

This newsletter is produced by a small volunteer editing crew to help keep our community connected and informed. We welcome your contributions!

Please send your newsletter items to:
rotoitinews@gmail.com

Deadline for next issue:
5pm Friday 19 January 2024

You can view and download previous issues at
www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters.html



Thanks to Cecilia Dooze for this photo of an awesome flatworm (*Arthurdendyus* sp.) on Pourangahau Mt Robert!

Rainbow Road: Open for Summer

The Rainbow Road is now open for summer until Sunday 14 April 2024 (7pm).

We look forward to seeing you and have a great summer.

For further information see www.rainbowstation.co.nz

Coming up

Sat 13th Jan, Lodge Road Green
Break working bee. Robbie
0212950305 or Brian
0273844464

Sat 13th Jan, Need to Weed
event at Teetotal starting
10.30am - details in the
newsletter.

Thursdays 10am - 12pm
Playgroup. Community Hall. Ph
Kirsten 0220445829. Gold coin
donation.

Photos: Tui, D. Price. Flirt, D.S .
Hamlett. Mt daisy *Celmisia*
semicordata, D. Price.

Note: regular notices about
fitness related activities are
listed in a separate box later in
the newsletter



THANKS to all the residents and long time bach families who have helped duty rangers over the holiday weeks with educating new visitors about the dog, drone and biking restrictions in the National Park. A quiet word from a friendly local to someone who might not be clear on the rules is so helpful for us.

Please call the visitor centre if you become aware of any issues on DOC – administered public conservation land, and rangers will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

03 5211806 8am-4.30pm and outside these times
0800DOCHOT 0800 362468



Ashton Kay Reid
•integrative wellness practitioner•
CYT, CMT, NZAMH Registered
Herbalist
call or text: 022 525 7871

Community Yoga Class
Tuesday's at 6:30pm through January at
Lake Rotoiti Community Hall
Class Pass: \$65
Drop in: \$20

Massage Treatments
Myofascial Release, Lymphatic Drainage, Relaxation
with herbal infused oils \$100

Facebook and Instagram: LoveAshton

LOCAL HAPPY St.Arnaud CHICKEN EGGS!

Order your weekly EGGS:

\$10 dozen : Pick up from Main Road Box

Turn Off to Nelson.

Email : koru@nym.hush.com

Mmm- yummy omelet!

Please Prepare for a Hot Dry Summer with Increased Fire Risk

- ✚ Check that your roof gutters are clear to enable as much water collection as possible.
- ✚ Gutters are a favourite place for airborne embers to start fires in a major wildfire.
- ✚ Check downpipes are clear and connected at roof and tank!
- ✚ Remove all dead vegetation from your section.
- ✚ Remove lower branches from larger trees to stop fires getting into the canopy.
- ✚ Keep all vegetation clear from all buildings.
- ✚ Store firewood and any flammables well away from buildings and definitely not under them.
- ✚ Make sure the village Evacuation Plan is prominently displayed. This is vital for those who rent their baches as guests do not know the area or the procedures. It's your responsibility to keep them safe.
- ✚ Have your own house escape plan as well.
- ✚ Check your smoke alarms, and that you have a secure ash bin.
- ✚ Note that the evacuation siren will rise to a pitch and stay there. A rise and fall siren is for Fire Brigade callouts.
- ✚ For a fire truck to reach your place access must be four metres wide with no overhanging branches.
- ✚ As the district dries out be aware of the increased spark danger from machinery.

There will be working parties on the **GreenBreak** in Lodge Rd on **Saturday 13th and Saturday 20th of January**. Both in the morning 9am to 12 noon.

This is an opportunity for property owners to help protect their village from fire, gain an understanding of the district's vulnerability to fire, and see how to apply these prevention techniques to their own place.

