

11th November 2026

GENESIS

TOKOMAIRIRO HIGH SCHOOL
NEWLSETTER AND
COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

238 UNION STREET, MILTON
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Sun Shines on Successful Lake to Sea Trail Ride Fundraiser

After facing a tumultuous week of wild autumn weather, organizers and riders celebrated a spectacularly sunny and successful day on the tracks for the annual community event.

They say: third time's a charm, and that certainly proved true for this year's Lake to Sea Trail Ride held on 31 October. Following a horrendous, nail-biting leadup packed with heavy rain, biting winds, and sudden hail, Mother Nature finally relented just in time for the highly anticipated local event.

The morning kicked off with a distinctly chilly start, but the clouds cleared away to reveal an absolutely stunning, sunny day—perfect conditions for an off-road adventure.

An impressive fleet of 600 riders turned out to tackle the epic 140 km track. Organizers were thrilled to welcome participants who travelled from all over the South Island to take part, bringing a fantastic buzz to the district.

The custom course, specifically designed by Brian Griffin aka 'Griff' and his dedicated track-making team, took riders on a massive loop from Milburn all the way out to Bull Creek and back again. The route treated the visitors to absolutely stunning coastal views, plenty of deep mud, and technical challenges along the way. By the end of the day, the riders returned to base completely exhausted, caked in dirt, but wearing massive grins.

Beyond a brilliant day out for dirt bike and ATV enthusiasts, the event served as a major, highly successful fundraiser for Tokomairiro High School. Organizers noted that this year's experience was a powerful reminder of the sheer scale behind such an undertaking. Putting together a major regional trail ride demands a massive commitment of time, effort, and upfront financial investment—making community backing and rider turnout the ultimate linchpins for success.

An event of this magnitude simply cannot happen without a massive, collaborative village. Heartfelt thanks go out to the local land and forestry owners who generously granted access to their private property, as well as Griff and his tireless track crew.

The frontline and behind-the-scenes logistics were smoothly steered by a powerhouse network of volunteers. Key acknowledgements go to Craig and his team from Calder Stewart for managing the extensive base set-up, Tracy for lending her valuable expertise, and the Milton St John volunteers who worked tirelessly alongside the St John events team to keep everyone safe. The Milton Lions lent their familiar helping hands with parking logistics, and the amazing staff and school whānau turned out in droves to support operations both before and during the big day.

Executing a watertight safety plan also required specialized logistical support. Organizers extend their appreciation to Stacy Murray, Evan, Craig, Andrew Haulage, and Traffic Management Control for their vital work in developing and implementing the event's comprehensive Traffic Management Plan.

Every single contribution—from the volunteers on the ground to the riders who made the journey from across the mainland—helped fuel a fantastic community triumph, proving once again what Milton can achieve when it rolls up its sleeves together.





Teacher Only Day – Friday 13 November

A reminder that Friday 13 November is a Teacher Only Day and students will not be attending school.

Our teaching staff will be undertaking professional learning in restorative practice, followed by departmental planning as we continue preparing for the curriculum changes being introduced in 2027.

Orientation Day

We will be holding an orientation day for all incoming 2027 year 6 students on Monday 30th November. Please note the change in date.

Students can arrive at school from 8.40am and will be returning to their primary school at 12pm. Any questions please email erica@tokohigh.school.nz

Upcoming Events

Teacher Only Day: Friday 13th November
Year 7 & 8 Camp: Tuesday 17th - Friday 20th November
Year 6 Orientation: Morning - Monday 30th November
Prizegiving: Tuesday 8 December

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Tokomairiro High School Newsletter
11th November 2026

RESPECT WHAKAUTE · RESPONSIBILITY HAEPAPA · EXCELLENCE HIRANGA

Tēnā koutou katoa,
IIt is hard to believe that we are already at the halfway point of Term 4. With NCEA examinations beginning this week, our senior students are entering the final stage of their academic year, while there is still plenty happening across the school for our junior students.
I would like to wish all our students sitting NCEA examinations the very best over the coming weeks. I hope their hard work and preparation are reflected in their results.

