



Omaha Security News – December 07

A big Hi to all of you good people out there,

Well another year is drawing to a close and I just cannot believe that Christmas is almost upon us! Seems like the last one was only a couple of months ago.

Saw the first dolphins riding the Omaha surf last week – absolutely fantastic to watch them effortlessly carve through the waves and tear off ready to catch the next set rolling in. Already there are record catches of snapper happening out near Little Barrier. These new plastic lures seem to work extremely well and are particularly good when targeting bigger fish.

I reckon it is going to be an amazing summer this year up at Omaha Beach so make sure you spend a lot of time here these Holidays - just kick-back, relax and enjoy everything that makes Omaha such a special place for us all.

I recently purchased a new Ocean kayak and already have had some amazing rides in the big surf. Regrettably I am not that skilled in kayak surfing just yet and have suffered some huge spills and several major kayak wounds to the head! Residents around Walkway 17 are advised to avoid the Beach at all times when they see me out there. The carnage could be terrible!

As usual we have a bit happening around the place and one of the more important things is that Omaha will have a heap of focus from Insite Patrol staff over the Holiday period.

Omaha Patrols

Through the combined efforts of both the Omaha's Residents Associations (The Omaha Beach Community Inc & The Omaha Beach Residents Society), the NZ Police, our fabulous new mayor Penny Webster and the Rodney Council, we will be running a Mobile Patrol based at Omaha Beach, 7 days a week, during the hours of 8.00pm to 4.00am - starting late November right through to early February.



The Insite Patrol focus is going to be primarily on; public disorder of any sort, boy racer activities, fires on the beach, the alcohol ban in Public Places, illegal dumping of rubbish, etc, etc – essentially anything that has a negative effect on the Omaha Beach environment and the Residents right to enjoy their time there.

To assist us in carrying out this role, the Rodney Council have issued Insite Security with a series of 'Warrants' which will now allow us to actually enforce breaches of Council bylaw with Prosecutions if necessary.

Naturally this level of authority or responsibility will not be taken lightly by our staff and it is our view that significant discretion will be used at all times before a Prosecution of any sort is considered. It would be great to get through the whole 8 weeks or so of the Holiday period without anyone having to receive an Infringement Notice.

If for any reason you need to get hold of us to report an incident or request our assistance – please phone the **Omaha Helpline on 0800-662-424** and one of our staff will look after you.

Omaha Police Officer

Due to growing operational pressures this year, the Rodney Police Area Commander has advised that Police will be unable to provide their usual Omaha based Officer over the Holiday period. This is obviously a disappointment to the Community however Sergeant Bede Haughey, O/C Warkworth Police has assured us that he will ensure that there will be adequate Police resources to deal with any serious problems at Omaha. We are very lucky to have a very high calibre of Police staff available at Warkworth and I am confident that any issues requiring Police attention will be dealt with by them, quickly and professionally.

Moa sighting in Omaha South!!!

Well actually this is a teeny weeny bit of a lie – but it got your attention! This Beastie was spotted early one Sunday morning several months ago by one of our fairly well known (and very attractive) Southern end Residents. Fearing she might have been still suffering the effects of a couple of glasses of wine from the night before, she rang Insite Security to report that said Beastie was roaming the empty sections of Taumata and surrounds and appeared to be having major digestive problems after it had apparently consumed a pile of seaweed from the beach (evidently it had just poohed in a very copious manner all over her Walkway!)



While this is not the normal sort of brief we receive at Insite Security, the staff here on duty at the time immediately rose to the occasion and within 20 minutes we had tracked down the owners of this ‘emu’.

The emu was soon uplifted by some very relieved owners and then returned home for a dose of tummy calming medicine! (‘Just a Security Company’ – I don’t think so!)

Proposed CCTV Cameras at the Surf Club

Following several meetings with Daniel from the Omaha Surf Club, local Police and Council, we have now developed a very good plan to introduce a network of CCTV cameras to cover the carparks at the Surf Club. Unfortunately this area has long been a haunt for young people at night who are either intoxicated or under the influence of other illegal substances.

From personal experience I can tell you it is not much fun having a confrontation with 20 or 30 drunken louts in the middle of the night especially when you are all by yourself!



This situation was confirmed in a quite unpleasant and horrific way only a month or two back when a local Resident (let’s call him Bruce) approached a group of 10 or so teenagers around midnight one Saturday. Tired of the loutish behavior and the willful destruction to signs and the Surf Club grounds by this group, Bruce (a very brave man) attempted to remonstrate with these thugs to stop their bad behaviour. For his efforts he was suddenly clubbed in the head from behind with what

appears to have been a large hunk of wood from a nearby Builder’s site. When Bruce’s wife and daughter ran to his assistance, they in turn were threatened with violence by this cowardly bunch and only by partly dragging and assisting Bruce to walk did they make it back to the safety of their home.

