4 Wheelers • Contracting

Equipment • Trailers • Mowers

machinery • Heavy

The

Garage

JSME

AUTOMOTIVE + ENGINEERING
1759 South Road • TATARAMAKA
027 4416 330 • 752 4933 • www.thegaragejsme.co.nz
MON TO FRI 7AM - 5PM

tuesday @ butlers

fish

'n' chips

**FRESH FISH + FRIES
+ ANY HOUSE BEER**

\$30

new winter menu is live

butlers reef

It's everybody's local

HABBERFIELD

LANDSCAPES

Designed Around A Feeling.

MORNING TALK

COFFEE GROUP

Come along to the NPOB Surf Club
Every Thursday from 10am - 11am
Any enquiries call Tracey 027 636 8060

SOZ.

Sometimes we don't get it perfect, apologies to our
valued clients at Puke Ariki Museum for last months ad.

PSP

Pet Sitting Plus
CARING FOR
YOUR PETS
WHEN YOU'RE
NOT THERE

www.petsittingplus.co.nz

027 305 7137 or holli.petsittingplus@icloud.com

**KIINGI
TUHEITIA
PORTRAITURE
AWARD**

25 July – 1 November 2026
Puke Ariki Museum
pukeariki.com

MAIDEN.

Hair & Extension Salon
Clothing & Gift Boutique

The Village Mews Oakura

Txt 0272765185
www.maidenhair.co.nz

Menopause Psychology

Psychological support for women
navigating midlife, menopause and
beyond.

Rina Belgraver
Counselling psychologist
rinabelgraver.com

Boundless
Artist's Books
On until 10 August.
Collected international works
Visit the gallery to vote for
your favourite for the
People's Choice prize.
This is My Medicine
Heidi Monks
13th August - 21st Sept.
Gallery Gathering
Sunday 16th August at 2pm
Heidi is a natural dyer and
stitcher extraordinaire.
18 Halse Place, Ōpunakē
Phone 021 407 424
OPEN THURS TO MON 1-5PM
fromoutofthebluestudiogallery.com

NEW PLYMOUTH
PHYSIOTHERAPY

WALK-IN CLINIC.
You bring the injury,
We'll bring the premium service.

151 St Aubyn Street, New Plymouth
Mon-Fri: 8am-5pm

8 the Ōākura Post

the Ōākura Post 9

Emily Bennett



Known for her professionalism, integrity and attention to detail, Emily has earned a reputation for making buying and selling property feel surprisingly enjoyable. Expect honest advice, regular updates and genuine support from the first chat right through to settlement.

Call or text Emily today on 021 22 999 37 or email emily@suchyandco.nz

Suchy & Co
REALTY

ANDCO REALTY 17 LTD LICENSED REAA 2008

Hi, I'm Margaret Bryce, the Chiropractor who talks about subluxations.

What is the cost of headaches and migraines to your life?

Call 020 413 67678 (leave a message)
Visit: www.brycechiropractic.co.nz
Address: Cnr Plymouth & Koru Roads

A subluxation is when your brain has lost control of a spinal segment through some stress or other. It can mess with your body's communication. When your body moves accurately you have the ability to accomplish the things your brain wants accomplished - that's great! My examination fee is \$120, but I'm opening 7 exams for \$30 each, which we'll give to World Vision. Call me now.

DR MARGARET BRYCE
chiropractor

green school
NEW ZEALAND

2027 Enrolments Now Open

Our globally recognised Green School Diploma (Advanced) is recognised by all universities in NZ
Te Pūkai Tara & internationally.

www.greenschool.nz @greenschoolnz

What the Tax?!

SEMINAR

Save money, understand the basics, and take the stress out of managing your books.

Thu 17 Sept | 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM | \$15
Tickets available via Eventbrite

bakertilly
STAPLES RODWAY

Give a hoot for our native owls

International Owl Awareness Day on 4 August is a great opportunity for people to consider how they can support our native owls, says NPDC's Brooklands Zoo which has two owls on public display.

