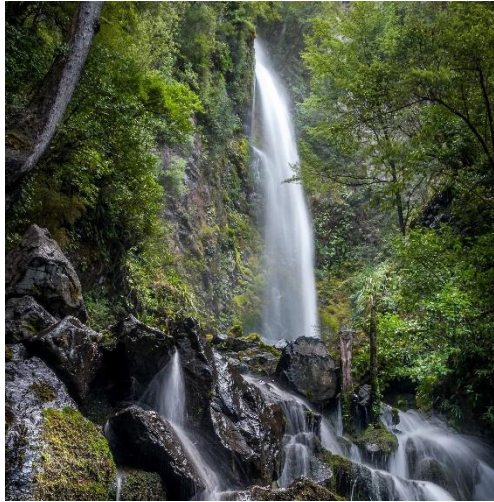


This newsletter is produced by a small volunteer editing crew to help keep our community connected and informed. We welcome your contributions!

Please send your newsletter items to: [rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto:rotoitinews@gmail.com)

Deadline for next issue:  
5pm Friday 17 February 2023

You can view and download previous issues at  
[www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters.html](http://www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters.html)



## Coming up

**10 & 11 February** – Waka Ama Regatta. More info [maitahi-outrigging.org.nz](http://maitahi-outrigging.org.nz)

**Friday 10 February 7pm**  
The Barleyshakes (Irish music) at Alpine Lodge

**4 & 5 March** – NZ Antique and Classic Boat Show at Kerr Bay. More info [nzclassicboats.com](http://nzclassicboats.com)

**Friday 10 March** – Secondary School Waka Ama racing at Kerr Bay

**11 & 12 March** – Power Boat 100 Years Regatta at Kerr Bay

**Saturday 1 April** – Alpine Lodge Loop the Lake. Details and entry on [nelsevents.co.nz](http://nelsevents.co.nz)

**Photos:** Whiskey Falls. Junior trappers, I. Biertumpfel. *Clematis forsteri*

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

## Lake Rotoiti School News

Kiaora kotou,

School started again last Tuesday.

The roll is currently 15 students and as always, I remain worried about staffing with this number. At present the Board is funding a second teacher. In order for Ministry funding to occur we need a minimum of 26 students.

We welcome Benjamin and Izak Grover to the school and we are looking forward to several new enrolments over the year as some of our local pre-schoolers turn 5. We also farewell Sophie Jordan.

This term is, as always, a full one with a visit to Waitaria Bay school in the pipeline as well as camp, and a visit to a New Zealand Ballet performance in Nelson. Our usual Term 1 clean up at Beeby's hut is postponed until early Term 2 due to the hut being booked during our available times.

This term we are beginning the trial of the new Histories Curriculum, with the children studying how Governments and Organisations impact on others, and what happens if these clash or are unfair. It is a large part of our cultural identity and how it has changed over the years. A big concept for children, especially in ten weeks!

Our fundraising group - Kea Kai - is already planning for the major events of Power Boat Races and Classic Boats.

*school news continued...*

With our reduced roll and consequent lower parent numbers we would be grateful for any help in the tent. A request for support will go out soon. At the same time, we have been offered the opportunity to set up a small catering tent at the Motorbike races on Lake Station. These events pay for Camp and for skiing as well as a number of other activities over the year. It is the main reason that Lake Rotoiti School does not ask for a school donation or charge for camp. We are also very grateful to the organisers of these events for their support and, during the recent difficult times, donations.

I would like to thank all of the kind volunteers who did the regular pool checks over the Christmas/New Year period. Their commitment to a roster has made this facility available to the community. Our school relies on so many people to make it a success, we are privileged to have such an inclusive and caring community.

We expect the pool changing sheds to be constructed during the next school holiday period. At this time the gate will be shifted and the fence line changed a little. In this way we won't impact the swimming season. We are also getting plans drawn to replace the Junior playground which is becoming dated.

It's going to be a great year.

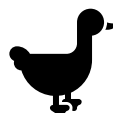
Nga mihi,  
Mike.



The DOC Visitor Centre, located in View Road, St Arnaud is open from 8am – 4.30pm during the summer months. Available Monday – Sunday for sale of hut tickets, weather information, track conditions, assist with campground bookings, dog permits, hunting permits and fishing permits.



Big thank you to Butch and Marie, from the Friends of Rotoiti, for their efforts in tidying up the traffic island at Kerr Bay. The space now looks incredible and is a great visual for visitors coming down to enjoy the National Park.



Duck eggs for sale  
\$5 for ½ dozen –  
contact Sandie 021 2779284  
(happy to arrange delivery  
into the village)



As agreed at the AGM in late October the next meeting of the Committee will meet at 7pm on Wednesday 22 February. I am calling for agenda items at this time. '

While this is a committee meeting anyone is welcome to attend and have input, but you will not have voting rights. Venue and zoom details will be sent with the agenda once that is ready.

Please send agenda items to [rotoiticommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:rotoiticommunitycouncil@gmail.com) by Thursday 16 February.

Sally Selwood 021 356 364



Waka ama racing returns to Lake Rotoiti on 10th -11th February with the 15th edition of Tuna e Hoe Ana, organised by Maitahi Outrigger Canoe Club in Nelson.

Twelve months ago the race was run against a backdrop of Covid regulations and serious storms and flooding but with the support of the St Arnaud community, particularly DOC and Rotoiti Hall we were able to provide a hugely important weekend for many people, as an antidote to the previous months of gloom and anxiety.

