

Lake Rotoiti Community News

16 May 2022

Deadline for next issue:
Friday 27 May 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



Lake Rotoiti School News

The term has started quietly, everyone has settled back into our routines. The children have been enjoying the autumn leaves in the playground. Lots of raking and throwing has been going on. We now had a couple of crisp, frosty mornings and we are thankful for our warm classrooms.

Last week we were lucky enough to be invited to a pōwhiri down at the lakefront to welcome the first of hopefully many kiwi to be released in the National Park. We would like to thank Friends of Rotoiti, the Department of Conservation, and Ngati Apa for thinking of and inviting us to this special occasion.

This term as part of the social sciences curriculum, we will look into relationships between people and places. We will make full use of our environment here and will be

Coming up

Monday & Wednesday - Circuit Training & Exercise Group @ 10 am
Community Hall - phone
Gael 0272805078

Tuesday - Play Group @
Community Hall 10 - 12
pm phone Kirsten 022 044
5829

Thursday - Pilates @
Community Hall 5 pm -
contact Lisa 021 202 4034

Tuesday & Thursday - Seido-Karate @
Community Hall 6 -7 pm,
Contact Graeme 0210 859
4088 for more information

Sunday - Lake Rotoiti Chapel @ 10.30 am,
Everyone welcome.

Thursday & Sunday - Rotoiti Hub @ 3 pm
Phone Nigel and Sarah
0274 413 776 or Jane
0273 328 096

NEW 24 May - FREE St John Pediatric Training: @
10 am - 12 pm Lake Rotoiti
Community Hall. For more
information phone Marg 0274
172 690 Everyone
Welcome. :

NEW: 11 May - Rainbow Sport Club AGM @ 5.30 pm
The Sands Brewery Bar,
Tahunanui.

NEW: 18 June - Rainbow Sports Club "Snowball" @
The Playhouse Theatre, 6
pm until late, \$50 per
head includes a rolling
nibbles meal and
entertainment - tickets
from Eventfinda.

studying the life cycle of eels and a native bird, and how we relate to them. This year is also the first year Matariki is an official public holiday and we can't wait to celebrate it in a few weeks. We will also hold a quiz night for this occasion in term 3, so keep your eyes open for more information.

The school is currently looking for a new music teacher for one on one lessons with the children. Ideally we would like to offer guitar, piano, and brass lessons. But we are happy to consider anything. If you are interested, please contact Mike Allen for more information.

And lastly, we would like to give a massive thank you to Gordie Taylor and his family. They have donated a 16ft Hobie Catamaran to be used for the Sailing Club. This is a fantastic boat and the children (and the parents) will get so much out of it. We would also like to thank Rural Women for their generous donation of \$1000 towards our new changing sheds for our school pool.

DOC News

Two great spotted kiwi/rooa were added to the Nelson Lakes National Park kiwi population in early May as part of increasing the genetic diversity of the population.

It had been planned to relocate 10-12 kiwi from the Gunner Downs area of Kahurangi National Park to the Nelson Lakes Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project areas this month but moving further kiwi has been postponed till next year after kiwi in the area proved unexpectedly difficult to catch.

DOC Nelson Lakes Senior Biodiversity Ranger Dr Melissa Griffin says an experienced kiwi catching team spent three days and two nights in the Gunner Downs area working on catching kiwi. A particular combination of difficult terrain and unusual bird behaviours made the catching conditions unexpectedly difficult.

"While it's unfortunate not to have been able to release as many birds as planned, it's a start in bringing more kiwi to Nelson Lakes to get the minimum 40 founder birds needed for genetic diversity to make the population sustainable. In addition to the kiwi from Gunner Downs, it is planned to catch and relocate 8-10 rooa from the Ugly River area of Kahurangi in autumn next year.

The iwi that were pivotal to assessing the translocation proposal, Ngāti Waewae and Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, organised a pōwhiri for the birds at Kerr Bay beside Lake Rotoiti. "It was a lovely ceremony appreciated by the Rotoiti community, including Lake Rotoiti School. "

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō has given names to the two kiwi released at Lake Rotoiti – a male named Ngā Ararau and a female named Mahara. Ngā Ararau is named after the whakatauki Nga ararau a Kehu, the many paths of Kehu. Mahara is named as a tribute to Mahara Gilseman, a former Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō employee and iwi member.

Great spotted kiwi/rooa were first relocated from Kahurangi National Park to Nelson Lakes in 2004, with 16 adult birds released over two years to return a rooa population to the area.

This kiwi relocation was facilitated by the Friends of Rotoiti, with funding it received from the DOC Community Fund, and from Save our Iconic Kiwi. Friends of Rotoiti chairperson, Wayne Sowman, is one of a small team of volunteers who along with DOC rangers, are fully involved in the day-to-day monitoring of the birds. "It is nearly breeding season, so we hope that these birds will find their new surroundings comfortable enough to make the most of the season. It will be a couple of weeks before we can be sure that they have settled in alright."

Pictures: Photo credit Naomi Aporo-Manihera



Request for information re old Lake Boat

There is apparently a long narrow boat ?circa 1940's with a very early outboard attached, sitting in a shed somewhere on the peninsular. According to sketchy information, the boat hasn't been out of the shed for 25+ years. The boat maybe (but not confirmed) the one shown in the accompanying picture.

The information would be very valuable to contribute to a history of old Lake boats that Annette Walker is working on. If you have any information whatsoever either regarding the boats in the picture, or regarding the boat apparently stored somewhere on the peninsula, such information would be greatly received. Should you have any information, please phone or email Brent Higgins on 03 5481934 or E: jbandsjh@gmail.com Many thanks



**Cedar Hot Tub for sale
in St Arnaud.
Good working order
Open to offers
Ph Ben 021 743 719**



**The annual Blue Duck Nude Midwinter Swim
is to be on Sunday 19 June at 12.00 noon at
the east jetty in Kerr Bay. It's for both locals
and visitors and you don't have to be nude.**



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

Plumbing - Gasfitting - Drainlaying

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03 543 8090 or 0800 301507

info@tuffnell.co.nz

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their continued support"***



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M: (021) 566 645

E: julianmcgaveston@icloud.com

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

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



Dry kindling ready now - big banana boxful for \$10

Dry firewood is still available (Beech, Douglas Fir & Pine) but will run out before the end of Winter

Blue gum is currently being split for next season

Dry & Green Firewood ~ Beech, Bluegum, Douglas Fir, Pine
DIY Wood ~ Logs of Beech & Pine, Bundles of Douglas Fir
Fresh Birchfield Coal

Garden Goodies ~ Fish Grow Compost, Barley Straw, Pea Straw, Linseed Straw (long-term weed suppression, birds don't remove it), Bark Nuggets/Chips, Sawdust

Hire ~ Tractor, Tip Truck, Logging Truck & Trailer, Woodsplitters

LONGFORD FIREWOOD

Ph: 0800 566 436 or Hamish: 027 279 8224

Monday to Friday - 8am to 5pm (call, text or email first)

Weekends by appointment

E: campbellscreak@farmside.co.nz

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

Sundays 10.30am. Lake Rotoiti Chapel, Rotoiti St, St. Arnaud.

Everyone welcome, services are non-denominational and run by locals. Contact Ali/Sue 035211110/ 0212660771

Thursdays and Sundays 3pm. Rotoiti Hub.

Holy Spirit led worship, encounter, revelation and ministry. Contact Nigel/