Farewell to Year 13
Last week, we held our final whole school assembly for our Year 13 students. This was an opportunity for the school to come together to acknowledge their time at Tokomairiro High School and wish them well as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives.
For many, Tokomairiro High School has been a significant part of their lives over the past seven years. During that time, we have watched them grow and develop into the young adults they are today.
Although we have said our formal farewells, we look forward to welcoming them back for our Senior Prizegiving on Tuesday 8 December, when we will have another opportunity to celebrate their achievements.

Year 7 and 8 Camp
Next week, our Year 7 and 8 students will be heading to Camp Iona for what promises to be an exciting few days. The programme includes swimming, kayaking and a visit to the Steampunk Museum, providing students with a range of experiences outside the classroom.
Camp is a wonderful opportunity for students to build confidence, develop independence and strengthen friendships. We hope everyone has a fantastic time and look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return
.

End-of-Year Activities
With the end of the school year approaching, staff are busy planning a range of activities for our junior students to enjoy during the final weeks of term. These activities provide an opportunity to celebrate the year, spend time together and finish on a positive note. Further information about the programme will be shared with students and whānau once arrangements have been finalised.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) – 2027
A reminder that students in Years 9–13 are expected to bring their own laptop or Chromebook to school as part of our BYOD programme.
With Black Friday sales approaching, this may be a good opportunity for whānau who need to purchase a device for next year to take advantage of some of the offers available.
A laptop or Chromebook is required rather than a tablet, as students need a device that is suitable for completing their schoolwork across a range of subjects. Families considering purchasing a new device can refer to the recommended options available through Noel Leeming.

Making the Most of the Final Weeks
Although the end of the school year is approaching, there is still plenty of learning taking place in our junior classrooms. We encourage students to maintain their regular attendance and continue putting their best effort into their learning. The final weeks of term are just as important as the first, and we want all our students to finish the year well.

School Magazine Orders
Orders for our 2026 School Magazine are now open through Kindo at a cost of $20 per copy. The magazine is a wonderful keepsake of the school year, capturing some of the many activities, achievements and memorable moments from 2026.
Whānau wishing to purchase a copy can place their order through Kindo.

Ngā mihi nui,
Vicki Wish
Principal | Tumuaki

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Recognising Contributions to Our Community



Bible Reading for the Week

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you..
2 Thessalonians 3:16

At last week's assembly, we had the privilege of welcoming Clutha District Mayor Jock Martin and Hannah McCleary from Clutha District Council, who presented awards to four of our students in recognition of their contribution to recycling initiatives within the district.
Alex Blackburn, Cooper Omelvena-Yorke, Peter King and Skye Yates have been involved in processing Tetra Pak cartons so that they can be recycled, as well as contributing through their work at the Transfer Station.
This is a wonderful example of our young people making a practical and positive contribution to their local community. Congratulations to all four students on this well-deserved recognition.

Pictured left: Mayor Jock Martin, students CooperOmelvena-Yorke, Peter King, and Alex Blackburn, and Hannah McCleary. (Absent; Skye Yates)







Genesis

The Genesis is a free publication, delivered weekly to homes and businesses in Milton, and is available on the school website, Facebook or via email. The Genesis office is open Tuesday 8:30am - 3:30pm and Wednesday 8:30-12. If the office is unattended, any articles, advertising or payments can be taken to the school office or left in the secure box in the office door.
Genesis Deadlines: Advertising and Articles - Monday 12 noon. These can be emailed to the Editor at genesis@tokohigh.school.nz.
Genesis is delivered FREE to your letterbox on Wednesday afternoons. Any payments or donations can be made to Tokomairiro High School, account number 03 1736 0009803 000. Please use GENESIS and your name as reference.
- Carolyn Shanks, Genesis Editor

CONGRATULATIONS



Ben Scott

ON BEING AWARDED MOST IMPROVED PLAYER FOR U16 OTAGO ALPINERS HOCKEY

CONGRATULATIONS



Shilah Milligan

ON COACHING OTAGO U12 TOUCH

CONGRATULATIONS



Ramona Kohunui-Paul

ON SELECTION FOR SOUTH OTAGO U14 TOUCH TEAM

CONGRATULATIONS





Ty Fraser

Riley Milligan

ON SELECTION FOR OTAGO U14 BOYS TOUCH TEAM

Public Health Nurse
Abby Brookland

Available Tuesdays and Fridays at Tokomairiro High School
Phone 027 241 1506 to make an appointment

Have a Teen starting Year 9 next year?

