

# NEWSLETTER

ORERE COMMUNITY & BOATING CLUB

Winter 2017



**Y**ou could be forgiven for thinking winter had an early start this year, given the horrendous weather that struck back in March. These kinds of events are a little more common nowadays, and even climate change sceptics must be wondering if maybe there is something in it. Personally, I'm a believer. I do understand that the planet goes through natural cycles across the millennia, but such is the frequency of extreme weather events, they have now become the norm, and you cannot help but notice the hand of man in this.



## Community Meeting

The meeting held at the hall on 6 May drew a good crowd, and it was good to have representatives from Auckland Council in the form of Bill Cashmore; the Local Board - Angela Fulljames and Amanda Hopkins; and the local newspaper - Duncan Pardon. Items that were addressed included:

- Security / Crime
- Anzac Services
- Splore Festival
- Rural Fire fundraising
- Stormwater
- Roading
- Community Events
- Local Board Representation

A good cross section of the community ensured plenty of discussion, and a commitment was made to have more of these meetings in the future.

## Splore

This year's Splore Festival at Tapapakanga will be remembered for the traffic chaos on the Friday. The weather was the primary cause, but other factors contributed. A lot of work is going into minimising the chances of this happening again. Further meetings with stakeholders will be held between now and February, and festival management is committed to resolving all the problems before next year's event.

## Toning Down the Language?

Maybe I was overly influenced by Detective Inspector (Ret) Graham Bell\* who used to front Police Ten-7. He had no time for miscreants, and neither do I. That would explain my colourful descriptions of those citizens who choose to steal, vandalise and otherwise cause trouble in our community. Last month I even had the temerity to insult those who clog social media with illiterate rambling and bad photos. OK, maybe that last one was mean, but at the time of writing, I was not feeling particularly generous of spirit, and I also had space to fill.

I've been called out on this. Last month, a complaint was received by the chairman, referring to my choice of words - described as *abusive and offensive*, and my negative opinions\*\* of the above citizens. Because it was my work that was the subject of the complaint, I responded directly to each and every point made by the complainant. The old adage of a snowball rolling down a hill would be a fitting description of where that led so I'm leaving all of this for the committee to ponder. Over the years I've been doing this newsletter I've had a lot of positive feedback - often specific to the way I describe the ne'er-do-wells of society, so I thank you for that.

\*You can hear a selection of Graham Bell's colourful descriptions on the website [orere.net](http://orere.net).

\*\*It seems that the newsletter is full of my opinions - they appear in every edition. The only way to fix this is to give me stuff to put in the thing, as I have requested on many occasions.

## School Trees Stripped (Toned Down Version)

When talking to principal Kerry Forse recently, I was very disappointed to learn that some people has stripped all the apples and pears off the trees at the school. It is an indictment on our society that these folk had shown such disrespect to all the pupils and staff, when they had only to ask for some fruit if they were hungry.

## Fire Season

Orere is now in an Open Fire Season, meaning a permit is not required for an outside fire. If you are having a fire, exercise the usual precautions, and please be considerate to neighbours - especially regarding the smoke nuisance.

## OCBC - A Reminder

Many people incorrectly refer to OCBC as the 'Boating Club'. OCBC stands for **Orere Community & Boating Club Inc.** To be sure, a lot of people join to get boat ramp keys, but the emphasis is on **Community**. It is the **Community Association**, and the Boating Club forms part of this, making it a single entity.

## Chairman's Report June 2017

I want to thank everyone who attended our very first community meeting held on the 6/5/2017. This was the very first community meeting since I have been Chairman of the Orere Community & Boating Club

To have Bill Cashmore (Deputy Mayor) and Angela Fulljames (Chairperson for the Franklin Board) and Amanda Hopkins also a board member attend our meeting meant they are supporting Orere Point. There were a number of issues which need to be addressed from the meeting, one being the problems we all had with the Splore Festival. A meeting had been arranged with the Board and Splore organization to discuss what went wrong and what plans need to be addressed for next year's festival. This meeting took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June so by the time you read this report we will have some information to share with the community.

Also discussed at the community meeting was the installation of security cameras. I don't have a date when this will happen, but the OCBC has indorsed the installation and I will inform the community when installation has been completed. One other very important item I raised was Anzac Day and I asked the question if there were people in our community who would be interested in being part of a group who could organize and coordinate Anzac Day for Orere Point. Tay-Marie would like to co-ordinate this very important day so if you would like to be involved please contact Tay-Marie on 0210450307 or contact Edward Pram on 0278763849.

Since the last beach cleanup which involved a lot of the community, the large pile of wood has been burned with both piles gone, but there are still a lot of downed trees on the beach past the rocks. These also need to be removed, and there will be an opportunity for this to happen on the 24/6/2017. Details to be finalized, there are some trees which need to be felled these have been identified as been dangerous once they been felled these need to be cut up and removed from the beach.

