



Okura News

August
2012

Sunday 26 August
3pm, Okura Hall

3-in-1 Annual General Meetings

- ➔ Okura Residents Association
- ➔ Keep Okura Green
- ➔ East Coast Bays Coastal Protection Society Inc.



Show your support and pop in for a cuppa.

Meet other locals, raise your ideas and concerns, hear updates on various projects, and explore how you can get involved. Join the Okura Residents Association - only \$10 per household (\$5 for retirees) per year.

See you there!

OKURA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION "BRINGING OKURA TOGETHER"

Chairperson:	Nick Morgan	473 1985
Secretary:	Jeff Mullane	473 8979
Treasurer:	Cliff Mancer	473 5820
Committee Members:	Maj De Poorter	473 0917
	Mark Shaw	473 8802
	Peter Townend	473 0797
	Rebecca Harrington	551 1538
	Richard Lute	473 3179
	Tom Horan	473 5725
	Kelly Currin	473 6118

Love Okura? Do **you** want to share your skills and interests to help make our neighbourhood an even better place to live?

We'd love to hear from you, new group members always welcome. We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month, 7.30pm.

okura.residents@gmail.com

Chairperson's Corner

Hello fellow Okura residents, we look forward having a cuppa and chat with you at the Okura Residents Association AGM.

May 2012 saw the registration of Okura's newly formed 'Civil Defence (CD) Emergency Response Group'. This group consists of local residents with skills and resources - including medical, communication, transportation and hardware - to deal with a local emergency, until outside assistance can help. This group is open to as many locals as possible and combined with the Okura hall as a CD muster station, gives us all a better understanding of how we can help each other in case of an emergency.

The park continues to be a great place for locals to gather. You may have noticed the hall and playground have had some recent upgrades. Our new-and-improved 'Okura community website' - okura.org.nz is coming soon. The site will include local news, hall bookings, Civil Defence information, and a directory of local skills/businesses (feel free to list what you can offer). The website will be launched at the Okura Residents AGM (August 26th 3pm). Big thanks to local resident Nick Taylor for sharing your skills to make this possible. If you'd like to help with the website project in any way - please contact me.

With all the rain making walking on the grass verges a soggy affair, please be very careful if walking on the road!

Nick Morgan



Are you on Facebook? Join the **Okura Neighbourhood** group.

www.facebook.com/groups/254108924677250/

Share information, swap resources and skills, connect with locals

Keeping Okura Safe and Secure



One of the most effective crime prevention strategies is looking out for each other. Following a spate of thefts including car fuel, outboard motors, lifebelts, tools in and around the Okura village over the past year, as well as ongoing problems with drug use and associated litter at the 'boat ramp', the Okura Residents Association are exploring various ways of curtailing such obnoxious behaviour.

We have priced up a monitored and maintained day/night security camera system to record vehicle details on entry and exit from Okura. Used in other communities, the average drop in crime is around 80% once installed. But the costs are around \$15,000-\$20,000. It maybe possible to seek council funds to partially/fully resource such a project, but we need scope whether local residents are open to helping with a small amount of these costs (if necessary). Alternatively, we could install a solar powered light down by the 'boat ramp'. This would be much cheaper and could be all we need to deter undesirables. **What do you think? Come along to the Okura Residents Association's AGM (Sun 26 August) and share your views, or contact someone from the committee.**

Please report any suspicious activity to the police straight away by calling 111 or (09) 477-5000. If you're concerned about something but would like to keep it anonymous, call Crime Stoppers (0800 555 111).

What do you love about living in Okura?

"Lots of stuff! Especially the river; its tranquillity and peace. When I'm kayaking or running it's like I'm the only one around."

Mark Shaw



Did you know?

"In the early 1900's a railway was planned here to take Kauri logs out of Okura.

The plan never proceeded because the supply of Kauri ran out."

Tom Horan



Okura to take pride of place in Auckland's first "Great Trail"?

Vivien Dostine (NZ Horse Recreation) and Rachael Clark of (Infrastructure Consultants GHD) attended the July Okura Residents Association meeting to present a concept for a 'Great Trail project' - a Coast-to-Coast greenway starting at Long Bay Regional Park and snaking across the isthmus to Muriwai Regional Park. Greenways are multi-use routes for walkers, horse riders and cyclists that link quiet roads and existing off road routes rather than building expensive purpose built paths. The idea is to provide local and regional recreation, as well as providing opportunities for tourism and trail based economic development. The project is very much in the 'scoping stage' and they are seeking feedback and input. If you'd like to share your thoughts and/or get involved, please email Nick and he'll put you in touch: sounds@morganmusic.co.nz

HALL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

For more information on hall bookings and activities, please contact Anette Mullane (473 8979) or visit www.okura.org.nz
The hall is available for hire: \$10.00 p. hour or discounted rate: \$7.00 p. hour for all Okura Residents Association members.

Badminton & Table Tennis:

Facilities available for casual play, contact **Nick (473 1985)**

Spinners & Weavers:

Meet at the hall from 10am—1pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday every month. If you would like to join us to spin, knit, crochet or to learn, we would love to see you! Contact **Sue (415 9245)**

Mah Jongg:

Meets in hall on 1st and 3rd Friday of the month, 1.30pm. We have a teacher for brand new players. All welcome, contact **Dave (473 8942)**

Indoor Bowls:

We have all the gear! If you're interested, contact **Nick (473 1985)**

Akido Arts Class:

Tuesdays & Thursdays. Juniors & Seniors.
Contact **Dunken Francis (09 421 1950)**

Boat Club:

Anybody interested in boating activities, e.g. crewing.
Contact **Tom (473 5725)**

Mobile Library:

The library bus visits Okura (outside hall) every 2nd Tuesday 1.30-2pm.

Village Concrete Mixer & Trailer Community owned: Small charge \$5 to ORRA. Contact **Jeff (473 8979)**