

M O N D A Y , 4 ^{T H} J U L Y 2 0 1 6

Lake Rotoiti Community News



Upcoming events & Important dates

30th July: 7 pm youth group games night, community hall. Sue 5211110, Fiona 0274879091

6th August: St Arnaud Mountain Film Festival. Tracey Grose 021 475 514 or Graeme Andrews 03 521 1022

Mondays: Badminton and Table Tennis @ Community Hall 7pm, cost \$3.00. Phone Ed Shaw 5211106 for more info.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10-11am: Circuit breakers circuit training, Community Hall. Gold Coin. Lois 0226010642

Tuesdays/Thursdays 7pm Seido-Karate, Community Hall Graeme 02108534088

Sundays 10.30: Services at Lake Rotoiti Chapel

July 29th Deadline for next newsletter

LAKE ROTOITI SCHOOL NEWS

We welcome three new students to Lake Rotoiti School this week! Sophia Wiesner celebrated her 5th birthday last weekend and joined us on Monday and Lilja and Tor McCulloch joined us on Thursday; they will be with us for the Term 3 ski season. Welcome to Sophia, Tor and Lilja and their families!

This week students have been bringing bikes into school for the 'Ride-On' bike programme, which is taking place in school next week. We are very grateful to Tasman District Council who are supporting the 'Ride-On' programme run by Marty Clark and his team of instructors. The youngest students in the school will be looking at early safety skills through scooter-handling sessions whilst Year 3 and 4 students will be working on bike handling on the school grounds. Our oldest students will be working on road safety skills when cycling around St Arnaud.



Jim Matthews services a bike whilst Seniors look on

Jim Matthews (former owner and mechanic at Village Cycles in Richmond) came in for a pre-programme visit, with a team, to look at the children's bikes and carry out general maintenance – luckily all bikes were roadworthy, but most needed adjustments to brakes and gears! Many thanks to Marty for organising this and to Jim and John for the day spent working on all the bikes (at no cost to school or families!)

As another busy term draws to a close we are bringing our class projects and learning activities to a close, but work behind the scenes on our building projects continues. The swimming pool project is at a crucial stage; plans are drawn, engineer's plans are in and we are just negotiating the final details with the Ministry of Education before permits can be sought. It's been a long (and sometimes frustrating!) journey to get to this stage, but we all still think that the final benefit to the school and the community of a large, heated pool will be worth it in the end! Also in the pipeline is the renovation of our original classroom; the room occupied by the Juniors until 2011 when they moved to their renovated room. This is a Ministry funded project, which aims to align our learning spaces with modern or flexible learning spaces. After much discussion, and after seeking the view of the children, the Board decided that the original classroom building is a far better built room and its greater floor area and dimensions offer more flexibility for children's learning. We aim to kick-start this project very soon and certainly Giles, Emma and the class hope to be installed before the end of the year! Watch this space.....

A final reminder – school ends at 1.30pm next Friday (8th July), although children can be collected from 12.30pm onwards and the school bus will run at 1.30pm.

Have a happy and safe end of term break everyone!
Giles, Nicky, Tracy, Stephanie and Emma



Miles & Helen from Tophouse want to let everyone know that their phone number has gone back to 5211269, as is in the new phone book.

Lake Rotoiti Youth Group

Held once a month

Next one is **Saturday July 30th**, kick off at 7 p.m. finishes at 9;15 p.m. kids home by 9;30 p.m.

July is **games night** in the community hall
Its a great evening of fun, we even have supper!
We'd love to see you there!

You need to be 10 or over (under 21)

Run by Lake Rotoiti Chapel

for more info ring Sue 5211110 or Fiona 0274879091



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Friends of Rotoiti Feral Cat Trapping Group

For the last 3 years a group of local residents has been trapping feral cats on their private properties. This group was started by FOR, Friends of Rotoiti, who supply live capture cat traps. Our statistical year is from June 1st to 30th May, and following a recent TDC Biodiversity Forum that concentrated mostly on cats, it seems appropriate to share our findings from our last year's trapping. The total number of feral cats trapped last year was 133, with 113 being trapped during March, April and May. The sobering thing about this number is that we have no idea of the actual feral cat population in the National park and its surroundings.

A recent Wellington study by WCC discovered that domestic cats can have a territory of up to 100 ha. Other studies have shown that cats can happily travel up to 10Ks, so this may be an opportune time to encourage and remind any domestic cat owners to make sure their cats have a collar. The website related to the Wellington study of cat movements is www.cattracker.nz.

As well as collaring your cat, if you own a pet cat please send us details so that we can construct a schedule of pet cats. Your pet cat can easily wander several kilometres from home and if it is away for several days who knows how far it will travel, research shows perhaps 10 kilometres.

As more research is being carried out there are increasing calls for a national cat management strategy, as increasingly the domestic cat is being seen as perhaps our most dangerous imported predator. I encourage you to visit web sites related to NZ and Australian cats, just Google "Feral Cats NZ".

If you wish to join the FOR cat trapping group please contact me, Chris Richards, at 5211224, or email cobhill@xtra.co.nz. The group can offer live capture traps, information and support. The Friends of Rotoiti have a web site, www.friendsofrotoiti.org.nz, worth visiting, particularly to discover the work of this group of local volunteers.

Chris Richards, FOR.



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- *May improve skin and muscle tone*
- *Encourages the elimination of waste from the body*
- *May promote cell and tissue regeneration*

Thanks from Betty Hart

The chair originally bought for Bill Butters as a result of community fundraising, is now being enjoyed by Betty Hart. Betty wants everyone to know how grateful she is for the use of the chair.