On the 20/8/2017 we will be holding our AGM. At that meeting each year we elect our Orere Community & Boating Club Committee. To become a committee member you need to be a member of the club so if we have people in our community who would like to be involved with changing or having involvement with our community then this would be a great opportunity to join a long established organization. For further information about the OCBC please contact Edward Pram on 0278763849.

Communication is something that concerns all of us, as Chairman I am aware that sometimes I have at times to relay important information about things that affect our community. If there are concerns about anything which you feel should be mentioned please contact me by phone or e mail me at [eddieorere@xtra.co.nz](mailto:eddieorere@xtra.co.nz).

Club Chairman

Edward Pram

## Website ~ Facebook

Something that seems to be misunderstood - so just a reminder that *anybody* can send me items for consideration for uploading to orere.net. In fact, I've just about given up asking for this, because to date, the response has been just about zero. Nobody can post directly to the site, because that would invite any sort of stuff, and I'd be responsible. That's why any websites that allow direct uploads always have teams of administrators or moderators to keep an eye on what is getting posted. I have neither the time nor the inclination to be acting in this capacity, so you need to give anything me.

The domain and site orere.net / orerepoint.org.nz belong to me. I started it not long after moving here over 10 years ago. There are pages for OCBC, Rural Fire, Community Facilities etc., but any items of topical interest always go on the index page. That's the first page you see - the front end if you like.

Social media sites such as Facebook have expanded at an exponential rate, such is their influence. The page *Watchers on Orere Point* has a good following, and although starting purely as a *Neighbourhood Watch* style of thing to report crime and suspicious activity around here, has proved invaluable with real-time updates of serious weather conditions, road closures etc. It has continued to evolve as a community notice board and market place, but some people refuse to engage with it due to their dislike of the whole social media thing. Facebook does get bad press, but remember - it's the bad stuff makes the news, sells papers and magazines etc. Unfortunate, and it says something for modern society, but it is what it is. For me personally, Facebook is a useful tool that I can engage with as much or as little as I choose.

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## That Sinking Feeling

It didn't take long for the little dent in the road outside our place to turn into a sizeable crater. A slow response from Auckland Council was given a hurry-up after I spoke with the mayor, and before long, half the contractors in Auckland were all over the thing. The more they dug, the more they found - even another big cavity under the footpath. Alas, no buried treasure was found.



Sorry to report that I think the total annual rates take from Orere Point has just been spent on a hole in the road. Better luck with that wish list next year...



## Community Constable

Hi from your local Community Constable.

It has been quite a busy time in our area lately.

Rural burglaries are continuing to hurt us, we must remain vigilant and I cannot stress enough the need to call 111 if you see anything suspicious in your area.

As I have said before that as locals you know if something doesn't look right to you, go with your gut feeling and call 111, our call takers will prioritise the call and take the most appropriate action.

Police would rather turn up to a 111 call and be able to rule it out than not receive any call and have something happen.

Get to know your neighbours, let them know when you're going to be away or if there are going to be tradesmen or different vehicles at your address.

If you are going to be away from your property for any extended time make sure you have someone empty your letterbox, this is a sure sign to a burglar that a property is not occupied.

If you have alarms or CCTV cameras make sure they are in good working order and a set when you are not home.

Maybe have a friend or neighbour park their vehicle at your address at different times so it looks like someone is around.

For those interested there is **Neighbourhood Support**, You can find more information about this on [neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz](http://neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz)

Once again call 111 for any suspicious persons or vehicles in your area.

Cheers  
Jason



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## Trivia Night - 12 August

The annual Trivia Night fundraiser for the clinics is on again this year at Kawakawa Bay on 12 August. Your very own Orere Point team *Around the Bend* are current holders of the trophy, and we don't want to give it back. Start thinking about this event and getting teams of 6-8 people together. Watch out on the notice board and website / Facebook page for more info as it comes.

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## Mobile Numbers

If you live in, or around Orere Point, and you have a mobile phone, you will probably have had a txt or two from me. Not everybody uses Facebook, and Edward suggested having a list of people's mobile numbers so that a quick message could be sent out in cases of emergency etc. It works well, so contact Gary if you would like your number added. There will be no spam, and your number will not be shared with a third party - except with OCBC officials, and then only where necessary in emergency, or for relevant and important messaging purposes.

## Beach Clean-Up

Bad weather dumped an inordinate amount of debris on the beach, mostly in the form of trees (and parts thereof), along with seaweed and the usual rubbish. It was too much for even our regular beach cleaner-upper John Silich, who picks up beach rubbish on a daily basis, so a community effort was required.

People turned out en masse with everything from wheelbarrows to diggers, and the most challenging work was done by the boys from the farm with heavy machinery. The day rounded off with hot chips and yummy pizzas from the Orere Point Store.



It was unfortunate that over the next week or so, various well-meaning people had a go at getting the bonfires going when they were a bit too wet and the wind was blowing towards houses. A number of people were affected by smoke, so apologies for this.

