

# Owhango



## Owhango Village Newsletter

Winter 2017

Welcome from ORRIS

**Chairman's Report** 10/4/17

Hi everyone, just a quick word about Community Revitalisation.

Recently the Government agreed that assistance should be given to communities that are struggling to meet the demands of increased tourism.

As a result the Ruapehu District Council has embarked on a programme of revitalisation for many of the districts communities, Owhango being one.

On the 23rd of March ORRIS hosted a community workshop focused on revitalisation, in an attempt to gain the ideas and aspirations of residents. The workshop was well attended and the outcomes were presented to Council at a public meeting held at the Fire Station on the 28th of March and also presented as a submission to this year's Exceptions Annual Plan for inclusion to Councils long term planning process.

On the 19th of April I attended an Exceptions annual plan hearing in an effort to better sell the idea that expenditure toward Owhango revitalisation is a worthy step toward improving economic development not only locally but district wide.

In due course ORRIS will be notified whether or not these efforts have been successful.

Details of the proposals can be viewed on the ORRIS website.

In other news ORRIS held a Special General Meeting on the 4th of May to approve its Annual Accounts which were not ready in time for the AGM held in August last year. This was also an opportunity to tidy up other loose ends. In particular a register of members which is a constitutional requirement. It was also agreed that a small membership fee should be charged.

Membership is encouraged however not compulsory. Anyone can attend meetings of the Society, however only members have voting rights and make up numbers (15) required for a quorum.

ORRIS has been allocated a Hall Grant of \$1031 by Ruapehu District Council for 2017/18.

And finally there is always a problem of finding people to do the BBQ at market days. So I would like to suggest that a roster be formed of those who would like to help do the BBQ now and again but not feel that they are tied to it. If there are eleven people on a roster it means each person helps out once a year. So for all you BBQists out there don't worry I'll be in touch.

Until next time all the best.

Jimi Paul  
Chairman

### **Community messages for Winter**

Volunteers are needed for a planting working bee at the speed sign/traffic islands on Sunday 4 June at 2pm. Call Toni 8954436.

### **Mark Fredericks Owhango Alive**

We had another busy few months with trapping the pesky predators in the Ohinetonga Reserve and surrounds. Stoat numbers are still high, with 4 caught just last week. It's great to see that more people in the village have been buying their own DOC 200 & live capture traps and then trapping on their property. One of these people had lost 8 ducklings, so they set their live capture trap and caught a feral cat (inspected by a vet to ensure that it was feral) and then the very next day caught a female ferret. Well done to them. The remaining 3 ducklings are doing well. A working bee saw another 53 native trees planted in the Ohinetonga Reserve in April, plus sites cleared and earmarked for the next tree planting in the spring. This will be done on the annual international World Rivers Day at the end of September.

The popular Owhango Alive Pub Quiz is set down for the 30<sup>th</sup> June at the Owhango Hotel. Start time is 7.00pm. Please phone Mark or Sally on 07 8954443 to register. This quiz is limited to 25 teams of four, so be in quick to register. Bar meals will be available.



### **OA Working Bee**

### **Dave Alker Environmental Management Officer-Plants-Horizons RC**

Bio security in and around Owhango and neighbouring districts 2017.

Old man's beard has been found and treated at several sites in and around Owhango. It has been in the area for a while and keeps popping up at usual sites. If you suspect you may have OMB, let me know. I am only too willing to check it out. There are a couple of sites in the Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve and these have been treated so if you are wandering around keep an eye out for this. OMB doesn't flower until late December which is the easiest way to recognize this plant. The native clematis have finished in most instances by then, but if you're not sure let me know.

Broom on a neighbouring property was reported; owners were notified of the problem, this issue was dealt with and broom has been removed, great result.

Tutsan is also showing up in the areas surrounding the township and Otapouri road properties, mostly in the creek corridor, and has also been found in the SF42.

There are now biocontrol options for this and releasing of these has been carried out in the Ruapehu district. More releases are to be made later on in the year in late spring/early summer, if available. Releases have been made in Hikumutu and Kaitieke areas.

Some riparian stream fencing has been carried out by a couple of local farmers and these areas have been planted out with natives, you know who you are, awesome job guys.

Dave Alker, Horizons Regional Council, 0212277137.