New Zealand has three native owl species: the ruru/morepork, the little owl (in the South Island), and barn owls (in the northern part of the North Island). The birds are natural pest controllers in healthy ecosystems. However, they face threats from human activity – such as rodent bait, vehicle and window collision, outdoor pets and habitat loss. Introduced pest species can also attack nesting female ruru and their eggs and chicks.

Brooklands Zoo, in partnership with New Plymouth Vet Group and DOC takes care of ruru/morepork and other native birds that need rehabilitation after injury or illness. Once treated, the ruru spend time at Brooklands Zoo for valuable rehabilitation time to ensure they are flying and eating well enough to be returned back to the wild. Five ruru have been rehabilitated at the zoo in the last four years.

Sometimes the vet clinic receives ruru that have been caught in the sticky seed pods of parapara (Ceodes brunoniana)/bird-catcher trees. The sticky substance results in the birds being covered in debris and unable to fly, making them very vulnerable on the ground. Parapara are meant to be coastal trees where big seabirds are strong enough to not be trapped by the sticky seeds but when the trees are planted more inland, they can capture small birds like silvereyes, and then ruru who come in to eat the trapped birds. If you have parapara in your garden, remove the seeds when they appear or consider removing the plant entirely.

The zoo is holding Owl-themed Keeper Talks at noon and 2pm on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 August.



Brooklands Zoo's two ruru keep an eye on the camera.

How you can help ruru:

- Keep old trees on your property so that the birds have places to nest, and plant new (preferably native) trees so that ruru will have places to nest in the future.
- Try making a nest box, like the one from Wingspan www.wingspan.co.nz/PDF/007-Ruru-Nest-Box.pdf, and put a metal sleeve on the tree's trunk to make it harder for pest species to climb up.

Sign Up Today!

Sign up for a notification as each issue is published online.
www.theoakurapost.co.nz. Find the button at the bottom of the page.

**Need a gym that's closer to home?
The Well Nest is just around the corner!**

Drop-In Membership (6am-7pm every day), Group Classes & Personal Training. Your home for fitness here in Ōākura!

30 Dixon Street, Ōākura
Hayden 027 4835942
tempofit.org/gym

The Well Nest



WOULDN'T IT BE EASIER
IF JUST ONE PLACE DID IT ALL
**STOP LOOKING
YOU'VE FOUND US**

TOPPRINT
www.nakiprint.co.nz

• GRAPHIC DESIGN • PRINTING SERVICES • BRANDED APPAREL
• PROMOTIONAL • BANNERS & FLAGS • & MORE
(06) 754 4980 sales@nakiprint.co.nz

ADVISORY
ACCOUNTANCY
+MORE

Chartered Accountants + Business Advisors

At +MORE Taranaki, we understand the realities of running a business.

Big decisions can be overwhelming, and business ownership can feel lonely at times. We're here as your sounding board, offering practical, expert financial advice tailored to your situation.

Whether you are in the trades, property development, professional services industries or an agri contractor, keeping on top of finances, tax requirements, and business growth can feel overwhelming. We give clear, practical advice so you can focus on growing your business and getting to where you want to be faster.

Proudly supporting Kaitake Junior Rugby this season is another way we stay connected to the local community and the people behind local business.

We're now welcoming new clients and offer a free one-hour consultation.

Call Paul or Nathan for a coffee and chat to find out more.

06 920 3616
www.plusmore.co.nz
56 Leach Street, New Plymouth

The Speed. The Crossings. The Cash.

What
do you
think?

Speed Limits & Intersections

The speed limit through Ōākura Village is not a new topic, particularly at the entrances to the village. Most of us have experienced that moment of anxiety when a vehicle approaches too quickly or races through one of our busy intersections. Thankfully, many of these incidents end as near misses, but not all of them.

The impact of a crash reaches far beyond those directly involved. It affects victims, witnesses, families, first responders and the wider community.