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## Beach Clean-up (Part 2)

Phil Goff and Bill Cashmore will head up another beach clean-up on **Saturday 24 June**, from 10:00 AM. Jenny and I are going to be out of town for a 101<sup>st</sup> birthday bash, so will have to leave it to the others this time around. Save me some firewood!

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## Support Group

Eighteen months ago, I had a rare type of blood clot in the brain. I dodged a bullet for sure, but there were unexpected consequences further down the road, and I went through some very tough times emotionally. This is not the stuff men in particular talk about, and the thought occurred to me that there are probably guys in our community who have struggled alone with some of the negative crap like grief & depression I went through. Just talking about it can help, so I'm throwing an invitation out there for fellas who might benefit from sharing some difficulties in confidence to give me a yell.

## School News - Kerry Forse

Orere School children, staff and BOT would like to thank everyone in the community who supported our Gala. A very special thank you to our Friends of the School group who put in hours of time to organise the event and Louise Parker who co-ordinated everything. It was a fantastic day considering the weather and a wonderful way to bring everyone in the community together.

Also thank you to everyone who supported our Pie fundraiser. We raised \$420.00 for the school. We have had good feedback on the pies and will run another fundraiser in Term 3. We will let the community know and deliver order forms to people who are interested.

We have had a busy Term 2 with a focus on Literacy learning in the school.

The children have completed a Spellathon, which challenged them to spell words correctly and earn sponsorship money per word for fundraising. This was a very successful event with a huge improvement in spelling across the school.

We are currently learning poems for a school Poetry Competition later in the term.

In Week 9, 26-30 June we will be having a "Reading Rocks" week. We will be inviting family and friends into the school to share their favourite childhood book, read with the children or listen to them reading. If anyone is interested please contact the school office 292 2736 or email [office@orere.school.nz](mailto:office@orere.school.nz)

We are now fully on the public cloud and using Office 365 in the school. Each class has 6 touch screen laptops, with the staff and children on a steep learning curve to use the technology to enhance learning. This has been particularly useful to our Year 7 & 8 students, researching career pathways, thinking ahead to high school.

We had a great day welcoming the staff, children and parents from Kawakawa Bay Kindy into the school. Orere children were wonderful role models to the Kindy children, teaching them games, reading to them and showing them what school is all about.

On a sad and frustrating note. Someone has been stripping our Orchard before we have a chance to harvest the fruit and nuts to use in the school. The children had been looking forward to making Rhubarb and Apple Crumble, unfortunately when we went to harvest the apples we were shocked to find the tree had been stripped of fruit over the weekend. Our pear trees had also been stripped. The children were unable to fathom who would do that to a school or why.

I am told that the trees in the school were stripped last year as well. The fruit and nut trees, as well as the gardens in the school, are part of our teaching and learning programme. We are moving towards having a garden to table programme where the children are involved in planting, growing, harvesting, cooking and eating the food we produce.



## Library Stuff

The Orere Point Library is our library, but it is still overseen by Auckland Council. Auckland Libraries arrange the rotations with other libraries for all those exchange books, as well as gifting books and DVDs to Orere from time to time. This does not mean that if you get a book from Orere that you can return to another Auckland library. All books / DVDs borrowed from Orere Library MUST be returned to Orere Library.

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### Annual General Meeting - 20 August

OCBC will hold its AGM on 20 August at the hall. Keep your eyes open for notices and flyers for more info.

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### Feedback

A suggestion was made to include a feedback form with the newsletter, to gauge the mood of the community on a variety of things. Some thought will be given to this, and you may see one next time. Might have been handy this time to get opinion on the newsletter, given the complaint. General feedback can be sent at any time to Edward or any committee member, including myself.

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### Standard Orere Point Info

**Website** [www.orere.net](http://www.orere.net)

**Landline** numbers all start with **2922** so we often just quote the last three digits.

**Rubbish** pickup is Tuesday and Recycle day is every second Tuesday (unless Monday is a statutory holiday in which case pickup will be Wednesday).

**Library** is free to join for local residents and ratepayers, and is manned - or womanned by volunteers. Hours are:

Tuesday - Thursday > 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Friday > 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Saturday > 10:00 AM - Midday

### Phone Numbers:

**OCBC Chairman** - Edward 794 / 027 8763849

**OCBC Secretary** - Gary 189 / 027 3573328

**Fire Station** 989 - Chief Fire Officer Barbara 550

**Hall Enquiries** - Nicky 509 / 027 3043968

**School** - 736

**Shop** - 898

**Top 10 Holiday Park** - 774

**Kawakawa Bay Motors** - 870

**Library & Orere Clinic** - 007

**Kawakawa Bay Clinic** - 812

**Police - Crime Stoppers** - 0800 555111

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Opinions in this newsletter are not necessarily those of all OCBC committee members. Unless otherwise stated, all words and photos are by Gary.