

# Member's Report

Name: Jane Hindle

Subdivision: Bay of Islands Whangaroa Board, Russell Ōpua Subdivision

Date: 24 May – 20 June 2023

## Meetings Attended

Date	Meeting	Comments
25 May 23	Teams meeting with Rae Smythe to discuss Community Emergency Response Plan	Structure and framework of plan
25 May 23	Catch up with Governance Support Officer to review outstanding RFS etc	Teams meeting
25 May 23	Monthly meeting with Chris Galbraith FNHL	Monthly meeting to improve community engagement from FNHL
30 May 23	Catch up with Governance Support Officer to review outstanding RFS etc	Teams meeting
31 May 23	Hui with Hapū, MPI, NRC and community to discuss the response to invasive Caulerpa seaweed	Rawhiti Marae, good attendance and options presented. Next steps Hapū led governance group to be established.
4 June 23	Monthly article for Russell Lights regarding Civil Defence and Community Emergency Response Groups	Monthly article updating community on progress on formation of new group.
5 June 23	BOIW Community Board meeting in Kerikeri	Monthly meeting at Turner Centre
8 June 23	BOIW Community Board meeting in Kerikeri	Monthly meeting at Turner Centre
12 June 23	“Go Live” date to promote Ōpua Community email to a broader audience (see attached summary)	Set up Ōpua Community Email group to improve community information sharing between members of the Ōpua community.
13 June 23	Catch up with Governance Support Officer to review outstanding RFS etc	Teams meeting
14 June 23	Te Puawaitanga needs assessment hui for Eastern Ward	Council and Eastern CB
14 June 23	Ngāti Hine and Te Rararawa Ahipara Takiwa environmental management plans	Council and CB – to inform Council and staff of their expectations
16 June 23	Far North Cycle Trails meeting Keith Kent (NTA) and Andy Vanasche Love Ōpua	Discussion regarding the Ōpua Paihia section of the potential Far North Trails project.
18 June 23	Meeting with Kororāreka Marae Taiao representative	Relating to incorrect information contained in FNDC Resource Consent application to NRC.
20 June 23	Floating Classroom with Ōpua School as guest of Project Island Song	Joined 9-10 year olds as they learned about our environment, planted flax and built traps.

22 May to 19 June	Created 14 posts for the BOI-Whangaroa Community Board page. Reach 29,119 ↑ 27.8%   Visits 1,433 ↑ 80.3%   Page Followers 837 (798)   New Likes 26 ↑ 23.8%	Most popular posts were Omakiwi Rāhui reminder (16.6K) Free Boat (12.2K) Kohura Tuarua back (5.8K) Not so fun roading facts (4.7K) Russell Birdman (4.3K)
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## **Community Issues**

<b>Issue name</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Value for rates	There is increasing dissatisfaction at the level of service (particularly maintenance on roading and drainage) for the amount of rates collected. I am encouraging people to actively participate in the LTP, particularly to prioritise what is important to them.
No Civil Defence group in Russell Kororāreka.	Initial group established, contact details and draft plan circulated along with timeline for next steps. Aim to regroup in July depending on availability of Bill Hutchinson.
Maromaku Roothing	Community would like a more strategic approach to roading, water tabling, culverts and drainage. Needs to be included in LTP. No progress.
Russell refuse and recycling	Miscommunication between myself and Resilient Russell re Ecosolutions to carry out an education programme over winter. To be followed up directly. No progress on the User Pays scheme for boaties, will need to chase up interested parties over winter. WIP.
Ōpua Community relationship with Far North Holdings	Continuing to meet. Kellett Street to Bafin Street footpath cleared. FNHL have offered a contribution to get Council to complete the Kellett Street footpath outside the school after a 10-year wait.
Russell Drainage	Have now had visit to Russell from Group Manager to take a look at some of the concerns that have been raised. Hope to report a timeline for action next month.
Rawhiti road seal	This remains an issue. Council is aware of the need, still needs funding.
Maromaku Toilet	Project has been reactivated.
Russell Sports Club	Need an increase in annual grant to help offset cost increases for club. The \$5,000 does not cover the mowing and insurance costs.
Car theft and break ins in Ōpua theft of cars	Additional camera has been installed and patrols increased. Problem is not confined to Ōpua unfortunately.
Footpath at Kellett Street Ōpua	Footpath still on track for July.
Erosion on Russell waterfront	There is significant erosion on the Russell Kororāreka waterfront and Resilient Russell and the Russell Waterfront Trust have raised an RFS to start the conversation about a more permanent solution. Now looking at boulders for the immediate protection of cannon on waterfront.
Russell Cemetery Urupa	Concern from the donor of land for new Cemetery Plots that this has not been actioned after several years.