This year we are keeping our fingers crossed for better weather but whatever the heavens throw at us we will be there. The format remains the same with singles and doubles racing on Friday afternoon and evening, followed by the big six person canoes on Saturday. 2023 will be a truly international year with crews coming from the UK to enjoy the unique experience of paddling in an alpine environment.

As ever, we greatly appreciate the help and kindness of the local community and would encourage you all to come down and meet us, watch the racing and perhaps even take a short trip out on the lake.

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## 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



**Your Invitation to support**  
**Friends of Rotoiti**  
 and the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project  
 at Nelson Lakes National Park,  
 South Island, New Zealand

We are a group of conservation volunteers who work with the Department of Conservation to **control weasels, stoats, ferrets, mice, rats, wasps, possums and feral cats.**

Over the past 20 years Friends of Rotoiti Volunteers have removed over 40,000 pests by maintaining and improving an impressive 52 kilometres of trap lines around the **Rotoiti Village Area, Rainbow, Speargrass, Whisky Falls and Tophouse.**



[www.friendsofrotoiti.org.nz](http://www.friendsofrotoiti.org.nz)  
**SUPPORT US TODAY**

## Yes! I would like to support Friends of Rotoiti

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

As a non- profit group of volunteers, FOR need your support to continue predator control and maintain trap boxes, stainless traps and remote camera equipment which we use to monitor **KIWI, KAKA & KEA.**

I would like to be an active Friends of Rotoiti volunteer - Please contact me.

### Make a Donation for the calendar year Jan - Dec

- \$52 ( \$1.00 per week ) Donation to Join/Renew as a FOR supporter
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Make a Donation

#### Payment can be made to Friends of Rotoiti:

Account 03-1709-0102228-00

(Please reference your name with payment or email [friendsofrotoiti@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofrotoiti@gmail.com))

*Claim your donation as a tax credit our Charities Commission number is CC49211*

**Please return to:**  
**Friends of Rotoiti**  
**PO Box 18**  
**St Arnaud 7053**

For contacts and further information  
 visit our website  
[www.friendsofrotoiti.org.nz](http://www.friendsofrotoiti.org.nz)

### PROPOSED TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE

Applicant: Tasman District Council

Event: Stopping Distance Demonstrations Road Safety for Schools

Location: Portion of Kerr Bay Road, Lake Rotoiti to Lake Road Lake Rotoiti

Date and time: Tuesday 2 May 2023, 8.00am-2.45pm

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular traffic:  
 Resident traffic will be let through between Stopping Distance Demonstration events during this time. It will

be an offence under the above regulations for any person otherwise than under authority of an authorised period to use the roads for ordinary vehicular traffic during the period of closure.

Objections close: 5pm, Friday 24th February 2023.  
 Please send any objections to  
[jeni.thornborough@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:jeni.thornborough@tasman.govt.nz)



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*ell*  
Come & connect, have fun, &  
sweat to contemporary beats  
& various styles of exercise.  
All ages & levels welcome.  
BYO water & mats.  
\*  
Community Hall | 6-7 p.m. | Gold Coin Koha  
CONTACT LOU TO JOIN 0210414913  
\*  
\*  
\*

**BE GET STAY**

**ACTIVE**

**Regular activities in and around St Arnaud**

**"Circuit Breakers"** exercise group  
Monday, Wednesday, Fridays 10 am,  
Community Hall  
All welcome, gold coin donation  
Gael 027 280 4078

**Fit It Wednesdays** group exercise. Bring water,  
mat. Community Hall, Wednesdays 😊 6-7pm. Lou  
0210414913

**Seido-Karate**  
Community Hall  
Tuesdays 6pm - kids & beginners  
Thursdays 6 pm – General Class  
Graeme 021 0859 4088. Gold coin donation

  
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**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).

Contact: [rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto:rotoitinews@gmail.com)



### Te Whakarauora Whio – Friends of Rotoiti

2022 was a busy time for FOR with the additional volunteer work required on the Te Whakarauora Whio – Friends of Rotoiti project to build, deploy and check 500 double-set trap boxes on a long trap line up the Travers valley from Lake Rotoiti/ Lakehead Hut to the Upper Travers Hut, and up the Sabine valley from Sabine Hut at Lake Rotoroa to Rotomairewhenua-Blue Lake.

The purpose of this trap line is to reduce predator numbers along the rivers, giving our threatened bird species a better chance of success. The project is centred around Whio / blue duck as numbers have diminished over time so that now they are only rarely seen here. This project with the assistance of the team from the Department of Conservation at the lake, is hoping to translocate whio back into the national park in early 2024, once we have completed a full year's trapping. There is also some significant planning required to put a solid case to the DOC national Whio Recovery Group, not least being identifying a suitable source population.



*Whio family on the Heaphy – Richard Rossiter / DOC*

At 52km long, this trap line is one of the longest in the country and we are very grateful for the local support we have received from the community, DOC and iwi along with the Rata Foundation who provided Friends of Rotoiti with the funding to see this project through.

A very special thanks to the A team and all volunteers that contributed to this project which exceeds 3000 volunteer hours.





As a voluntary organisation Friends of Rotoiti are always looking for more volunteers and funding to assist with the conservation work that started some twenty years ago, as Drew would say “It’s a job for life” and it does make a difference throughout the village and the wider Nelson Lakes National Park.

For \$1.00 a week or \$52.00 a year your donation will enable Friends of Rotoiti to continue with their great work.