

Lake Rotoiti Community News

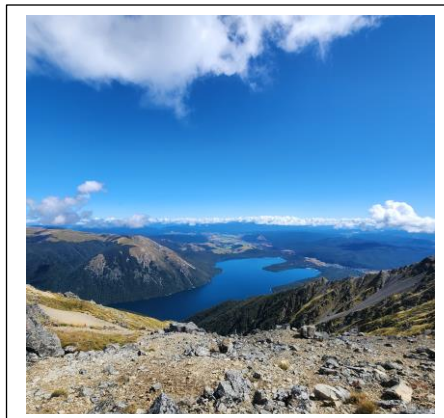
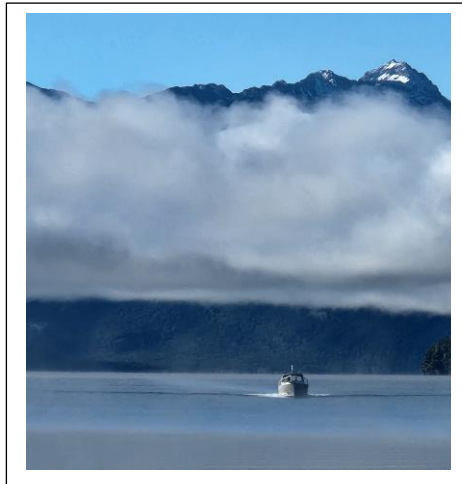
01 May 2023

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 12/05/2023

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



Lake Rotoiti School News

Kia ora kotou,

We welcome Vanessa Bauer to the school.

Since our last Newsletter we have been very busy.

Camp

Camp this year was held at Kaiteriteri (Bethany Park).

The children had a great time experiencing some of the National Park's beauty with a trip on a catamaran to Anchorage, walks to swimming beaches and to Cleopatra's Pools, waka paddling, waka chants, stand-up paddle boarding, team activities and a host of other amazing experiences.

A huge thank you needs to go to our supportive parents and to Kea Kai and the wider community who fundraise and pay for this. Also, thanks go to the Rotoiti Outdoor Education Centre for providing the first two days of activities and to Fiona for her catering. We ate exceptionally well!

If parents were paying, the total cost for this camp would exceed \$600 per child!



Coming up:

2nd May (Tues)

8am-2:45pm

Temporary rd closure,
Kerr Bay. Refer to
notice further down for
details.

3rd May (Tues)

RDCC Community

Meeting. 7pm

DOC tearooms.

(note venue change).

Photos:

Rotoiti, Speargrass hut,
Rotoroa (D. Bauer).

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



Wood splitting

There was a great team of parents and children splitting and moving the trees by Black Valley Stream on Sunday 23 April. We calculate that 45cubic metres of wood was split and that about the same remains. We continued to cut wood on the 30th. This wood is for sale and can be purchased from the school and picked up from the school grounds. If stored properly it should be dry for burning next season. The cost is \$120 per thrown metre.



AF8

Last Wednesday we hosted the AF8 team at school. The senior students from Murchison Area School also visited to hear them speak. For those that went to the evening meeting, there was some sobering information about a potential quake in our area. The children enjoyed the visit, asked some very relevant questions and learnt a lot.



Glider Flying

The senior students had the good fortune to be invited to experience glider flying last Friday. The Frank, Claus, Ollie, Frank, Annett, Katherine and Brian from the gliding club did a wonderful job setting this experience up and providing flights for the children. On behalf of the children, we would like to thank them very much. We have probably got one or two future pilots in this group as a result. There was a bit of nervousness and a lot of excitement.



Pool

The pool is closed and shut down for the winter. We hope to have progress on the changing sheds very soon. If you have a fob, please return it to school. Thank you to those who have already done this.

Term 2

Our focus this term is Science: "The Planet Earth and Beyond". It was kick started with an amazing display of the Aurora Australis.

(Photo by Oliver Thomas)

This is a ten week term. We finish on Friday 30 June, with one break on 5 June for the King's Birthday holiday.



Nga mihi, Mike and Miriam.