## Requests for Service (RFS)

RFS number	Date	Comment
4137946	5/12/22	Images of Community Halls to be included on Town Hall page. Still awaiting many of them, but now starting to be populated. CB Members to supply!
(3987148) (3996575) 4032539	2020 2021 12/01/23	Encroachment on paper road at Okiato. Encroachment officer attended, License to Occupy being applied for by landowner. Being progressed by staff. Transport staff visited mid-May to review.
4137946	6/12/22	Signage for Maromaku Hall is being made. Site visit took place in May.
(4125516) 4139501	(1/9/2022) 16/12/22	Matauwahi Bay Road drainage with stormwater drainage due to tree roots lifting pavement and drain resulting in blockages and damage to footpath. Tree has been removed, stump ground down. Waiting for drainage work.
4139843	20/12/2022	Reinstate the yellow lines on Long Beach Road to prevent parking at turning circle and by fig tree (road narrows). Yellow lines have been painted around town – these are not a new request, but <b>THESE WERE NOT DONE.</b>
4143747	25/1/23	Request for duck crossing sign due to high deaths of ducks on road. Requested quote for Council to install to compare with community installation (around \$150).
4144277	31/01/23	Culvert on Council Reserve by Medical centre is blocked with weeds causing flash flooding of carpark and ambulance station in heavy rain. Funding should be available as this was flooding in the Cyclone Hale event. Further flooding on Beresford Street in last severe weather event due to outflow of drainage being blocked. <b>COUNCIL STAFF HAVE VISITED.</b>
4158314		Matauwahi Road drain to be cleared as it has a shrubbery including palm tree growing in it and blocks visibility to residents. <b>NOW ON SCHEDULE OF WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT.</b>
4148332	28/2/23	Request for Council to actively monitor progress of government agencies progress on kiatiakiatanga of the old Customs House, former Police residence. Hapū consultation ongoing.
4151342	10/03/23	Walls Bay Reserve RFS for track maintenance and general tidy up. <b>SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT FORTNIGHT.</b>
4150811	17/03/2023	Causeway to Russell Boat Club on Matauwahi Road (paper road section) needs repairs for safety reason. Will need legal, roading and engineers involved. <b>NO ACTION</b>
4153533	10/04/2023	Water created washout which is cutting down a hill likely to cause a slip. If unattended, road will cause a slip onto neighbouring property and road will be inaccessible. <b>NO ACTION</b>

???	11/04/2023	Boat hull on reserve on Te Hue. Not sure what has happened here.
4150962	23/03/23	Cleaning of kerbing and gutters at end of Richardson Street in Ōpua. Part of street done, top end was omitted by Ventia when they did the work. Needs completing.
4155878	30/04/2023	Erosion on Russell Waterfront becoming extensive. Assigned to Community Development for the new manager Climate Action and Community Development.
4127193, 4111164, 4118337	01/04/2022	Stormwater and drainage issues at Okiato. Ongoing for over a year now with Council stormwater from road flowing down over property. Property owners significantly stressed.

### **Other Issues**

- General dissatisfaction at the lack of service and basic R&M being evidenced particularly in the areas of roading and drainage. I feel encouraged that there has been some attendance in town to at least look at issues, but this is a long way to having a plan to fix things.

# Ōpua Community Email

## What is it?

In order to improve community communications, particularly for members of the community who are not interested in using Facebook, a Google Community Group has been set up for the Ōpua community. It is a private group which is membership based, that people can apply to join by invitation or by request.