Wānaka has shown that it can be done. While 50 km/h is New Zealand's default urban speed limit, the Queenstown Lakes District Council introduced a 40 km/h limit through parts of Wānaka to improve pedestrian safety and create a safer village environment.

There are four key areas of concern: Corbett Park, Dixon Street/Main Road intersection. The pedestrian crossing outside the hall, Wairau Road/Main Road intersection. This is not a long stretch of road. So why can't we make it safer with a reduced speed limit?

Why couldn't Ōākura do the same? I believe a 40 km/h speed limit should begin at the top of Corbett Park hill for traffic coming from New Plymouth, and at the substation for vehicles travelling from the Ōkato direction.

What do you think? Would you support a reduced speed limit through the village? I'd love to hear your thoughts and any other ideas for making Ōākura's roads safer.

Our Pedestrian Crossings

Do you think a pedestrian crossing by the Four Square would be safer than what we have now? Often motorists will stop for pedestrians to cross, which in itself causes confusion and there is a concern that children's safety could be at risk.

Our ATM machine

Do you think we should remain a cash society and therefore require an ATM machine in the village. The TSB bank leased the machine that has permanently been removed from the Four Square. The off-shore leasing company have expressed zero interest in replacing it after there was an attempt to break into it. Jayde, proprietor of the Four Square, has investigated alternatives. With no luck so far it would be interesting to get your feedback - how you have been impacted, your suggestions.

Email me your feedback - editor@theoakurapost.co.nz as I would like to document our ongoing concerns and give weight to the input from Kaitake Community Board and David MacLeod, National MP. **Post or deliver your feedback to the mailbox at No4 Butlers Lane. Text to 027 636 8060**

Office
Space
for let.

As part of the No4 Business Centre at Butlers Lane. One room is available for rental. You would be joining other female health and wellness practitioners. The weekly rent of \$160.00+gst includes power, wifi, rates, shared waiting room. All enquiries to Tracey Lusk 027 636 8060 or email editor@theoakurapost.co.nz

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

 ALUMINIUM SCAFFOLDING \$35 per day 6+ days for \$30 per day \$50 full weekend +\$50 bond	 BUS CHARTERS MINIBUSES TRAILERS & HORSE FLOAT	 WATERBLASTER Petrol 3000 psi 15L/minC \$90 for ½ day \$120 full day \$130 weekend +\$50 bond
---	--	---

www.pickeringmotors.co.nz
 pickering.motorsltd@gmail.com 0800 22 11 20
 11 Tennyson Street, Ōpunakē



Ōmata Locals Preserving Taranaki's Stories for Tomorrow.

Len and Heather Jury at Puke Ariki's Taranaki Research Centre.

It was wonderful to learn that Ōmata locals Len and Heather Jury were given acknowledgement for their support of two digitisation projects through the Taranaki Research Centre, part of Puke Ariki Library.

Len is our very own Stories of the Past contributor and you will know from reading his articles that he has a passion for our stories and our area. "Everyone has a story, and too many of those stories are never told. Making records like these available online helps people discover their heritage and understand

the people and events that shaped their communities. The story may seem ordinary to you, but future generations will value it. If vital work like this isn't done now, the opportunity can be lost forever."

The couple's donation of \$20,000 has helped fast-track work that may otherwise have taken years to complete. The digitisation of heritage resources has helped unlock rare Taranaki history, with 178 issues of the Taranaki Gazette, dating from 1853 to 1861, now available online through NPDC's Puke Ariki website.

The newly digitised Gazettes include 365 pages of fully text-searchable material, giving

researchers, historians, students, whānau and curious locals easier access to some of the region's earliest printed official records.

The donation is also supporting the digitisation of the Taranaki Daily News from 1946 to 1953 for Papers Past. The Taranaki Research Centre hopes future community support will help preserve other unique Taranaki resources, including the remaining Taranaki Gazettes from 1862 to 1876.

