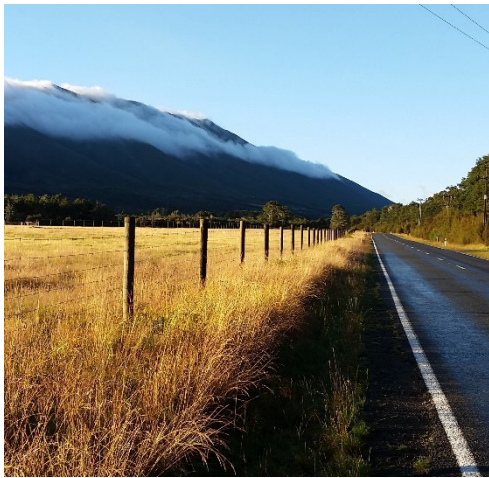
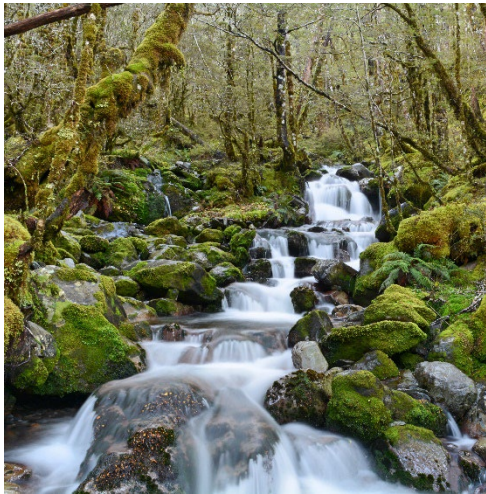


Deadline for next issue:
Friday 24 June 2022

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

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

You can download a copy of
previous newsletters from
www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters



Coming up

**Sat 18 June 6pm The
Playhouse, Rainbow
Sports Club SnowBall**

**Sun 19 June: Blue Duck
midwinter swim**, midday
at Kerr Bay east

**Sat 2nd July Community
potluck dinner** –
Book a space – Linda 027
375 8178
Deb 027 314 2251

**Tuesdays 10am-12,
Playgroup**
Kirsten 0220445829

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

Handy links:
[Rainbow skifield](#)
[Rainbow webcams](#)
[Kerr Bay webcam \(TDC\)](#)

The snow is coming! Feel
free to send your best
June snow photo to
rotoitinews@gmail.com so
it can have its day in the
sun, in our wonderful
little publication ☺

Lake Rotoiti School News

We are now just over half way through our second term here at school and the weather has well and truly gotten the message that it is winter.

This week we started a unit on our local trees, plants, and ecosystem, led by one of our parents, Frith. She took us on a nature walk along Black Valley Stream down to the lakefront where we used the shelter to stay dry and discuss the different beech trees we have in our forest and how to distinguish them. The students enjoyed the activity, although it was very cold and even wetter. Next week will be even colder with snow forecast! A big thank you to Frith for organising this for us, and also to Drew from Friends of Lake Rotoiti, who accompanied us and talked to us about pests and other dangers to our eco system.



On Tuesday Garin College had a workday organised where students had to find work for the day for a fundraiser. Three of our previous students (Shaun, Caitlyn, and Charlie) came to our school to spread bark around the native trees we planted last year. Shaun's father, Daryl, brought his Kubota and supervised them. They did a fantastic job and we would like to thank them all for their hard work!



And lastly, our school grounds are open to the public and we welcome everyone, however if you bring a dog, please make sure to clean up any accidents after them. Last week two of the kids stepped into some and unknowingly dragged it into our library.

Stay warm and dry!

Your team from Lake Rotoiti School

Beautiful 100% beeswax candles

Handmade locally. Their colour is vibrant and their scent magnificent! If you'd like to order any, please get in touch. Anna 021 069 0067



The kākahi/freshwater mussels/ *Echyridella menziesii* in lakes Rotoiti and Rotoroa were the subject of an intensive monitoring effort by a top-of-the-south team led by Janet Newell last month.

In an effort that is almost unimaginable now, given the turn the weather has taken, a DOC dive team spent a day in each lake (harmlessly) digging small plots on underwater transects, to yield baseline data on the kākahi populations.

There's interesting reading about kākahi at this [NIWA site](#). Their life cycle is pretty amazing and an illustration of the interconnectedness of our native freshwater systems. Kākahi are a threatened species, and their continued health depends on clear water, limited sedimentation, and healthy populations of the native fish that move them around.