Year 9 in 2027?

From Year 9 onwards, your Teen will see a participating Dental Provider for their dental care in most areas.

This remains FREE until they turn 18 even if they have left school



At your teens last checkup in Year 8, please ask us for a list of participating Dental Providers in your area.
For further information please contact us
0800 672 543
community.oralhealth@southerndhb.govt.nz

Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora | Community Oral Health Service | Talkteeth Southern

How Is Free Dental Care Provided?

At the end of school year 8, the Community Oral Health Service will support you and your teenager/rakatahi to transfer to a participating local dental provider. This is a dentist, oral health therapist or dental therapist who is approved to provide free dental care on behalf of Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora.

Once your teenager/rakatahi has transferred to a local dental provider, they are released from the Community Oral Health Service. This means you and your teenager /rakatahi take up responsibility to arrange and attend their appointments.

You and your teenager/rakatahi can choose which dentist or therapist they would like to enrol with from the list provided on the next page. They are also able to change to another listed provider at any time and do not need to let us know.

***Please note – only the listed dental practices are able to provide this routine dental care free of charge**

Important Things To Know

- Routine dental care is free for all eligible teenagers/rakatahi until they turn 18 even if they have left school
- Only the listed dental practices are able to provide this free routine dental care
- Some of the listed dental practices may only enrol your teenager/rakatahi if other members of your family/whānau are already enrolled with that practice
- We make every effort to ensure this list is up-to-date, however some practices may not be taking on new patients if they have reached their maximum patient number

For More Information

Please contact the Community Oral Health Service or visit the website at:
https://info.health.nz/services-support/dental-care/dental-care-for-rangatahi

Genesis Deadline - Monday at noon

Toko Golf Club

Results - 3rd November 2026
Game of the Day -Trainwreck Stableford

18 Holes

L. Lister	33 stbs
M. Cain	32 stbs
S. Bearman	23 stbs
J. McLeod	18 stbs

9 Holes

Smales	20 stbs
L.Rogan	18 stbs
N. Cubitt	17 stbs

Longest Putt - L. Lister

News from the Trenches

First up congratulations to Chuck Littlejohn for correctly picking the score between ABs and Scotland last week and scooping the Pick the Scores jackpot which has been going for the last few months. It starts refresh this week with a smaller pot to be won
Also coming up on November 20 is our annual Sports Night vs Milton Fire brigade which always is a keenly contested night. So make sure you are there to participate in a fun nights entertainment. Speaking of fun nights, the Darts Competition is filling up quickly so if you want to participate, you better get your entry in ASAP. You don't want to miss out of this based on previous years.
Also being delivered this week are the Spuds for our annual Spud Comp Extravaganza which is a bit later than normal, however it allows the RSA gardening magicians to strut their stuff and produce the best results. So make sure you select carefully.
Finally in relation to Pikes Fact Hunt, a couple of questions to ponder. What came first, the colour orange or the fruit?? And if a building is complete, why don't we call it built instead??
Private Spike Pike

Euchre Results

28th October 2026
Winner: Pat (Owaka)
Loser: Cath
Raffle: Lyn

4th November 2026
Winner: Una
Loser: Maureen (Owaka)
Raffle: Dori (Lawrence)

Rebus Club of Milton

We met in the RSA on the 20th October with a good number of members present.
Our speaker was Jasmine Boulton who with her family manages Ashley Grove in Milton and another rest home in Gore. The topic being "Going into care". Jasmine recommends staying in your own home as long as possible, by utilising local services eg meals on wheels, respite care and home help, etc. However when the time comes, you need to be assessed by your Doctor on how you are coping at home, the money situation explained, and what is available locally. Also you will need to check out retirement villages, as these vary from one to the other. There are 40 beds available in Milton and 60 in the Gore rest home. There are no plans to increase the number of beds at Ashley Grove at present.
Jasmine was a confident speaker and was able to answer questions before being thanked and presented with a gift.
Our November meeting is on the 17th November and the speaker is to be Therese Winter who will about her fathers activities in Holland during WW2
Committee to meet at 9.30 please. All are welcome to attend.