The digitised Taranaki Gazettes can now be viewed online through Te Rangi Aoao Nunui, Puke Ariki's digital home for Taranaki stories, collection items and research resources.

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

Economies of

Fiona Clark, Matthew Galloway, Ngahuia Harrison, Ho Rui An, Darcy Lange and John Miller

Ngahuia Harrison, Crude Stores, 2021.

Deferral

8 August – 15 November 2026

NPDC
GOVETT-BREWSTER
ART GALLERY
LEN JURY
CENTRE



Jacqui Penn centre with the cast of The Vagina Monologues

TOP Local

Jacqui Penn grew up in New Plymouth in a family with six children. With her mother's encouragement Jacqui did speech and drama classes as a child with Sushila Hay. She then went on to do competitions and worked her way progressively through the grades, with recognised exams from the Trinity College of London.

When a teenager she let all of that go but always maintained a strong interest in drama. In her early 20s she lived in Auckland, the South Island and overseas. She was an extra in a couple of student made films while living in Galway.

From an early age Jacqui was 'horse mad' and started riding at age 7. She did Pony Club, one day events and hunting. While in the UK she worked on an estate as a jillaroo looking after a team of horses and keeping them fit.

"As soon as I got back to Taranaki in 2003 I got a job as a horse wrangler on the movie set of the Last Samurai. I looked after Tom Cruise' horse and those of the stunt guys who were over from Japan, Australia and Spain."

"It was an amazing experience seeing firsthand how a large scale production is made. The filming of the battle scenes were thrilling and the horses were really the stars of the movie!!!"

Jacqui then took a bit of time out to raise a daughter and open the organic shop Seeds in Ōkato with a couple of friends (it no longer exists).

She returned to the theatre in 2017 for the play Sex Drive at the Little Theatre. Then also Pack of Girls at the Little Theatre and The Pink Hammer at the Repertory Theatre. In 2024 she had the lead female role in Love and Mistletoe at the Little Theatre. More recently she performed in the Book of Will at the Kings Theatre in Stratford. Now she's full swing into rehearsals three times a week for the Vagina Monologues which will open at the Little Theatre on 5th August."

Having been in so many productions, I asked Jacqui how she chooses what she will audition for. "I request a script and I have to resonate with the story they are trying to tell. If I'm not feeling it, I won't apply. It's my creative outlet, delving into a character, embodying that character. I'm trained in Somatic Dance, a movement tool I use to bring a character to life."

The Vagina Monologues was written by Eve Ensler 30 years ago, and it is still being widely performed. More than 200 women were interviewed by Ensler and she created the Monologues from those true stories, a kind of celebration of their stories.

For Jacqui, The Vagina Monologues is much more than a play. "It's a powerful exploration of courage, compassion and empowerment, offering audiences the opportunity to laugh, reflect and connect through shared experiences."

"This is a show for all adults, not just women. It's about knowledge of each other. Men and women will both learn something — even be blown away."

The Vagina Monologues will be at the New Plymouth Little Theatre from August 5–15, 2026. Tickets and show times can be viewed on iTicket.

Elayne Kessler



RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL
HEATPUMPS
FAULT FINDING &
REPAIRS

027 849 05 98
wairauelctrical@gmail.com

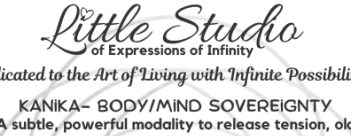




Therapeutic,
Relaxation, Pregnancy
& Sports Massage

Text Alexia today
021 414 76904

497 Plymouth Rd, Koru
www.mymuscles.kiwi



Dedicated to the Art of Living with Infinite Possibilities!

