

Owhango



Owhango Village Newsletter

Spring 2019

Welcome from ORRIS

Chairman's Report

It is my pleasure to once again present this report on the activities of the Society for the 2018/19 year.

It was another busy year, with a varied mix of issues requiring attention.

We are able to move on from the Lines Company dispute which resulted in the Utilities Dispute Commission awarding ORRIS \$800.00. Thanks to Clive and Toni for their dedicated efforts in fronting ORRIS through the disputes process.

ORRIS has made a submission to Council for speed limit reductions for State Highway 4 through Owhango, and Ohinetonga Bush Road.

A 50km speed limit through Owhango would allow greater flexibility for commercial activities within the 50km zone. A good example is the operation of Coffee Carts, of which there has been considerable interest of late.

The deteriorating state of the Transfer Station Road over the past two years has generated numerous complaints to Council. Hopefully the latest repairs will last longer than previous efforts. Plans for welcome signs at each end of Memorial Park are still in progress as meeting Roding Authority requirements is challenging.

Another successful T42 event has raised ORRIS \$1400.00. The event also experienced an increase in competitors this year.

Sealing of the carpark and signage in front of the Public toilets has been completed.

Council made available a grant to upgrade the power supply to the Domain Pavilion and carry out minor maintenance and improvement works. The remaining funds have gone towards the purchase and installation of two picnic tables (one for Memorial Park). And a Heritage sign yet to be installed. Historical records for the Hall have been sorted thanks to Merv and Heather.

Changes to the Lines Company pricing regime has resulted in higher lines charges for the Hall. In the short to medium term other energy alternatives will need to be investigated.

Hall repairs and maintenance has been assessed and some of the work requires scaffolding, adding significant expense. An application to Council for assistance may be required.

The Hall kitchen upgrade is progressing slowly, a funding application to the Lotteries Grant is being prepared.

A review of the Hall Management agreement has included the Hall property as well as the building. In June ORRIS received a \$2000.00 donation from proceeds of the sale of Church property.

This donation is to go toward the Hall kitchen project.

Finally I would like to thank the Committee for their efforts over the past year.

Jim Paul

Chairman

Owhango Residents and Ratepayers Society.

Due to start
September 2019

Due to finish
December 2019

Owhango is getting fibre

We're building ultra-fast fibre in your area. When we're done, the area will be tidied up and we'll reinstate any disturbed ground to Council standards.

For more information call **0800 342 731** or visit www.chorus.co.nz/network-build.



BUILD ORDER INSTALL ENJOY

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CHORUS

Community messages for Spring 2019

Owhango School News

Owhango School has been making the most of the Winter term. We have just finished our participation in the Taumarunui Wearable Arts competition. This year we had 26 children enter in 12 teams. It was a wonderful experience for the children and the audience! We have seven trips to the mountain booked to learn to ski, however we have had to postpone four times as it just doesn't stop snowing! So we can't wait until we can get up there and enjoy the deep snow (and sunshine please). We have also just completed our cross country competition; we love having the Domain neighbouring us to use for this event. With the Domain and the mountain nearby reminds me of what a beautiful place we live in, what a nice place for the children to grow up in.

Ewan Starkey

Principal

Owhango School

Owhango Alive

As discussed in the previous report, there was an influx of ferrets into the Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve and its surrounds at the beginning of the year. We caught a total of 17 ferrets using live capture traps and DOC 250 instant kill traps. We have been very fortunate to have had local land owners come on-board and assist us with this trapping programme. We held another couple of working bees, focussing on weed control and planting a few more trees.

Owhango Alive Calendar:

Late last year, for the first time, Owhango Alive launched a 2019 Calendar with photos of Flora and Fauna within the Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve. We sold around 150 of these Calendars and we are currently in the process of getting a 2020 calendar published. They proved very popular and made great Christmas presents. Yes, Christmas is on its way!