The name of the Ōpua community group is <https://groups.google.com/g/opua-community>

It has been set up so that people need to either be invited to the group, or request to join the group, and all messages to the group will be moderated. In this way it is hoped that most of the information sent out is relevant, helpful and informative, if not for everyone, for the majority.

## Purpose of the group

The Ōpua Community group is designed to share information between members of the community, or other people who have an interest in communicating to members of the community (e.g. Community Board representatives, other community groups in the area etc) via email.

It differs from the Ōpua Group Facebook page which has a very large membership because it provides the opportunity to share more detailed information, attachments to a smaller and more targeted audience. It also allows information to be printed, filed or saved so it can be easily retrieved, so it is good for attachments and important information.

It is designed for community information, and should ideally be used for non-commercial information, although it is always discretionary. It is important not to Spam members of the group or they will unsubscribe or ignore all the emails. Some examples might be:

- Any community information e.g. events at the Town Hall, lost and found, School information (much of what might also be posted for Facebook) but this is designed to also reach people not on FB.
- It would be OK for fundraising raffle for the R. Tucker Thompson, a charity or special menus at the Cruising Club, but probably not weekly specials from the Roadrunner Tavern
- Notifications from the General Store or the Marina Cafe that they are closing early, or if there is a special event that locals would be interested at the Marina Café would be perfectly acceptable.
- Letting people know that COVID vaccinations are available in Russell, but not emails promoting being vaccinated or opposing views to vaccination.
- A post notifying that there will be a meeting in the town hall from Willow Jean Prime might be fine, but probably not an email from Willow Jean Prime with her party promotional material - unless you offered all other candidates the same opportunity.

It is probably best to limit posts about items for sale as Facebook provides a good platform, although it is a bit discretionary as the whole idea is to reach members of the community who don't wish to use Facebook.

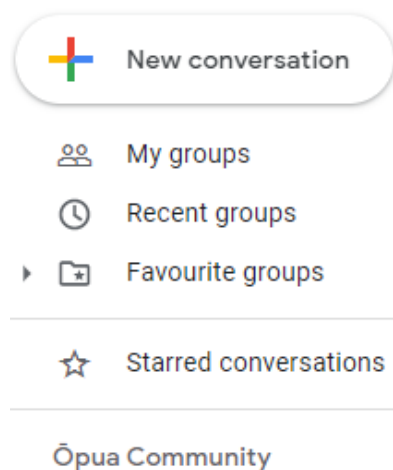
## Joining the group

If you have not received a personal invitation, please contact one of the group managers with your email address and ask them to add you. If you do not live in Ōpua, please advise why you wish to join the group. If you don't have a Gmail address, you can still join groups. You need to associate your email address with a Google Account. If you: Don't have a Google Account—Create a Google Account without changing your email address.

## Posting a message

Once you are a member you can post a message (conversation) to the group by sending an email or starting a conversation by going to the group itself as below:

1. Emailing [opua-community@googlegroups.com](mailto:opua-community@googlegroups.com) or
2. Posting on the web directly by going to <https://groups.google.com/g/opua-community> and starting a new conversation.



The interface is very similar to Gmail and you can insert images into the text of the message, format text or add attachments to the email.

It is important that you give your message a meaningful subject line so recipients can quickly determine its relevance to them. They may be interested in some topics but not others.

Once a message been submitted, the Group Manager will review it and either accept it or reject it. Group Managers are volunteering their time for the community so be patient as they may be busy.

## Replying to a message

If you want to make comments to the originator, hit REPLY. **Do not hit REPLY ALL** unless you actually want everyone to know your thoughts. If there is an email avalanche on a particular topic, the Manager will close down the conversation.

## Personal settings

You can change your personal membership settings in a number of ways, including:

- The name you use when sending messages out
- Which Gmail email address you wish to use for the group (NB you don't need a gmail address to create messages)
- How you want to receive posts. This is useful if you would like to see daily summaries rather than individual messages
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