

## Protect Oreti Beach

# Patrolling the waves

Oreti Surf Life Saving Club Chairman Owen West tells us more about swimming safety at Oreti...



Oreti Surf Life Saving Club has been keeping Oreti Beach safe since 1929.

The family-friendly club has more than 80 members, young and old.

Its members actively patrol the beach from 12pm – 5pm on weekends between November and March.

A volunteer organisation, the club has about 35 volunteer lifeguards, who give up their weekends to ensure the public can safely enjoy the beach.

The club also has a strong Nippers programme, which helps children between the ages of 6 and 13 to learn skills to keep them safe in the surf.

Southlanders and visitors alike are advised to always swim between the flags when they're up.

The flagged area is the one spot on the beach where trained lifeguards are available to provide assistance.

The surf conditions have been checked by the lifeguards and assessed as the safest place to swim.

Like most beaches, Oreti can be affected by rips and large waves, so it's important that swimmers remain vigilant.



Whether the lifeguards are on duty or not, people should always swim with a friend, be aware of the dangers and swim within their limits. If in doubt, stay out.

For more information about becoming a surf lifeguard or joining the club, get in touch through the club's Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/oreti-slsc](http://www.facebook.com/oreti-slsc)