Avalanche Forecasting Improvement for Nelson Lakes

Mountain Safety Council recently installed a public remote camera trained over the Angelus basin and Rotomaninitua / Lake Angelus, to supply real time imagery for the purposes of improving the public avalanche forecasting for Nelson Lakes, via the NZ Avalanche Advisory (NZAA). Additionally, it is expected that the camera will provide significant benefits for tramper and climber safety, by improving the information available for people to plan. The camera is on a 12 month trial to assess the technical viability of the installation. The imagery will be added to the DOC website in a short time but meanwhile, you can view images at Mountain Safety Council New Zealand — Mountain Cameras msc.imagegallery.co The camera loads a new image to this site, every half hour.



Lake Rotoiti Community Hall KEY RETURN

Please return to Debbie or Kay any hall keys that you no longer require.

Thanks Heaps! 0224877168



**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"***



RDCC MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday 3 May,

please note: venue is DOC tearoom at 7 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76104056114?pwd=7NXxz6SxhDdbwlzhDvLMSZUlcj10.1>

Meeting ID: 761 0405 6114

Passcode: s4RV73

AGENDA

- Awaiting update from TDC
- Update from Transpower /Network Tasman
- Grant to Hawkes Bay floods
- Pot holes on DOC road at Kerr Bay – is there any update?
- State of Holland/Robert Streets,
- Update from DOC about life rings resolution to fund required
- Douglas Fir trees felled by tennis courts- fundraiser for Blue lakes
- trip Anyone who wants firewood should contact Paul Dulieu 021 264 4207
- New phone list that Ingrid and Jan have compiled is complete and being printed quote presented. Ingrid has paid the account and RDCC need to reimburse as per previous motion



PROPOSED TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE:

APPLICANT: Tasman District Council
EVENT: Stopping Distance Demonstration Road Safety for Schools

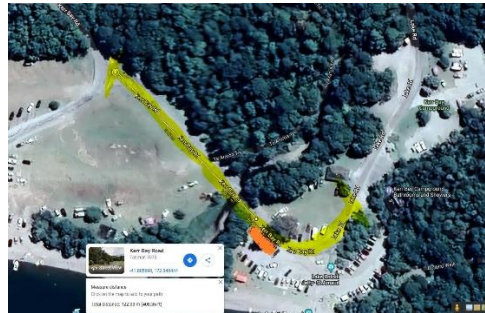
LOCATION: Portion of Kerr Bay Road, Lake Rotoiti to Lake Road, Lake Rotoiti

DATE and TIME: **Tuesday 2 May 2023 8 am to 2.45pm**

Alternative provision for ordinary 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.

For more info jeni.thornborough@tasman.govt.nz

NB: access to both jetties will be retained.



**COMMUNITY NOTICE DOC
COMMUNITY**

NOTICE for Police National SAREX 2023 The New Zealand Defence Force and New Zealand Police are carrying out a search and rescue training exercise involving helicopters, vehicles and personnel in the Raglan and Rainbow Conservation area, Tapuae-O-Uenuku Scenic Reserve, Inland Kaikoura Ranges and Mt Richmond Forest Park area over the period 08 – 12 May 2023. In order for the New Zealand Defence Force and New Zealand Police to maintain their readiness to deploy, this type of training needs to be undertaken in a variety of environments. Being able to exercise in diverse environments ensures personnel are highly trained and able to support domestic, regional and global situations. We appreciate the support our local communities extend to our personnel when we conduct these training activities outside of our normal training areas.

An advertisement for 'living space Design & Build'. It features a logo with a house and tree, and the website 'www.livingspacenz.com'. To the right are logos for 'LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONER BUILDING CONFIDENCE' and 'New Zealand Certified Builders Association NZCB'. The text below describes services: 'Local Carpenter now available for all your building requirements', 'Design work, estimates, at no charge', and '10 year Halo Guarantee for new builds'. It also includes the slogan 'Design by inspiration Built with love and care by Santosh', contact number 'Call Santosh: 021323228', and email 'Email: livingspacenz@yahoo.co.nz'.

How East Bay became Kerr Bay

In 1967 local man Don Cummings wrote a letter to the Parks Board in support of a proposal to change the name of East Bay to John Kerr Bay. Following are excerpts from his letter that shed some light on how Kerr, a Scottish immigrant, earned a place on our maps and in our local history. "John Kerr, Pioneer, Explorer, Farmer, Conservationist, Member of Parliament and one of Nelson Province's great men... arrived in Nelson in the ship Fifeshire in 1842.