For further advice and information on advanced fire risk reduction, disposal of greenwaste, free metal ash bins courtesy Resene Paints, Evacuation Plans, or low flammability native plants please call;

Robbie Thomson 021 295 0305
or Brian Erasmus 027 384 4464

NEED TO WEED WORKSHOP

JAN 13TH 2024

TO FACILITATE PLACE BASED
WEEDING STRATEGIES.
SUPPORT AND PROMOTE LOCAL
COMMUNITY KAITIAKI EFFORTS.
OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN A WEEDING
EXPERIENCE-LEARNING BY DOING.

WATY COME!

To take part in a guided **weed walk** within the Teetotal Reserve.

To make a **connection** with expert knowledge of the biosecurity and **biodiversity** of St Arnaud.

To learn more about being **kaitiaki** of our natural environment and your backyard

Workshop Outline:

A facilitated session with Lindsay Barber from TDC covering pest plants of the area.

Information Stations:

The Nature Conservancy Draft plan for Teetotal reserve.

Fire retardant species.

Backyard weeding strategies.

WORKSHOP ON SITE AT TEETOTAL RESERVE
- IF WET AT COMMUNITY HALL.

10:30AM START

INFORMATION STATIONS TO EXPLORE
11-1PM

SHARED LUNCH OFFERED AT 12:30
WEED WARRIOR WALK 1PM.

CONTACT

VICKI.K@MOUNTAINSTOSEA.ORG.NZ



**Servicing Murchison, St Arnaud
and surrounding areas**

Thursdays

Plumbing - Gasfitting - Drainlaying

Shared travel costs

Phone or email to book your job

03 543 8090 or 0800 301507

info@tuffnell.co.nz

***We thank all our existing clients for
their continued support"***



Seeking permanent accommodation.

Hi, we are a friendly family looking for accommodation as we relocate from Mapua. We are hoping to move to the village as I will be taking up a permanent position at the local DOC Office. We would like to consider any rental opportunities from January 2024 onwards. If you are able to help please contact Sammy on 0275257008.



Free Delivery in St Arnaud

Paul 0212644207

Simon 021511955

Lake Rotoiti Community News

Rotoiti FireSmart

January 2024

Dear Rotoiti Residents,

This is a good time for us to contact property owners who may be here on holiday. Please read the following carefully and ask questions and express any concerns. What happens from now on regarding the fire safety of the village will depend on a community with a united response.

The Rotoiti FireSmart Working Group was formed in 2019 as a partnership between the Rotoiti District Community Council (RDCC) and the Department of Conservation (DOC) to establish a GreenBreak along Lodge Rd, and promote fire safety in and around the village. The GreenBreak is well advanced (go and have a look!) and in addition to slowing a large fire, it has been a very useful educational tool for property owners. If this work is possible in a National Park, then equally you have permission to fire-smart your own place.

A good number of residents have done excellent work making their properties safer which means their neighbours also benefit.

A common misconception is that permission from DOC is required to remove flammable material and vegetation at private residences. Not so. The Tasman District Council (TDC) is the relevant authority, but they are well aware of our extreme exposure to the wildfire risk. TDC have made grants available to the RDCC for our ongoing FireSmart work for four years running. An additional agreement with TDC allows the RDCC and its FireSmart Group to clear road reserves as they and local nearby residents see fit. This collaborative approach allows roadsides to be cleared of highly flammable kānuka/mānuka and replanted with low flammability native broadleaves (or similar).

Ward Street has been a successful step in the process as all residents either work for DOC or the Rotoiti Lodge and are well aware of the potential fire danger. Prior to clearing and replanting, it was unlikely a fire truck would have entered Ward Street in a vegetation fire as it was too overgrown. If your street is too overgrown then the same situation will apply to you.

The TDC road reserves still exist as originally planned in the early subdivision of St Arnaud. The remainder of the land has reverted to Conservation Land. Some of these road reserves could be cleared and replanted and in conjunction with the clearance of the old firebreak to the northwest of the village, could provide a realistic degree of wildfire protection. You can see from the accompanying photo with the GreenBreak marked up Lodge Rd that a Summit St to Ward St break on road Reserve and old firebreak (in the National Park) would give very good secondary protection to many houses in that area. Most of the fire risk reduction work over the last four years has been carried out by a small group of volunteers, fire brigade members and DOC staff. We understand not

everyone can help but we do need your permission as property owners to continue with this next large step. We can't proceed without it. Crossing fingers and topping up the insurance will not prevent another Lake Ohau fire and having seen that devastation a few weeks after the fire, prevention looks very attractive!

