

# ORCA SPLASH

## MARCH 2025

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### Kia Ora koutou and welcome to the Autumn Splash

Summer isn't yet quite done but we are now getting colder mornings and more dew on the ground. Also the firewood collectors are out there squirrelling wood away for winter. With the change of seasons there is a change in activities but first let's look at what's been done.

The Dottie's team had a successful breeding season after an awful start with 7 chicks fledged and 2 Oyster Catchers. It's funny how it turns out with chicks being successfully raised in front of the surf club among the bathers and the beach towels. Chris and the team would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding. It's hard work and without their intervention I fear the fledged total would be near zero.

*Les has been successful in getting a Predator Free NZ grant and a number of donations and has implemented a back yard trapping scheme to supplement the bush and dunes trapping. So far they have 36 kills and as rat season is now upon us they anticipated plenty more. If you want to join phone Les on 021 790469. I appreciate some people aren't taken by having to remove and dispose of dead rats so if you would prefer to have some bait speak to Les also. A bonus is that it's all free. I think we are all seeing results in the proliferation of bird life and while they aren't all natives they generally, apart from the minors, plovers and magpies add colour to our environment.*



**It's not dune planting time, but we are still seeing plants being torn out and people ignoring the barriers. I don't get it but then I probably planted some of them. If you see people sliding down the banks or ripping out plants please nicely talk to them and try and explain what we are trying to achieve in repairing the beach and enhancing the environment. We can only try.**

Weedbusters is chugging along, but with Kathryn having been waylaid for almost 6 months the three old geisers have been trying with little direction to hold the fort. There has been a lot of spraying, bark spread on Arthur's Pass, the road end line trimmed for beach hop and the Tuna Creek track upgraded. Kathryn is back so watch this space for more action and opportunities to get involved. Planting season is coming and she's very keen to make it happen.

### 2025 Committee:

Rob Andrew (C) 0211771804  
Kim Mashlan (S) 0277066146  
Jennie Kingma (T) Carol Basham,  
Bruce Taylor 021438063  
Anna Thomson, Neville Cross  
Annabelle Couldwell,  
Murray Cruickshank, Christine  
Moore & Ruhi Pene 0272941452

*On council news, firstly after talking to our councillor Terry Walker at the AGM he followed up on our concerns about the silting up of the lakes. We have been told there will be some action in the next few weeks to clear the areas they can access which are suffering from eutrophication and silting up and in the process turning into solid ground. The original understanding was they would do a third each year so let's see what happens. With global warming and more intense weather events it is important we push for ongoing preventative measures.*

**ORCA, or should I say Sandra Andrew and a group of helpers organised a great thank you event for the volunteer community and sponsors at the surf club last week. A fun night was had by all with great food and support. Thanks to all the volunteers and sponsors and especially thanks to those who made it happen. Well done team.**

### **Morning tea at the Cafe**

held 10am the last Thursday each month

27th Mar  
30th April  
29th May  
\$8.50pp

Bring something for the swaps table.

**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
*The Oscars' & 'Where am I?'*

SATURDAY, 12 APRIL 2025  
Onemana Boatshed Cafe

**DINNER MENU**

- \*Baby Pork Ribs - Slow cooked cajun marinated ribs with wedges, corn salsa & sour cream - \$32.00
- \*Beer Battered Fish & Chips with garden salad, tartare & tomato sauce - \$29.50
- \*Loaded Curly Fries with crispy bacon, mozzarella, sweet chilli & sour cream - \$19.50
- \*Mediterranean Eggplant with kalamata olives, cherry tomatoes, hummus & Feta - \$29.00

**\*\*FOR CATERING PURPOSES, PLEASE ADVISE YOUR MEAL SELECTION WHEN BOOKING\*\***

To make a booking - please email [ratepayer@onemana@gmail.com](mailto:ratepayer@onemana@gmail.com) or phone Sandra on 0211721208 by Monday 7th April

We will be talking to the council about getting a small no parking zone in front of the bridge to the beach. I'm aware that a number of our less able people have been unable to get around the cars and campers parked there and it was also difficult on market day with the entrance partially blocked. Should be an easy fix but you never know.

*Chorus are still coming with fibre but the latest report is that the installation will be later in the year. It's not too late to register and we understand that connection to your house is free at this time. If you elect to connect later you would have to pay. Seems like a bit of easy future proofing assuming fibre is the future. **Details are on the notice on the little shed by the fire station.***

Things to look forward to in the next month include, beach hop where ORCA will be supporting the surf club in their big fundraising sausage sizzle. If you would like to help, call Jenni on 0220218786. It's a fun community day. ORCA have a trivia evening on 12 April and the Surf Club are organising their big quiz night for Easter Saturday 19 April. (More info on these will come). We also have our regular community get together each Friday at 5 pm at the cafe. Mahjong is still going well with lots of learning although I hear some of the ladies are getting more capable and cunning. Let's hope they don't start gambling! This is held at the cafe but as the dates don't seem fixed you will need to contact Annabelle for more info 021 2892242.



## MARCH 2025

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## APRIL 2025

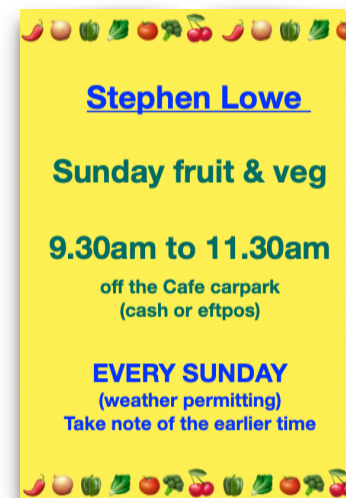
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## MAY 2025

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With winter approaching now is the time to update vaccinations for COVID, influenza, shingles etc etc if that's what you do. If you are unwell or need assistance please contact an ORCA committee member who will be able to help.

Rabbits, rabbits, rabbits. They are out of control. Unfortunately a consequence is more stoats, ferrets and weasels, not what we want. Not sure what the answer is as they are difficult to get to take baits. Can't see shooting being appreciated in a built up area so maybe we are stuck with waiting for the next round of calicivirus.



**Regarding the basketball half court proposal, feedback has been received and thanks to everyone who participated. Our chairperson Rob will be discussing the result with the Community Board on 18 March at which time we will get a better indication of their view. I know you have had a separate message regarding this and the committee are very encouraged by the enthusiastic response from both young and not so young .**

ORCA are also always on the lookout for projects. So if you have any ideas or are keen to lead an initiative contact a committee member who I'm sure will help. Our finances at present are pretty healthy and there's no point in just accumulating money for the sake of it so let's see if we can get some new ideas and move forward.

**Kia pai tō koutou rā**