"In his early years he spent considerable time exploring the back country [searching] for an easy route between Nelson and Marlborough. "He took up large holdings in Marlborough and Lake Roto-iti, later selling his holdings in Marlborough ... and built a spacious Homestead on the Buller Plains. He named these holdings Lake Station.

"Mr Kerr was quick to realise the great potential of Lake Roto-iti and the surrounding mountains as a recreational area of par excellence ... and spared no effort or expense in his enthusiasm to establish wildlife and fish in the area.

"On the 6 th of July 1882 Mr John Kerr released 200 brown trout fingerlings in the Black Valley Stream ... and became the first man to establish trout at Lake Roto-iti. He made a further liberation of 1000 brown trout fingerlings on the 16 th November 1883.

"On the 19 th February 1884 Mr John Kerr was appointed a Ranger of the Nelson Acclimatisation Society and thus became the first Ranger at Lake Roto-iti. "Blechynden Cottage was built by John Kerr and, along with Mr Kerr's boatshed built on the foreshore immediately in front, [were] the first buildings erected at Lake Roto-iti.

"Mr Kerr's boat was the first [European] boat on Lake Roto-iti. "In 1885 Mr John Kerr was elected to the House of Representatives. While in Parliament he was responsible for the erection of the first bridge over the Buller River." These (slightly edited) notes from writings by great-grandson Bill Butters offer some details about John Kerr's other achievements:

"In 1882 John Kerr travelled to the USA where he made exhaustive enquiries on behalf of the Acclimatisation Society regarding various species of freshwater fish, game birds and animals (which were imported in following few years). As well he purchased a large quantity of merchandise. So numerous were his acquisitions, he chartered a ship for his return voyage. Significant among his cargo were a number of draught horses and thoroughbred American trotting horses to be used for breeding (these, along with further imports of trotters from Australia, were to earn John Kerr a place of high regard in the history of NZ trotting). Also among this shipment were Mountain Quail and all kinds of equipment little known in NZ at the time, including the first covered wagons, racing sulkies, doctors' carriages, various kinds of harness, farm implements, washing machines, glassware, and six organs and other musical instruments".

By all accounts, John Kerr was a big man (reportedly 20 stone/127kg) with big ideas. He has been variously described as colourful, pig-headed, innovative, no-nonsense, a man of vision. At the time of his death 125 years ago – on May 3 rd 1898 – he was 68. His upturned boat was found 50 feet (15m) from shore, his body nearby in 8-9 feet (2.5m) of water. He'd gone out to check on a net he'd set to see if his liberations of White Fish had been successful (they've not been seen at the Lake since). Death by accidental drowning was the verdict. Don Cummings concluded his letter to the Parks Board (which decided on the abbreviated name of Kerr Bay):

"So ended the life chapter of a great man who had figured in so many firsts and, by his untimely death, became the first and only known European to lose his life in Lake Roto-iti." Ends.



John Kerr of Lake Station.

May 3rd marks 125 years since he drowned in Lake Rotoiti.

Credit for photo: Nelson Provincial Museum. Tyree Studio Collection: 51244

Rural Conversations - Find out what changes to land and water management could mean to you.

You're invited to an information event hosted by Top of the South Rural Support Trust and Rural Women NZ, with short presentations from Tasman District Council staff and an opportunity to talk one on one with them about what the changes may mean for you.

Our District is underpinned by primary production. These events are open to all local agribusiness, rural landowners, and those supporting our rural communities.

Dates and venues (for St Arnaud and nearby)

- Tapawera: **Tuesday 2 May, 6.30 pm – 9.30 pm, Tapawera Rugby Football Rooms**

Sound management of land and water resources in New Zealand is a critical issue. Understanding the recent government regulations is important for rural communities and Council. We realise this keeps changing and there is more still coming, and that this is confusing, adding stress and pressure onto farmers. Council now has a better understanding of what these changes mean. At these events we'll look at recent government changes, what's still to come and how this may impact you. You will meet the Council staff tasked with implementing these changes, have an opportunity to clarify any questions and find out what support may be available to you.