Waihola Clarendon Women's Institute Report

We had planned to visit the Dunedin Botanic Gardens, firstly to have lunch in their cafe followed by a train trip around the lower gardens. The upper gardens would be seen from the lower gardens as the flowering shrubs would be in full bloom However on the day of the meeting only three were able to attend, so we three all agreed to cancel the trip.
Our November is our Coffee morning to be held in the Waihola Bowling Clubrooms at 10.30am Our speaker is to be Ray Beardsmore who is to speak about the history of local post office history with special mention of one postal deliver`s exploits. We will start with morning tea. All are welcome to come along as there is no roll call, competitions etc See I Michelle for more details. - 03 417 7113

Articles & Reports

Genesis relies on articles and reports supplied by the community to fill our pages. Please email these to genesis@tokohigh.school.nz

Making an Appointment

If you would like to see a member of the Senior Leadership Team or your child's Dean or Teacher, please call or email the office to arrange an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

Although we like to meet with parents/ whanau, we are not always available at short notice and may be teaching or working with students or other staff.





OCEAN SAFETY WORKSHOP
FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Ocean Snorkelling
9:30am start
Location: Meet at Car Park below the Owaka swimming pool
Minimum Age 12
No equipment needed but you can bring your own!
You must be a confident swimmer

REGISTRATION
Click here to Register
Contact kate@cluthafoundation.org.nz for more information

For this training we will be heading straight to the ocean to teach you the skills needed to snorkel safely. If you haven't attended one of these sessions that is no problem as we will run through everything you need to know.

Why are we doing this training? New Zealand has an amazing coastal environment, and our underwater environment is too good to miss out on. Our waters are beautiful but they can also be wild and unpredictable. This community training event aims to equip divers with crucial safety information to help them come home safely after every dive.

Priority for the maximum 12 places on this course is given to residents of the Catlins district, followed by the wider Clutha District.

clutha FOUNDATION

dive OTAGO

This fund has been established with the Clutha Foundation to honour the memory of Owaka local Baden McNab, who tragically lost his life doing what he loved in 2018.

Qualified Dive Otago instructors will be providing the training using the latest industry techniques and guidelines. They are Adventure Activity Audited and Approved.

Check us out! www.tokohigh.school.nz

Genesis Classifieds.....Church Notices



Tokomairiro Co operating Parish

34 Union Street, Milton

Sunday 15th November

10am Worship Service.

All Welcome

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

We are a Christian Faith Bible based Church

Sunday Service 10am

110 Union Street, Milton - All Welcome!
For information, follow us on Facebook

YOUTH UNITED

Youth United meets fortnightly on Saturdays during school terms for Intermediate & High School children. Check out our Facebook page for events & times.



Genesis Classifieds.....Situations Vacant

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Milton Hammer Hardware
60 Union Street
Milton
Email milton@hammerhardware.co.nz

Genesis Deadline
Monday at noon



Genesis Classifieds.....Public Notices

Toko Golf Club

TOKO GOLF CLUB INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2026
5.00pm at Clubrooms

1. Present/Apologies
2. Confirm Minutes last AGM 22 November 2025
3. Matters Arising last AGM
4. Presidents Report
5. Treasurers Report
6. Election of Office Bearers
7. Setting of Subscriptions

Apologies to Secretary: Lisa Day 027 697 4192
Followed by Prize-giving, please bring a plate and join in the social evening meal.
ALL WELCOME

TOKO R.F.C.

TOKO JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

AGM

23rd NOVEMBER, 7PM

At the Club rooms

All welcome

Apologies to Secretary: Tess Potae tokojuniorrugbyclub@gmail.com

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MILTON COMMUNITY HEALTH

MILTON COMMUNITY HEALTH TRUST

Annual General Meeting
7.00pm on Tuesday, 17 th November 2026
at the Milton St John Ambulance Rooms

Justin Geddes, Oliver Blackbourn, Kerry Dowling and Darlene Adams have been nominated to the four vacancies on the Milton Community Health Trust Board.
Nominations are now closed.

If you are interested in local health issues, the **Annual General Meeting is open to the public. We welcome all interested community members.**
Enquiries to Dale Wyber on 027 417 8861.

The Tokomairiro Waiora Incorporated AGM

Will be held 6pm, Wednesday November 25, 2026
At 4 Shakespeare St, Milton
All welcome
Super will be served on the conclusion of the meeting
RSVP by: Friday November 20, 2026, to:
office@tokowaiora.co.nz
Or ph. 03 417 7430

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