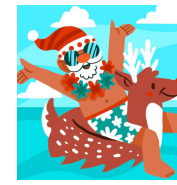


ORCA SPLASH

Christmas 2024



<https://www.onemana.org.nz/about-orca/>
ratepayeronemana@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/onemanabeach/>



With the year almost over it's time to begin to reconnect with our beach friends and community, kick back and relax. The current long term weather is forecast to be hot and settled and I can hear the collective chorus of "bring it on". Not sure the fishing is up to much but even if it's slow it's better than being at work or school.

So what is new and old to report.

Events calendar is due out shortly of key dates & times for the holiday break, so stick it on your fridge so that you can keep up with goings on. The key one for ORCA is the AGM on 2 January. The material will be circulated in advance of the meeting to give people an idea of what's been happening directly thru ORCA and the various groups being Weedbusters, Predator Free Onemana, Onemana Dune Care group, the Social Committee, Surf Club, Fire Service and Dotties.

Stephen & Jan

Christmas New year fruit & veg

9.30am to
11.30am



SUNDAYS

December
8th, 15th & 22nd

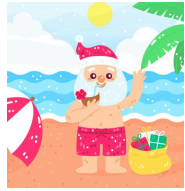
Every Sunday in January
Off the Cafe carpark
(Cash or eftpos)

Developments which have occurred since the last Splash include

- Chorus presenting in October on the Fibre roll out scheduled for next year. If your interested go to their website and register. I understand there is no cost to get it installed even if you don't connect and it future proofs your access.
- A small group presented to the Community Board on a proposal to construct a basketball half court by the tennis court. This has full Community Board support and we are now required to consult with the immediate neighbours before looking at how we proceed. If this progresses it will be a 2025/2026 project as there is currently no funding available from council.
- Family Fun day was again a success although the wind knocked us around a little. This is likely to become a biennial event with Easter 2026 targeted. Thanks to all those who helped on the day and also bought their children and grandchildren.
- Sandra and the Social committee have been busy with bingo evening, morning teas, community drinks and the like. With Xmas upon us it's time for her team to relax after a huge year, but I'm sure they have some great ideas for 2025.

Market Day is 29 January and the community will again be there in force. It's our big fundraiser from stallholder payments, book sales and the cake stall so please have a look and see what you can contribute. More information on this will be provided nearer the event and we will also be looking for volunteers to help.

For those who aren't Surf Club members please can you have a think about joining. All the info is on their website <https://www.onemanaslsc.org.nz/> or email: onemanaslsc@gmail.com They do a great job keeping young and old safe. Their funding from TCDC is nil, Waikato Regional Council hasn't increased their contribution for a number of years and while central government funding has been maintained, so far, the club will have to self fund the extended patrolled hours through to the 24 January at an additional cost of \$12,000. Member numbers do matter as the central funding is partially based on this so please step up and help.



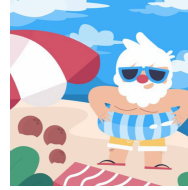
**ORCA are always looking for new members and new committee members..
Please give it a thought as many hands make light work.**

The community teams are great fun and you will be investing in something your children and grandchildren can treasure. Have a look at our website if you're interested as there is a committee nomination form there.

As always there are a few grizzle's and notices so hold your breath and read ahead about some of our misadventures

- There is a total fire ban for all the Coromandel from mid December to early February. This may be extended if adverse conditions apply. Please take care. The forests and sand dunes are very dry already so the risk has increased early. There have also been a number of fires held on the beach and if the northeasterly wind persist this puts us all at risk
- Dog poo has become a big problem. Please be responsible as the northern end of the beach especially by the access way is becoming dog poo alley.
- Bikes on the reserves generally aren't a problem provided everyone shares with care. The same applies to the tracks and walkways. Just be conscious that they are used by mountain bikers and we don't want accidents. As the tracks at the Pokohino end have become better known we are seeing many more riders from outside our area doing a loop on these so be wary.
- Drive with care as we will have lots of children and adults wandering around over summer and they don't always concentrate when near the roadways.
- Security is still an issue as we have had an ongoing number of incidents with prowlers and thefts. We have been very relaxed in the past but maybe the world is catching up with usunfortunately! Some of our community members are part of a shared community patrol which drives around in the evening and ORCA have made a donation on behalf of the community to support them.
- Water over Xmas can be problematic so please keep an eye on the notice board at the entrance to the village to see the level of restrictions which apply.
- I can't not mention four wheel drive vehicles and the Whitipirorua Road. We have tried numerous times to get the Police, Council and Rayonier interested but nothing is happening. The latest is the vehicles have exposed the buried telephone cables and no doubt eventually these will be broken. Chorus have been told but their response to date has been to shovel a bit of dirt on top.

The Dotties team have reported that they currently have 7 chicks on the beach so please keep away from the nests if you can as these are a significantly endangered group.. They are a very dedicated and caring group and have had some considerable setbacks this year. These include people hitting golf balls into the nests, people harassing the adults, people walking through the nesting areas, water inundation, harrier hawks eating the eggs (thanks Glenn his drone chased them off), black back gulls eating the eggs, dogs rampaging thru the nesting areas and domestic cats eating the chicks. The team have a network of traps around the nesting areas but this year by using a camera they have better identified how the egg and chick losses have occurred. They appreciate that it's always difficult where birds nest in public and populated areas but please be responsible and do your best to help their success.



Merry
Christmas
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR



The plantings and work done on the sand dunes near the northern walkway to the beach appears to have taken hold which is encouraging and the sand is slowly accumulating under the dune faces as anticipated. If this continues it will provide better nesting areas for birds in a less public area. I know there is always a temptation to slide down the dune faces, it's just what children (and some adults) do but please hold back if you can while the sand stabilises.

To everyone and especially our volunteer groups, thank you for your ongoing support. With your help we really are a much richer community. Times at present are tough and we know many of our members have had to tighten their belts so please be caring and kind to your neighbours and friends. The time approaching Xmas is always busy, busy, busy but take a deep breath and remember once you hit the beach it will all be washed away.

***Ēhara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini
Our strength is not made from us, but made from many.***