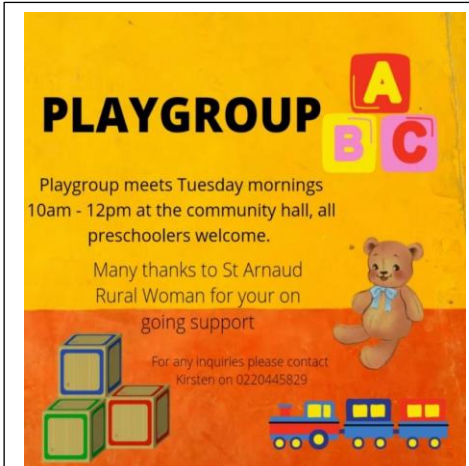
MPI On-Farm Support will be joining us to introduce their staff and explain what their role is. Refreshments will be provided.

Topics include:

- Essential freshwater legislation
- Freshwater farm plans
- Intensification
- Wetlands
- Intensive winter grazing
- Nitrogen use and reporting
- Stock exclusion
- Fish passage
- Riparian and wetland enhancement and funding
- Significant Natural Areas (SNA) and biodiversity protection
- Plant and animal pest management
- Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Features
- Resource consenting
- Pricing agricultural emissions
- The Land and Freshwater Plan and having your say on the future rules

Badminton

started again on 12th April
Wednesdays 7pm at the hall
\$3 per person to cover hall and
shuttlecocks



PLAYGROUP A B C

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

Many thanks to St Arnaud
Rural Woman for your on
going support

For any inquiries please contact
Kirsten on 0220445829

Weed Alert - Yellow Bristle Grass (*Setaria pumila*)

Yellow bristle grass (YBG) is an unwanted grass that has established close to the Nelson Lakes area. Although palatable to stock during spring, cattle will not graze YBG once it starts forming a seed head, (January – May). The loss of grass production on dairy farms in the North Island due to the presence of YBG has been estimated at around 20%.

There are no suitable insect vectors that could be considered for introduction to control YBG, although some research in to pathogens is underway.

The bristly seed head of YBG attaches readily to the hair of animals and can be moved between farms in feed such as hay. Roadside mowing is another seed movement pathway for YBG. This is very difficult to manage effectively, as it is not practicable to waterblast mower components between all the various roadside YBG sites. YBG growing on the road verge can quickly spread to adjacent farmland, so being aware of the risk and identifying and controlling the grass when it is first noticed is important to prevent its establishment in pastureland.

YBG is now so widespread along road verges in Tasman that it is only controlled in areas where it is likely to spread to dairy farms, such as Golden Bay and the Murchison / Nelson Lakes area.

Herbicide spraying at the correct times of the year is the best option for control, and is carried out by TDC Biosecurity officers. There is one site at Kikiwa and several between Kerr's Hill and the Golden Downs forestry camp which are monitored and controlled by the TDC.

If you see YBG growing anywhere in the Nelson Lakes district, please contact Lindsay Barber, Biosecurity Officer, Tasman District Council Ph 027 224 1583.



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GROUP



FITNESS



FIT IT
WEDNESDAYS



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



UPPER WAIRAU WAIRAU WAIHOPAI TMA

Possum Control – Poison Warning

Excell Biosecurity wishes to advise that a ground-based possum control operation will be taking place to keep possum numbers under control to prevent spread of TB. This operation will be conducted as part of the TBfree New Zealand programme.

Areas covered: The operation covers an area of 8,753 hectares along the Wairau River between the Rainbow Road and Badmans Flat.

Operation date: 20 March to 30 June 2023.

Poisoning methods: Feratox is a small capsule containing cyanide poison (about the size of a pea). In bait bags the cyanide capsule has been placed into a non-toxic peanut paste inside a small blue biodegradable bag. The blue bags will be attached to trees and suitable habitat. On occasion bait stations will also be used.

Traps will also be used throughout the area in conjunction with poisoning methods. The public is warned to take care in these areas and not to remove carcasses or baits. Baits are dangerous to people and dogs.

General warning

- Do not touch poison baits / traps
- Do not touch poisoned possum carcasses
- Keep pets under supervision
- Do not leave children unattended
- Follow the advice on the poison warning signs

If you suspect poisoning

- Contact your local hospital, or dial 111
- National Poisons Centre 0800 POISON – 0800 764 766
- In the case of a domestic animal being poisoned, contact a local veterinarian

For further information (including maps of the operational area), contact the operator:

Project Supervisor, Northern South Island, 0508 EXCELL (0508 392 355)



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

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