Thanks very much!



EXERCISE NOTICE

The RNZAF will be conducting activities in the Nelson Lakes and surrounding areas. Refer map NZ Topo 50 Sheet BR24 – Kawatiri Area:

Eastern Grid 86, and Northern Grid 73; and Eastern Grid 71, and Northern Grids 74 and 75.

The activities will be conducted between 6 am and 9 pm beginning on the 11 July 2016 and concluding on the 18 July 16. These activities will involve small groups moving on foot, and/or vehicle, and will involve the use of radio transmitting equipment and antenna farms. Any enquiries are to be directed to the Base Adjutant, RNZAF Base Woodbourne – Telephone 03 577 1011.



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The Second St Arnaud Mountain Film Festival

Saturday 6 August 2016, from 5:30 pm

Lake Rotoiti Community Centre

Admission: \$20.00 per person. Eftpos available.

What do paragliding a distance of 640 km over 35 days; climbing a hard mountain route in the Andes 35 years after your father climbed the same peak; and creating the longest-single track mountain bike trial in New Zealand have in common??

They are all the subject of films in this year's St Arnaud Mountain Film Festival.

You are welcomed to watch over four hours of exciting adventure movies filmed all around the world. Five of this year's selection are from New Zealand. A film of local interest is 'Muscle and Dreams: Creating the Old Ghost Road'.

You'll have lots of opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours; and delicious food will be available.

The next newsletter will have the full programme.

Contact Graeme Andrews (03 521 1022) or Tracey Grose (021 475514) for more details.

DOC NEWS

Injured wildlife

DOC staff gave advice on what to do for injured wildlife in the last newsletter.

A couple of our resident mallard ducks are showing signs of injury. One has an obviously damaged beak and his tongue is visible. The other has an injured foot.

Biodiversity rangers have checked both birds and they seem to have good body condition and they are eating well. Rangers will continue to keep an eye on these birds over the winter months.

Thank you to everyone who mentioned these birds to staff.

Trainee Rangers from NMIT

John Wotherspoon and the Senior Rangers had the privilege of meeting the 2016 intake of trainee rangers enrolled at the Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology. It is a full year programme (July to June) and is very practically focussed on achieving competency in the wide range of skills needed by rangers in the field and gives them a solid understanding of the significant issues in conservation today.

We will hopefully meet them all again when they do practical assignments here, and one of them will get a placement with us over the summer holidays.

The Nelson Lakes team gave an overview of the work our Biodiversity, Visitor Assets and Community rangers undertake.

A View from the Past

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō's newsletter Pānui carried an interesting item about a painting by William Fox of the lakefront at Rotoiti. The short article tells of the importance of Kehu to the iwi and his contribution to the adventurous exploration of this area.

A beautifully carved statue of the explorer, Kehu, and information about early exploration in this area is showcased in the DOC Visitor Centre. A peak bearing Kehu's name in remembrance of his deeds overlooks Rotoiti and is clearly visible from the lakefront.



This painting from 1846 by William Fox (1812-1893) shows Fox, Heaphy, Brunner and Kehu (centre, smoking a pipe) resting at Rotoiti in 1846.

The original is held by the Alexander Turnbull library, and is an example of how a variety of materials, from a range of archival institutions, were used to make connections between Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō and our whenua. Kehu's intimate knowledge of the tracks and trails, and his knowledge of bushcraft and hunting expertise were a source of continual wonder to the Paakeha, whom he saved from injury and starvation on more than one occasion.

Without Kehu's assistance it would have been impossible for Heaphy and Brunner to have successfully surveyed the lands of Te Taihū.

You can subscribe to Pānui at <http://ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz/>.

Kids can be Kiwi Rangers over the holidays

Do you have children or grandchildren visiting over the upcoming holidays? Pop down to the Visitor Centre and ask one of the friendly staff for a free Kiwi Ranger activity book.

The Kiwi Ranger activity book will keep children from 4 to 13 busy with practical activities in the Visitor Centre and outdoors.

Children get a colourful Kiwi Ranger badge if they complete a number of tasks correctly.

The Visitor Centre has a good range of conservation-themed activity books and games suitable for children of all ages on sale.

Arborist opportunity

There will be a team of TreeScape arborists working in the village in early August. They will be removing some weedy trees for residents, with a DOC team helping to keep costs down for residents by doing the non-technical saw work and mulching. This operation is most efficient if there are two or more work sites in progress on one day, so that the work teams can stay busy while also staying out of each other's way.

If you have a tree/s that you would like help with removing please be in touch to see if we can factor this work into early August. Some of the trees we consider weedy in and around the village, and will be really happy to help with are; Douglas fir, rowan, holly, hawthorn.

If a weedy tree is not near any structures or lines or is not very big, we might be able to drop and remove it for you without the cost of arborists, and can leave you with firewood.

It could also be helpful for the arborist team to also hear from people with non-weedy arborist work that needs doing so they can make the most of their time in the village. Call Sandra at DOC (5211806) to be put in touch with them.

As always, please be in touch if you would like help with any plant that you suspect might give weedy problems in our conservation areas. There's too much out there for us to deal with alone, and weeds are everyone's business!



This newsletter was produced with the help of the Rotoiti District Community Council, Department of Conservation and Mark & Tania Gill.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Friday July 29th at 5.00pm.

Please send all items for inclusion to Phil Crawford

pnccrawford@extra.co.nz