World Rivers Day 2019 will be celebrated on Sunday 29th September, meeting at the Whakapapa Bridge at 10.00am (remember this is daylight saving day!). Trees will be planted in the Reserve and a picnic table will be installed by the Swimming Hole, for people to use and enjoy. Once this is completed, we will be off to the Owhango Domain to hear from our guest speakers and enjoy some nibbles and a hot or cold drink. Other things OA has done over the last 3 months....

A Fungi Foray led by a very informative Lois Allison-Cooper, from DOC, which was much enjoyed by all.

“Get Togethers” at the Owhango pub’s top bar – this has proved to be a popular venue to catch up with Owhango Alive volunteers and make plans for future events.

As mentioned, we have seen many local land owners take up an active role in trapping predators on their property with traps either supplied from us (Trap Library) or direct from DOC. This has greatly helped in reducing the number of predators that roam around our area and predate on the native birds.

The Slip:

Most of you will know that the loop track in the Reserve has been closed since May 2018, due to a slip by the bluff leading to the Boat Hole. We are still having talks with DOC about getting this repaired, or the track being rerouted.

Volunteer numbers have increased, as the village and surrounds has seen new people move in from different parts of NZ.

Volunteer hours given by our members over the last 12 months were 1700. These hours covered the following:

Trap checking, trap construction and repairs, weed eradication, planting of native trees, newsletter production, calendar production, data entry/analysis (Trap NZ) and advocacy at the monthly Owhango market and annual T42 event.

That’s all from us, see you at World Rivers Day or out and about in the Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve, or contact us if you would like to be involved in some way.

Regards,

Mark Fredericks and the Owhango Alive team.

owhangoalive@yahoo.com 027 539 4359

The Owhango Beekeepers Club meets roughly monthly and non-members or people just interested in beekeeping are very welcome. Just let Tim Leahy know and he’ll keep you up to date. Tim’s contact is by txt to 0276334523 or through the club’s website.

Owhango Volunteer Fire Brigade newsletter September 2019

Happy spring everyone,

I would like to start by thanking all the volunteers of the Owhango Fire Brigade.

These are ordinary people who work hard at their jobs, have families, businesses to run and other interests, other committees and commitments that keep them on their toes and still come every week to train to be the best they can when they turn out to an emergency.

Without this dedication we would not be able to crew an appliance and help our community when they are in need, so please join me in saying **“Thank you.”**

Our community has been saddened by the recent sudden loss of Storm Lacy. Storm was a volunteer with the Rural Fire Force in Murupara. Owhango Volunteer Fire brigade has been honoured by Pat and Annette Lacy who nominated our Brigade as recipients for donations in lieu of flowers. We humbly accept and will do our utmost to honour Storm with the proceeds from these generous donations.

Daylight savings is nearing and it is always a good reminder to check smoke alarm batteries. Please get in touch with us if you have any queries regarding smoke alarm types and placements.

Here's hoping the sun starts shining soon.

Stay safe out there.

Regards

Cara O'Donnell CFO and

The Team at Owhango Volunteer Fire Brigade

WANTED

Market Day helpers and Working Bee volunteers

The Market in Owhango Hall held on the first Sunday of the month is run by volunteers.

If you would like to help on the BBQ or in the kitchen we would love to hear from you.

Working Bees are held several times a year for maintenance work and beautification projects in the Village.

If you can spare a few hours occasionally let us know your details and availability.

Phone Toni Grass 07 8954436

What's on in Owhango

Indoor Bowls-Owhango Hall every Sunday 2pm \$2. Ph. or text Chris 0272112924

Owhango Playgroup meets every Tuesday from 10am to 12 noon. Ph. Trudie Wheeler 8966864

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

For a stall booking contact Sally Lashmar or Mark Fredericks 07 8954443

Hall Bookings Phone Laurie Bryan 07 8954870

F Y I -Ruapehu Neighbourhood Support

Email Lou Dixon at taumarunuinsg@xtra.co.nz to receive the newsletter, emailed monthly.

Recycling and rubbish disposal Owhango Transfer Station -State Highway 4:

Open Mon 1-5pm Wed, Sat & Sun 8-12noon.