

ORCA SPLASH

February 2024

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Kia ora koutou and welcome to the new Onemana year. No summer complaints so far (apart from the fisherpeople who are struggling) as the weather has been pretty stunning. With roads all open and visitors having come back into the region it's been good for us all so far. COVID is still with us and global warming and the easterly swells are still moving the sand around but we are learning this is the new reality and must deal with it. Please however respect the environment and keep out of the dunes as the plants are very fragile.

ORCA news. We welcome new committee members Rob Andrew and Annabelle Couldwell and farewell and thank Neville Cross and John Freer for their works. Both are still available to help so we haven't lost them yet. The ORCA AGM has been and gone as has the ideas forum which we facilitated. We appreciate that the ideas meeting was difficult and so we got less value out of it than we hoped, but in saying that lots of good ideas emerged that we can work through and we are happy to hear any other thoughts. We apologise to those people who were disappointed or intimidated by the proceedings and we can only all learn from it and ensure in the future more structure is put around the event and people behave with greater civility.

2024 Committee:

Ruhi Pene (C) 027 294 1452
Kim Mashlan (S) 027 706 6146
Jennie Kingma (T)
Carol Basham Bruce Taylor
Alan Mitchell Jill Hewett
Anna Thomson Rob Andrew
Erika Sedin Annabelle Couldwell

Morning tea at the Cafe

held the last Thursday each month.
10am 29th Feb
28th March
\$8.50pp.

Bring something for the swaps table.

ALL WELCOME

Some good news the Dotterel team after early setbacks had a great year with 9 dotterel chicks fledged and 2 Oyster Catchers. Chris and the team would like to thank everyone involved and the Onemana community for their support. Unfortunately one of the Oyster Catcher chicks died after being fed avocado so just be aware avocados contain a toxin persin which is toxic to birds, dogs, cats, rabbits, horses and all ruminants.

We have had a number of very successful events, with the surf club quiz evening again being outstanding and local Glenn Atkin putting on another stunning looping performance. Sandra Andrew our events supremo has made the monthly morning teas good fun and the Friday community get togethers at the cafe are still going well. The program for this year will be out shortly and we will let everyone know what's on. The only dark cloud is that Pan's lease of the cafe comes to an end soon so we won't know for a while how that will affect our program.

Council affairs are still a mystery, but the one constant is that there is no discretionary money and so they are concentrating on core services. You can see around the village the consequences with more weeds, reduced mowing, a backlog of requests for service etc but life goes on. That said you can't have your cake and eat it and as we have asked for prudence in spending we are seeing some of that now. We have to be realistic especially after the events of last year, but that hasn't stopped us continuing to push Onemana priorities especially with the Long Term Plan about to be exposed.

The pest control team is still active and there is a constant battle to keep the rats, cats, possums and stoat numbers down. There is still some rat bait available so if you need some contact either Les or Bruce for supplies. Weedbusters continues and again it's been a bit of a struggle to keep the nasties down especially with the benign growing conditions. There has been quite a lot of spraying and while that's not ideal it's the only practical solution. We have cleaned up the Tuna Gully creek, thanks all and hopefully that will reduce the flooding which occurred there due to debris build up and tree fall. Our Matariki plantings are racing ahead and thankfully when the cattle escaped they didn't dine out too much on the new natives.

[Stephen Lowe](#)

Sunday fruit & veg

10am to midday

off the Cafe carpark
(cash or eftpos)

EVERY SUNDAY

(Weather permitting)



You may have noticed we have a long staying freedom camper in the carpark and speculation (thanks Glenn) is it could be a time traveller. Unfortunately the resident Time Lord has been waylaid by Daleks while searching the universe for a spare part for the Tardis. We will keep you apprised as the future is revealed and hopefully it will be on its way shortly once the paper work is complete and it's relocated to Whangamata or another galaxy.

On the financial side ORCA are doing ok and the market day which is our big fundraiser was a great success. The weather deterred a number of stallholders but those who hung in rode the weather and had a great day. Well done to all and especially Carol and Ruhi who do the hard mahi.

Please take care as there have been a number of events in the village. We have had a couple of unsuccessful break ins which the police are following up, keys removed from a bag on the beach and a car stolen using them and also recurring damage to dune plantings and barriers. We are all pretty relaxed about security and maybe this is a wake up call for us all. It's also shown up that the security camera does work, but not at night..ummm. This is being followed up. We do get regular visits from the Community Patrol (which ORCA contributes to) but their visits are only occasional although always well received.



MARCH 2024

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL 2024

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

The situation with the rubbish collection appears to have settled down and we are getting used to how it works.

We have made representations as it's not ideal but the likelihood of change is about nil. If you have to leave your bins out when you go home, talk to your neighbour to see if they can bring them in.

Tuesday 20 FEB is RED week

Tuesday 27 FEB is YELLOW week



ONEMANA CASTROL THUNDER CRUISE

Friday 22 March 2024

If you could help out with marshalling vehicles onto the reserve

Contact Ruhi 027 294 1452

Talking of support our ORCA welfare coordinator for shopping and prescriptions etc for the aged and challenged is **Jill Hewitt**

Please don't hesitate to call her if you need support. This may also help those who have a COVID event.

Phone: 022 682 8560

Email: jillian.hewett@hotmail.co.nz

**POWERCO Maintenance:
Power off: 10pm Sunday 3 March
Back on: 4am Monday 5 March**

Finally it's great to see everyone on the beaches, reserves, play grounds, bikes, tennis courts, tracks, boats, surf boards, paddle boards etc enjoying this wonderful place. The sounds of families enjoying themselves is very special and provides occasions and memories for us all. Please don't undervalue how special that this is especially in these times where times are tough and mental health and well-being is a big issue.

Noho ora mai.