KANIKĀ- BODY/MIND SOVEREIGNTY
A subtle, powerful modality to release tension, old patterns, and limiting beliefs. Working with your body's natural intelligence to restore calm, clarity, and balance. Perfect for navigating transitions, easing stress, and feeling more at home in yourself

HAWAIIAN BODYWORK
KAHUNA ARTS TRAININGS:
Hawaiian Warrior Art - Lua, Ka alele Au/Flying
Aligning Self to enable ease of navigation and movement through life's challenges

And Lovingly handcrafted gem + crystal jewelry
inspired healing artworks, Card Readings

Heidi Turner 0274 870 867 ● heidi.rainbow@gmail.com
to book an appointment or to view/purchase art or jewellery

TOP Activities

Ōākura

Ōākura Hall Bookings
Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Adult Ballet Class - Friday 8:45am - 10 am.
Register your interest for adult tap class. Jane 027 6940933 or janeroseman@xtra.co.nz.

Bowling and Social Club
Bowling tournaments September through to April. Both mid-week and weekend games. Steve Muller 021 169 5863

Oakura Bowling Club Mahjong Group
We meet each Monday from 1pm at the club. All welcome including beginners. Contact Heather 021617894

Dancing in the Dark
Glenys Farrant 027 753 0120

Gym Classes - Fun & friendly community circuit training sessions at The Well Nest gym Tue 5:20pm & Fri 9:30am. Tempofit.org/gym Hayden - 0274835942

Indoor Bowls
Enquiries to Marvin Clough 752 7531

JKA Karate - Tues 5.30-7pm,
Thurs 6-7.30pm. Jim Hoskin 022 601 3070.

Justice of the Peace - Lynn, Anne, John, Krys. Ōākura Library Thurs 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 Classe - 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@frankandfearless.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 - Tues & Thurs 9-11am, Wed 7.30-9pm, 10am-12pm most Saturdays. All skill levels 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 - Ōākura Bowling club, 3rd Friday of the month 10-11.30am. Contact Brenda Ryan 757 3537 or 027 748 9698

TempoFit Kids Run Club - run club, Friday 8am at Ōākura Hall, 8-13yrs. Hayden Shearman 027 483 5942 tempofit.org

St James Church - Sunday Service 10am, Every week. Sunday School Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 9am Breakfast club & 10am Sunday School. stjamesoakura@gmail.com

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

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 8.45-10.15am at Ōākura Hall. Judi 027 268 2601. Just come along or contact: taranakitaichichuan@gmail.com

Val Deakin Dance School - Children's ballet class. Tuesday 3:30 to 4:30pm. For ages 5 -9. Contact janeroseman@xtra.co.nz

Sunday Waves - 5Rhythms Dance Class
SUNDAY 10.30-12 fortnightly - Oakura Hall.

Beginners welcome. A fun somatic practice without steps... Mira 02108090172/ Dance5R@mirawatson.com

Dance 5Rhythms
MONDAYS 5-6.30 fortnightly - Corbett Park Hall. No experience needed. A free movement dance practice to increase somatic connection, co-ordination and joy. 02108090172 / Dance5R@mirawatson.com

Kaitake Golf Club - Wednesday Open Casual Haggie Competition. \$10 non-members \$5 members. 8am to 1pm open to everyone. Phone Penny 7527665

Tataraimaka Hall

5 Elements Fitness Sessions
5pm -6pm everyday. Barney 027 752 7076 barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Starts Term 2 - 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 Bowling Club - Friday Twilight Bowls during Daylight Saving, all welcome. Club opens 5:30pm, starts 6pm. Supper \$6. Sandra 0274662129

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.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church - Saturday Vigil Mass @ 6pm. 36 Cumming Street.

St. Paul's - Sunday Service 10am 1st and 2nd Worship Service. 3rd Sunday 10am – Communion Service, 4th Sunday at 7.00pm. Open church for silent reflection – Pew for You, 3rd Wednesday of each month

Te Ruru Market - Okato Community Market - Crafters, Growers, Makers.

Every Wed. Hempton Hall Okato 4-5:30pm.