If you have concerns, questions or suggestions please submit them to; Robbie Thomson, Fire Risk Reduction Officer for Lake Rotoiti Volunteer Fire Brigade, robbiethomson55@gmail.com or 021 2950305, or, Brian Erasmus, Rotoiti FireSmart Working Group, blerasmus@hotmail.com 027 3844464





Holistic Herbal Consultations

custom tea blends to support immunity, sleep, energy, child and baby, and women's health

contact Certified Herbalist
Ashton Reid

022 525 7871



A good electrician.

↗

- Industrial, commercial and domestic
- Generator installs and repairs
- Electrical motor installs and repairs
- Pump installs and repairs
- Power tool repairs
- Automation and control
- Solar and offgrid installs and repairs
- Motorhome installs and repairs
- Dairy electrical and pumps

Shane Steel
027 320 2335
shane@agoodelectrician.co.nz

Servicing St Arnaud and greater Tasman district

Have your say on speed

The way speed limits are set has changed. Speed limits are now set through a Speed Management Plan.

A Speed Management Plan sets the direction for 10 years with an implementation plan reviewed every three years.

The Nelson Tasman Regional Transport Committee is consulting on a draft Speed Management Plan to come into force in 2024.

This is your opportunity to influence road safety with input into the appropriate speeds on the whole transport system across Nelson and Tasman.

We know there is no 'one size fits all' option for urban, rural, and rural residential areas. By supplying a range of options, we will have the flexibility to tailor the outcome, taking on board the views of the entire community.

Right now, across Tasman, we are looking for your input on a diverse range of topics as we review various bylaws and develop plans. Dog control bylaw, Proposed Cat Control bylaw, Public places bylaw.

Find out more and have your say on the Tasman District Council or Nelson City Council websites **before the end of February 2024**. Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz.



PLAYGROUP

Playgroup meets Thursday mornings
10am - 12pm at the community hall, all preschoolers welcome.

Many thanks to St Arnaud Rural Woman for your ongoing support

For any inquiries please contact
Kirsten on 0220445829

Church Notices

Lake Rotoiti Chapel

Sundays 10.30am

Rotoiti Street, St Arnaud

Services are run by locals and are non-denominational. Everyone welcome.

Contact Ali/Sue 03 5211 110

Rotoiti Hub

Sundays 10am

Local spirit-led Christian worship, equipping and encounter.

More details and enquiries:

Nigel /Sarah 027 4413776

or Kay 035211261 / 0273072820

CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEWSLETTER

Please send your contributions in the following formats:

Advertising and notices sized to fit the newsletter columns. Accepted formats: MSWord, PDF or JPG.

Full page ads incur a fee of \$30 Please pay at the Rotoiti/Nelson Lakes Visitor Centre.

Articles: plain text submitted in MS Word format, or in the body of an email.

Photos: JPG files up to 5MB, attached to an email (not embedded in text).

BE | GET | STAY



Regular activities in and around St Arnaud

Monday and Wednesday 10 to 11am Casual exercise class. Community Hall. Gold coin donation. Julie 027 2385597

Mondays 7pm Badminton. \$3 per person to go towards hall and shuttle-cocks. Racquets available, all welcome! Ed 03 5211106

Tuesdays 6.30pm Yoga. Community Hall. \$20 drop-in through January

Seido-Karate

Community Hall

Tuesdays 5pm - kids & beginners

Thursdays 5pm – General Class

Graeme 021 0859 4088. Gold coin donation



Local Carpenter now available for all your building requirements
Design work, estimates, at no charge
10 year Halo Guarantee for new builds

*Design by inspiration
Built with love and care by Santosh*

Call Santosh: 021323228

or

Email: livingspacenz@yahoo.co.nz