The invasion of the *Lindavia* diatom is the motivation behind this work. If lake snow blooms become the norm for our lakes, as they have for Lake Wanaka and others, then there might be impacts on the life of the lakebeds. We realised that we don't understand the population structure or distribution of kākahi in our lakes, apart from that they are there. So this monitoring gives us a baseline to measure against in the future, as well as improving our understanding of this threatened species

Findings:

- kākahi distribution is quite patchy in both lakes, with more being found at shallow sites (<10m) than deep sites (>10m)
- the size ranged from 8mm to 88mm, and on average they were 50-60mm long
- there seem to be very few small kākahi in Rotoiti compared to Rotoroa (consideration is going into the potential reasons for this, and whether it is cause for concern)



[Photo: Stuart Mackay, NIWA]

Updating the pet cat census

The Friends of Rotoiti and DOC together keep a census of pet cats throughout the Rotoiti area, which is carried as a booklet by everyone who is active in trapping cats. This is kept as up to date as possible, and we are all especially keen to have information on new pet cats. The staff and FOR volunteers that are doing the work are always concerned about the possibility of accidentally despatching a cat that is someone's pet. Please note that all cat trapping is done with live-capture cage traps, and one of the reasons for choosing this method is so pets can be returned home unharmed.

In addition to updating the census booklet, it is really helpful if pet cats are prevented from wandering, and also wearing a collar.

Please be in touch if you have an update for the pet cat census. Also, if you are aware of neighbours or bach owners who bring cats on holiday that might not know about the cat census or this newsletter, can you mention it to them?

Please be in touch anytime with the Nelson Lakes Visitor Centre 03 5211806, or:

Sandra Wotherspoon, 0272042329
swotherspoon@doc.govt.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"***



Tasman District Council Grants to the Rotoiti District Community Council

The RDCC was fortunate to receive two Community Grants from Rates in the last financial year.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the TDC for these grants as they have enabled work in the village which could not have been otherwise completed.

One grants was for \$2,000 which, when added to the \$5,000 raised in the community, enabled the installation of 6 security cameras in the village. Only the NZ Police have access to this footage but I have been advised the number plate recognition technology has been used multiple times. This information is not used to check vehicle Registration or WOF status.

The other TDC grant was for \$3,000 which has enabled the planting (with help from DOC - thank you Janet) of some 450 low-flammability *Griselinia littoralis* trees in the Green Break along Lodge Road. These trees are also protected by environmentally friendly protectors. Further work with the community chipper has removed high flammability mānuka/kānuka from Ward Street (with lots more to go).

We also won a National Kia Tika Award (Doing the Right Thing) from Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) for the work we have done as a community and Volunteer Fire Brigade to protect our village from fire risk. Last November when Wattie Mortimer and myself accepted the award in Christchurch from FENZ CEO Rhys Jones on behalf of the Fire Brigade and the wider community, we acknowledged the assistance we had received from TDC.

When you have the opportunity to communicate with our Ward Councillor and Deputy Mayor Stuart Bryant or Councillor Christeen McKenzie, please be sure to express your thanks for this vital assistance.

Robbie Thomson
Chairperson
Rotoiti District Community Council



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 2pm

Local Spirit-led Christian worship, equipping and encounter.

Contact Nigel & Sarah Calder 0274413776 for details.

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

Time to get your groove on for some community roller skating at Tahunanui roller rink 23rd July, 7-8.30pm



Theme: Disco

Gold coin donations appreciated



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

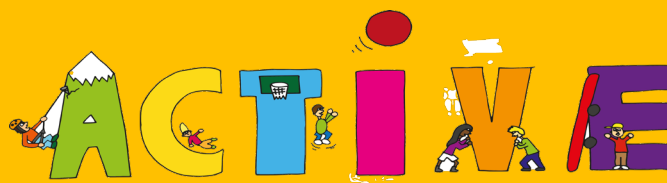
Shane Steel

027 320 2335

shane@agoodelectrician.co.nz

Servicing St Arnaud and greater Tasman district

BE GET STAY



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

Badminton / table tennis

Community Hall on Wednesdays at 7pm

All welcome – rackets available. Gold coin donation towards hall and shuttle cocks.

Nicky or Ed Shaw 521 1106

Pilates

Community Hall on Thursdays at 5pm. Contact Lisa
021 202 4034

Seido-Karate

Community Hall

Tuesdays 6pm - kids & beginners

Thursdays 6 pm – General Class

Graeme 021 0859 4088. Gold coin donation

PLAYGROUP

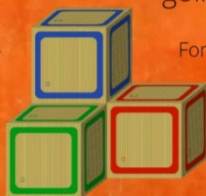


Playgroup meets Tuesday mornings
10am - 12pm at the community hall, all
preschoolers welcome.

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



For any inquiries please contact
Kirsten on 0220445829



Annual Blue Duck midwinter swim

19 June 12pm

East jetty in Kerr Bay – for both locals and visitors and you
don't have to be nude!



St Arnaud Community Potluck Dinner

Saturday 2 July
5pm
Community Hall

All are welcome but space is limited to 200
Please text / ring to book a spot

RSVP before: 23 June 2022

Linda: 027 375 8178

Deb: 027 314 2251

Raffles and prizes on the night
\$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5
All proceeds to the pool changing sheds

Please bring:

- sweet or savoury food to share
- Crockery, cups & cutlery
- drinks
- cash