Ōkato Tennis Club okatotennis@gmail.com

Playcentre 37 Carthew St. Mon and Thurs 9am-1pm during school terms. okatoplaycentre.org.nz

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: Duncan Willson
Proof Reader: Elayne Kessler

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

Taranaki Songmen

I asked member Tim Costelloe about Taranaki Songmen and why he and other local men, Bern Leuthart, Murray Dixon and part-time local Tony Hansen (tutor of Ōākura Ukestra Group) rave about this group. Tim says he has noticed an improvement in his memory and puts it down to having to memorise the songs they perform. Take it away Tim.

Do you love to sing in the shower?

Find yourself humming along to the songs on the radio? Just enjoy getting together for a singalong?

The Taranaki Songmen might be for you. We are a group of blokes who get together to sing, harmonise and carouse Tuesday evenings 7.30pm at the Barclay Hall in New Plymouth.

Originally known as the Taranaki Male Choir we have morphed into the Taranaki Songmen with a more relaxed style under the guidance of the wonderful Julian Raphael.

Julian is the founder of the Community Music Junction. We are incredibly fortunate to have a musician of such high calibre. He is well known in the Musical circles, specialising in

string instruments. He has performed and is a mainstay of the New Plymouth Operatic Society orchestra.

We have performed an extensive variety of arrangements that Julian has put together for us. They encompass such diverse genres as Georgian table singing, sea shanties, Beatles, contemporary 60s, 70s, 80s to 2000s songs, Waiaata and original material. (Even our warmups sound good.)

It is really enjoyable to be part of this group. There is a wonderful feeling of togetherness. It is very special when you are contributing to something that lifts each other up. Sometimes we think – "Wow nailed it," when we hit the

right note (most of the time anyway).

The audience can't help tapping their feet and clapping along to a lot of our numbers that they know and love.

We have a performance on Saturday 15 August at Hempton Hall – 2.00pm, the lunchtime concert on 16 September at St Andrews Church - 12.15pm, and two big performances on 26 September at The Little Theatre.

Are you interested in joining the group?
Make contact with Mike Powell 027 853 310 or email Julian Raphael, communitymusic@xtra.co.nz



Right hand side are Tim Costelloe, Tony Hansen and Bern Leuthart.

Boundless - Artists' Books

Showing until 10th August at from out of the blue studio gallery. 18 Halse Place, Ōpunakē 4616. Open 1-5pm Thursdays through Mondays.

This exhibition was an Open Call for Entries that has attracted artists from around the world. Over 40 works were preselected from submissions for inclusion and the Juror, Toni Hartill, announced awe winning choices on Sunday 5th July. The Award for Most Engaging Work was granted to Donna Dinsdale for her piece 'Pure Virgin Princess', the Highly Commended Prize went to Jeanette Verster for 'Lost (for) Words'. There is still a third prize to be awarded - The People's Choice Prize. This requires visitors to the gallery to vote.

It is hard to know which works are the most challenging of a book form but once you are in the gallery and put on your pair of blue gloves so you can pick up and carefully explore the works intimately, you will find yourself torn in many different directions over which affects you the most. Some are very calm quiet statements, poetic and ethereal. Others are captivatingly wild and adventurous - sprawling delightfully beyond their covers. There is something for everyone to engage

with - perfect for families looking for a winter activity out of the weather.

It's a free community event. Please visit the gallery website for more information: <https://fromoutofthebluestudiogallery.com/boundless-artists-books/> from out of the blue studio gallery has a new exhibition every six weeks. Through this channel the gallery works to promote an eclectic range of textile art forms and artists. Look for their advert in each issue of The Ōākura Post to keep up to date, and sign up for their newsletter through the website.

If you have never been to the gallery before I highly recommend the drive to Ōpunakē. In less than 40 minutes along the picturesque coastal highway you will find another special

coastal town. There are walking tracks, a swimming beach and campground, cafes, shops... (Having grown up in Pungarehu in the 70s, Ōpunakē was our big smoke! - Ed).



Donna Dinsdale
'Pure Virgin Princess'
winner of
'The Most Engaging Work Prize'



Jeanette Verster 'Lost (for) Words'
winner of 'Highly Commended Prize'