Bruce for his part suffered a black eye and some nasty swelling and bruising to his head. He was extremely lucky that his injuries were not more serious.

While I applaud Bruce's social conscience and his well intentioned efforts on this night I do not recommend that any Resident (unless you have had experience in these matters and are very physically able to defend yourself) risk themselves in trying to deal with these sort of idiots – particularly when you are going into a situation where you are seriously out numbered and common sense is in short supply with the group you are approaching!

If you witness a situation that you feel is wrong or could deteriorate into violence or damage to property, give Insite Security and the Police a call. Between us we will get the problem sorted.

I understand that an Auckland Grammar School Student is now being dealt with by the Police for his part in this vicious assault.

I seem to have wandered off the topic here a bit, however you can probably now see my point that it is not a healthy situation for any Community to have places where offending can be allowed to continue with some anonymity by the offenders – I want Omaha Beach to be known as a place where thugs and miscreants just don't bother to come because 'WE' as a Community have sent the message that we are not going to put up with their loutishness and anti social behavior. Only by standing up to these little creeps are we going to get this message across!

Back to the Surf Club cameras – we are going to need around \$18,000 to get this Project up and running. Insite will be doing all of the actual installation work at no charge and we are talking to one of our major CCTV suppliers (the highly reputable Bosch Security) to come on board with some 'at cost' top quality camera gear.



Council are once again right alongside us in making this Project happen and have indicated not only some monetary support but will also be making some changes to the existing lighting in the Surf Club carpark area to make things that more visible

Once the cameras are in and operational we then have the opportunity to view any situations in the Club carpark 'Live' back at the Insite Office. From this information our Monitoring staff can then direct Insite Patrols and/or the Police to respond and take necessary action when we have nasties about the place.

If anyone out there who is reading this newsletter feels that this sounds like a worthy cause we would hugely appreciate and widely acknowledge any donations made to advance the Project. Any donations can be made directly to the Surf Club who will manage all dispersements. Our challenge here is to get this network installed before Xmas of this year and we need all the help we can get! (a further \$10,000 should get us all completed here)

Not to Do's...

I was instructed by several sources to keep this Newsletter light and happy being Holiday time and all.....and now having re-read back what I have just written I think I have probably failed dismally here! Never mind I will try and be bright and chirpy when I see you around the Beach, just to try and make up for it.

Basically when it comes to Omaha Beach I am totally passionate about keeping the area safe and for it to be a happy, special place for people to live and visit. I have to go to Auckland enough times a month to see parts of it where things have really gone wrong and I am determined that this is not going to happen to Omaha – not on my Watch anyway!

There are a few areas where everyone could really help us and I would much appreciate your support here please;

Beach Fires – not allowed – there is a total Fire Ban on in the Rodney District for the summer period.

Golf Carts (man am I sick of this subject!) The NZ Police have confirmed for us that it is completely illegal for anyone to drive a Golf cart on a road or footpath. Golf carts are designed to be driven solely on Golf Courses. They are not registered or warranted to be driven on public roads or footpaths – end of this subject forever.



Liquor Ban – is in place at Omaha Beach for several months starting in late December. While I think it is extremely unlikely that anyone would be prosecuted for have a quiet wine on the Beach with dinner or whatever, groups of teenagers boozing up and causing trouble are going to be fair game.



Jet Skis – if you are planning to buy a jet ski for Xmas or already have one or two sitting in the garage – please, please remember that you are not allowed to ride these bikes faster than 5 knots within 200 metres of the beach or within swimmers in the water. Every year I see cowboys wave hopping these powerful machines along the inner surf line and it is only going to be a matter of time before some poor swimmer cops a speeding jet ski in the head!

Motor vehicles on the Beach – the only persons or organisations authorised to use Motor vehicles on Omaha Beach are; Rodney Council, ARC Parks and Reserves and the Omaha Surf Club – all other vehicles (and this includes Quad bikes and other motor bikes) are completely banned.

Rubbish Bags – really really need to be hung up on a lamp-post or street sign or whatever to get them off the ground please. If you leave your bags on the ground for collection – the seagulls have them ripped open within about 10 minutes of you leaving Omaha and the Locals then have a very unpleasant mess to clean-up

New Years Eve – traditionally a Big Party Time at Omaha Beach. Last New Year we had teenagers being viciously assaulted on the Beach by roving groups of thugs. If your kids want to go down to the Beach late at night please ensure that they are in sufficient numbers to look after themselves or send an adult along with them to make sure that they don't get hurt.

That's it from me for another year. Thanks to all of you – those wonderful Customers out there who support Insite Security, the Warkworth Police, The Omaha Beach Community Inc & The Omaha Beach Residents Society, Rodney Council, Omaha Surf Club and everyone else who helps to make Omaha Beach the terrific place it has come to be.

Merry Christmas and may your God go with you.



PS. Those alarms that constantly go off in the middle of the night that drive everyone crazy are the ones not monitored by Insite Security!



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In Confidence