ORCA SPLASH SEP/OCT 2024

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Kia Ora Koutou and welcome to Spring. We are told it's been a dry and warm winter but I'm not sure everyone would agree with that, maybe it's an Onemana thing. Also winter here is often an opportunity for people to either travel or hibernate and while that has been the case with many traveling to find the sun there has been plenty of activity as you will see from below.

The committee has been in constant dialogue with the council and we have been advised

- that the walk bridge will have a temporary repair undertaken now with a permanent repair done before Xmas. It's been an extraordinary and frustrating process and I suspect not over yet.
- Thanks John Freer for the publicity on CFM which helped highlight our dilemma.
- the council toilet at the far end of the surf club which was vandalised has been repaired and will reopen on 1 October (maybe the Mayor will undertake the inaugural flush). Henceforth it will be locked at night to avoid a similar fate.
- the memorial seat which was removed from near the surf club has been replaced.
- there are a number of other matters we are still pursuing including a walkway for disabled people to access the surf club deck, a basketball half court, repair to the damaged tennis court fencing, signage to indicate Whitiporuroa Road is not a four wheel drive track, relocating the CCTV camera and installing one that works at night etc etc. Please don't hold your breath waiting for these things.



On a more positive note there have been some other things happening

Les Fleming and the DunePlanters had a great event and 1600+ plants were

put in at the northern end of the main beach. Well done to all those who assisted and to Alan for a hearty sausage sizzle. Hopefully these plants and the reshaping of the stream outlet will give the beach a chance to restabilize. We will try to get one of the Regional Council team to give a talk at the AGM so people can get a better understanding of what they are trying to achieve as there have been some questions raised especially regarding the stream realignment.

The Weedbusters have been going hard out getting plants in while the ground is wet so as to enhance their chances of survival. Much work has been done up the Tuna Place Reserve and I suggest if you want, to stroll up the track on the left hand side as it's now pretty people friendly. There is still much to do but Kathryn has got the team engaged and motivated to shift back to the wild side and do more clearing over summer. If you want to see what can be achieved saunter up and have a look at how well the Matariki plantings which the community undertook three years ago have grown(up above the top lake).



Committee:

Bruce Taylor and Rob Andrew
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(Acting Chairs)
Kim Mashlan (Sec) 027 706 6146
Jennie Kingma (Treasurer)
Carol Basham Alan Mitchell
Jill Hewett Annabelle Couldwell
Anna Thomson Ruhi Pene

Need a helping hand contact
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ORCA have just purchased a new beach volleyball net which has been installed, although not without a few teething problems (it fell down in the wind). Hopefully it will be all go for the school holidays. Just take care if you use it as there are birds nesting in that general area. We have tried to put it so it doesn't cause any issue and your assistance would be appreciated.

There have been a number of events in the last few months including a fabulous mid winter Xmas and a couple of morning teas. Thanks again Sandra Andrew for your effort as it has really helped in getting the community together.

For those that don't know there are also other events including

- Community gathering at the cafe on Friday evenings
- Ma Jong including lessons and fun on Thursdays and/ or Fridays (this is not competitive or combative so contact Annabelle for details if you want a giggle)
- Zumba at the Opoutere Hall on Sundays 9am
- And... the possibility of aquasize at the pools in the future

Things coming up include

- Bingo night on 5 October for which Sandra Andrew has already sent out a flyer. This will be a fun occasion and maybe not for the faint hearted
- Family fun day on Saturday 26 October (labour weekend). There will be more info nearer the time. It will be a grand event with sack races, tug of war, three legged races and more with prizes (maybe even a lolly scramble if the Health and Safety advisor allows it). The Spa complex team will be running a sausage sizzle and they will have an information stall in the surf club along with the surf club team who will also be running an event.

Morning tea at the Cafe

held the last Thursday each month at 10am

> 26th September 31st October 28th November

> > \$8.50pp

Bring something for the swaps table.

ALL WELCOME

A special mention of the August morning tea where we farewelled committee member Erika Sedin who with husband Peter has moved to Nelson. In previous years she was very heavily involved in community events as well as the Rural Fire team. Thanks again Erika for all your effort.

We also farewelled Neville Rapley who passed away after a long illness. Our thoughts go to Christina Jarden his partner and his family.

It's all go on the Dotties front and Christine and her team have been at it, moving and fencing nests, catching rats and stoats and doing what they can to help their chances of survival. Please if you have any questions about them they are often out and about so take the opportunity to say hi and maybe offer to help. There is a notice board charting progress located by the northernmost boardwalk so stroll down and see how it's going. I'm sure all the young people will be interested.

As always the Surf club are on the look out for new members and also adults who maybe interested in being rostered on patrol. This is a great way to support the community and for those worried about having to get in the water it's not compulsory more just having a group of older heads to supplement the keen young team. Have a talk to them over Labour weekend. They will also be organising a social event at that time so cruise on down and meet the team.





SEPTEMBER 2024

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OCTOBER 2024



NOVEMBER 2024



Fibre is finally coming (not the sort that keeps you regular) and Chorus will be doing a presentation on 29 October at the Pools complex.

There will be more information sent out to members and details and posters are on the notice boards. If your interested and can't make it ask a neighbour or friend to find out what happening for you.

On a more salutary note there have been more prowling and burglaries in the village so please be diligent. The police are investigating but haven't had much luck to date. If you have any information please let them know.

Finally and with sadness Ruhi our resolute and resourceful chairperson has indicated she wishes to step back from her position as chair from now and to refocus her life and take timeout. As we all know she is a very busy lady and is keen to focus more on her whānau and her tūrangawaewae. She will continue on the committee until the AGM and help with an orderly transition. Rob and Bruce will act in an interim role and a permanent chair will be elected at the AGM in the new year. There will be more acknowledgment of Ruhi nearer the time (sorry Ruhi you are not getting away that easily).

If you see Ruhi I'm sure you will pass on the aroha.

If anyone is interested in being part of the committee or would like to find out how it all works contact a committee member who can provide information or come to a meeting and see how it rolls.

Ehara tāku toa I toa takatahi, engari he toa takitini

Our strength is not made from us alone, but made from many