

ORCA SPLASH

October 2023

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ONEMANA
RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY ASSOC

Kia ora koutou

Spring is finally with us and so it's time for an update on events in Onemana. I'm sure everyone is aware winter has been very quiet as many residents either battened down the hatches or did some overseas travel catch up. Which ever it was I trust you are all rested and relaxed.

Great to see the cafe back open as it had become the hub for many residents. Pan is running both it and Smash Pipi so things are a bit different and a bit the same. At least now we can wander down again for a coffee and the menu has been updated. Labour Weekend is coming and I know many people take the opportunity to get their places spring cleaned and ready for Xmas action. I believe the Surf Club will be patrolling over that weekend and also the Spa complex people are having an open day with ORCA, Surf, Fire Force and others in attendance. Drop down and say hello and enjoy a sausage and see how the pool and spa work. Hopefully the weather will play ball.

A couple of thank yous

** to the guys that put in the little bridge on the Pokohino track well done. They have also made a swag of mountain biking tracks in the forest which is fantastic for the village and are getting plenty of use. With young and old becoming more active with cycling and walking these features are a real asset to Onemana for the future.*

** To the guys that tidied up the entrance to Onemana off 25 - it looks great.*

Stephen Lowe

Sunday fruit & veg

10ish to midday

**off the Cafe carpark
(cash or eftpos)**

**EVERY SUNDAY
throughout
October & November**



Those with canoes and kayaks at the Southern end of the beach you would have seen there is now a big drop off at the edge of the dunes and so it will be difficult to launch. Please take care for your own personal safety and also respect the beach as it doesn't seem to be reclaiming. We don't want to loose any more sand on the sheltered southerly end which is well used by toddlers and adults alike. ORCA will shortly be asking people to identify their dingies and kayaks as we suspect some have been abandoned and can be removed. Council kindly excavated a new passage for the creek to run down which removed the big oxbow. To date it's been a success as the beach has started to reclaim north of the stream and has also provided better dotterel breeding habitat. Again this is a fragile zone so take care both with the sand, the dunes plantings and of course the Dottie's. We appreciate that not everyone was happy with what was done but to date it appears to be working.

I understand that the Dotties are well into nesting and there is hope that there may be chicks by Labour Weekend. All dog owners know the story so I won't bore you again but also please children owners make sure they are also tuned in as there have been some nests interfered with (innocently) and unfortunately once the nest is disturbed the birds abandon it. We have a very dedicated dotterel and trapping team so say hi if you see them and also follow their progress on the notice board by the stream.

OCTOBER 2023



NOVEMBER 2023



The Freedom Camping Survey is done and dusted and ORCA are in the process of writing to the council asking for the restrictions to be reconsidered under the Long Term Planning process. This would involve a policy change and some cost so only time will tell if they are willing to proceed with this. What will be will be, but at least it's been put to bed for now (the policy has to be revisited every five years) and the majority view prevailed.

Interesting things I learned in the process

- * Freedom Campers can camp anywhere except in restricted areas, as long as their vehicles comply with the law.
- * The same applies to campers who can put their tents up anywhere on council land or conservation estate except where restrictions apply.

On a serious note, the change in weather pattern to the El Niño system has contributed to a rapid drying out of the forests, farms, gully's and dunes. This is only just starting and if the forecasters are correct there will shortly be a high fire risk & fire bans. With the forecast also for windy conditions from a south westerly direction if a fire occurs we would be much at risk. More information is coming from the Fire Force , NIWA, ORCA and others so please heed the warnings. Barbeque season is upon us as is spring tidy up time and Guy Fawkes so don't be that person who drops a ciggy , burns their rubbish in the incinerator and starts a grass fire or shoots off a sky rocket into the dry bush. Just remember the horrendous events in Maui & be thankful.

Finally COVID is still very much with us so take care. Now we can get outside transmission risk is reduced but it is still lurking around. Vaccine updates are still free & available. Next edition will cover Xmas events including Market Day, Xmas Carols, a 70s evening, the World Famous Surf club quiz etc etc.....so watch this space. What it won't cover is the election or the All Blacks...pew. Hei konei rā

On the question of rubbish & bins, please don't put out blue bags as they won't be collected. You can still drop them at the tip for no charge. If you use the red bin it must have a prepaid tag otherwise it won't be emptied. There has also been an issue with all the bins blowing over in the strong winds so please click lock the top of the small green smelly bin & secure the others. Last week a lot of the village's post school holidays rubbish ended up on the street & Ruhi, John & Kim despaired at picking it up. Thank you to the people who put your new bins away when they were delivered.

Onemana has been quiet but there have been a few people events. The community Friday nights are back on in the cafe (with locals rates) A fun (I won't say debauched although some may disagree) quiz evening was held & also there have been a number of morning teas. Sandra Andrew our lovely events coordinator is back on deck so there will be more action over spring & summer. We farewelled Annette Rippon a long term resident who has moved to Auckland. Onemana was also host to the Whangamata Adventure Race / Rogaine with 450 participants doing a 3 hour or 6 hour adventure race around the bays and across the various forests & bush. Thanks to the Surf club for the use of their building, first aid facilities & also to LandSAR who helped with marshaling, logistics & communications. As with beach hop it's great to see the bay flush with young & old people having fun.

Weedbusters also coordinated the moving of 4 truck loads of mulch (thanks Earl and Chris) around the village to buffer & protect our new native plants. Thanks to those who provided the vehicles, trailers & labour.

You may not be aware but Onemana has an Emergency Response Plan. So if you are interested or there is an emergency go to our website to see how it works. We also have a number of residents who are aged, infirm, incapacitated or all of the above. Don't be afraid to drop in and see them or lend a hand I can tell you it's always gratifying and appreciated.