## **Owhango Volunteer Fire Brigade - MAY - 2017**

Hi All,

As always your brigade has been busy training each week and answering the calls of those in need. We have been supplied some new rescue equipment recently and have put this to the test in training scenarios. It is becoming more difficult to provide 24/7 cover for our community and especially during the day when many members are out of town working or taking a well earned break. We are looking for new members to become fire fighters especially for daytime calls. If you think you would like to help your community come along on a Wednesday evening and get some info and an insight into what we do. Remember your community only survives on the input from residents and we all want Owhango to survive and prosper. On this front it was great to see the community come together once again for the T42. Your brigade was a large part of the day parking the traffic from the early hours and washing mountain bikes later in the day.

Three of our members, Rochelle Heayns, Cara O'Donnell and Roy Frampton, recently competed in the Sky Tower challenge. They have been busy in recent months raising money with other Ruapehu Brigade entrants for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ. The Ruapehu Team raised a total of \$15,747.00.

As we enter this period of winter care is required with heating sources. Electric blankets need checking. Keep clothing away from heat sources such as fireplaces and electric heaters. Store wood safely around your fireplace. Dispose of ashes in a steel container. Do not leave these ash containers near buildings or on decks where wind can blow them around and under the buildings causing fires.

On 01/07/2017 the NZ Fire Service will no longer be, with a new entity called Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) taking over. This is an amalgamation of the NZ Fire Service and the Rural Fire brigades. It brings together 11,000 volunteer fire fighters and 1,780 permanent fire fighters with 700 support staff into one organisation. Initially there will not be much visible change with the full integration planned over the next three years.

That's it for this newsletter. Take care out there.

Dave Edhouse

CFO

027 432 7541

### **What's on in Owhango**

**Owhango Playgroup** meets every Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon. Ph. Cara 07 8954600

**The Owhango Indoor Bowls Club** meets at 7.30 pm on Monday evenings in the Owhango hall and usually finishes before 10.00pm. The club is a relaxed and casual affair and is open to all those who enjoy the company of others in a non-competitive setting. Fees are \$2 per night. If you would like to join just come along.

**Owhango Market Day- The first Sunday of every month except January at 9am-1pm**

For a stall booking contact Sally Lashmar 07 8954443

**Hall Bookings** Phone Laurie Bryan 07 8954870

### **Recycling and rubbish disposal**

Owhango Transfer Station -State Highway 4: Open Mon 1-5pm Wed, Sat & Sun 8-12noon

## Bruce Fredericks

### A new Local

Up until January of this year I had lived in Melbourne for twenty six years, during which time I would sometimes be home for family Christmas catch ups. One of those occasions was in 2013 when I came to Owhango (where? I had never heard of the place) to stay with my brother Mark and his now wife, Sally. As is done here, we went to the pub on Friday night and I was introduced to a lot of amazing locals and had a thoroughly great time. Leading up to that visit I had decided to settle back in New Zealand and would live in New Plymouth-Taranaki, being my home province and where I had friends going way back. In June 2016 I was back visiting in Owhango and the inevitable happened, we went to the pub again and those same people that I had met two and a half years before were there again too!! (I was assured that they had gone home in between my visits though) These said pub patrons came up to greet me as though I was a local and had known them all my life. The immediate thought I had then was how great is this village and its inhabitants. New Plymouth was suddenly disappearing off the radar, property wise. It couldn't compete with what Owhango has, particularly regarding open spaces, clear night skies, bird and wild life, the mountains and bush. I returned again in November 2016 intent on buying a property and achieved that well within the six days I was here, on that visit. I've settled in and am now enjoying the country life but do realize it will take some years before I'm classed as a 'real local'.

Please share your story or news with us for the next newsletter which is produced four times per year. Do you have a local service you would like listed in a directory published in this newsletter. If so email the name and brief description to fit on one line. Alternatively if you would like your business card advertised in the newsletter please email it to me for a Business Directory advertisement. This will be \$10 for one calendar year.



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Relaxation                      Reflexology  
Sports, Remedial

**Our next newsletter is due out in September 2017.**

**Email Owhango Residents & Ratepayers Society Secretary Karen Erni or Newsletter co-ordinator Chris Williams if you would like to receive our newsletter electronically. [owhangorris@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:owhangorris@yahoo.co.nz) or [boaties@xtra.co.nz](mailto:boaties@xtra.co.nz)**