

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 16th Feb 2024

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



Lake Rotoiti School News

Kia ora koutou,

We welcome Xavier, Maggie and Poppy Le Prou, Frankie, Charli and Lucca Berryman, and Ava Gordon to the school. Our starting roll this year is 23 children: 12 Senior and 11 Junior. The Board continue to fund Miriam in the Junior classroom as we need a roll of 26 students to receive full funding from the Government.

There is a very busy and exciting term planned with gold panning, Outdoor Education Centre activities, Sailing, Walks, Beeby's hut clean-up, Yoga and Ballet in the mix. Swimming lessons have already started, and we are beginning to prepare for a Swimming Sports day. Camp this year is to be held after Easter and we are going to Kaikoura to study rockpool life, go whale watching and seal watching, visit the saltworks, go on walks, and complete a history study in the Kaikoura Museum. Children will be returning from Kaikoura to Blenheim in the train, where the school buses will be waiting to whisk them back to school. We will also be starting rehearsals for our school production at the end of Term 2. Of course, there is the regular classroom programme as well.

You would have noticed the school is all decked out in its new colours and logos. Stan, Simon and Paul have been working hard with the painting work and Jack installed the new signage and repaired the trampoline pit among other things.

In addition, we have finally commissioned the changing rooms. While the exterior cladding is not yet on, the interior is complete and able to be used.

Coming Up:

Fri 9th & 10th Feb - Tuna e Hoe Waka Ama Event @ Kerr Bay
<https://maitahi-outrigging.org.nz/>

Sun 11th Feb 9am-12pm – Green Break Working Party
Contact: Robbie Thomson
0212950305 – more info below.

2-3 March 2024 - NZ Antique & Classic Boat Show, 9 - 4 pm
- more info
<https://nzclassicboats.com>

9 - 10 March 2024 - NZ Power Boad Regatta @ Lake Rotoiti - more info will follow

23 March 2024 - Loop the Lake **Sold Out with 400 Trailrunners signed on for the 25 km circuit of Lake Rotoiti**.
Join the waiting list at nelsonevents.co.nz and keep training as you could be in luck with last minute cancellation **more info**
<https://nelsonevents.co.nz>

Photos:

Tui, D. Price.
Birdsnest Fungus, B Cameron
Kotuku, D O'Connor.

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

Lake Rotoiti Community News

It has been a very busy time for Fred, and we really appreciate his work to build the shed in time for the start of the year. We really don't want to encourage rabbits, birds or various rodents to occupy the space so please leave it tidy and close the doors before going home.

Our new mural has received an honourable mention in the Resene Mural competition. Go to <https://www.resene.co.nz/competition/murals/gallery-2023.htm> to see the notable entrants. Congratulations to Essie for her fine work.

On Thursday we began our evening sailing and barbecue with a great turnout of about 20 children and 15 adults. At one point we had 5 yachts in action and some children having rides on the biscuit. It was a fantastic evening, and everyone had a lot of fun. We are so fortunate to have such a supportive and engaged community.



As usual we will have the food tent up for the Classic Boats and Powerboat races. If you can help in any way Dominique, Andrea or Ina would love to hear from you.

This is our major fundraising endeavour. It raises enough money for our children to engage in most of the outdoor activities that we make available. Because of this we don't have to ask parents to pay for activities or make a school donation.

In 2024 it is the 75 th anniversary of the school. We will be holding a celebration during Labour Weekend 2024, and we are calling for any stories that you might have of your past experiences at the school. We have a small committee headed by Ingrid and Alistair who are starting to put things together. Please send anything to Dominique or Mike to pass on to our archivist for publication. mike.allen@lakerotoiti.school.nz or dominique@lakerotoiti.school.nz

Alistair Nicholls has kindly volunteered to coordinate the event, and Ingrid McConochie is sifting through the archives to write a small history of the school. If they shoulder tap you to help them, please say yes. If you or anyone you know might like to attend, please contact the office to register interest.

Nga mihi,
Mike and Miriam.





February marks the start of a busy season of events on Lake Rototiti. Firstly, the Lake Rotoiti Waka Ama Festival on the 9th and 10th February followed by the annual NZ Antique and Classic Boat Show in its 24th year this March. The Rotoiti Power Boat Club will hold its annual event on Saturday 9th March and Sunday 10th March between the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm. Parking at the DOC Visitor Centre for these events is not permitted.

The power boat event attracts a large crowd and noise from the event can travel across the lake and surrounding valleys. Event management will take place at Kerr Bay. Public access remains open, however traffic, carparking and noise levels will be much higher than usual. Recreational walking, boating and beach access can be accessed more readily at West Bay during these busy event weekends.

Fish Passage project work coming to St Arnaud

As part of our Freshwater Improvement Fund work to improve fish diversity and abundance across Tasman, we are pleased to let residents know that the next phase of our Fish Passage Programme is coming to Tophouse/St Arnaud from next week.

The Tasman Jobs for Nature Fish Passage Project is running until June 2026 assessing and carrying out simple structure 'fixes' to make them fish friendly.

This five year project is all about making Tasman waterways passable for our native fish! With the support of landowners across the district, we will enable them to complete their natural life cycles.

Our shift to Tophouse and St Arnaud represents a continuation of our efforts in other parts of the district, with fish in Golden Bay, Moutere, Tapawera and Waimea already enjoying waterways that are easier to navigate.

From a local perspective, our fish passage work follows efforts undertaken to create a natural wetland at the Parker wetland, just a stone's throw from Lake Rotoiti

project is one of the first natural wetlands funded by the Jobs for Nature programme to protect and enhance native wetlands in our district.

However, this is the first time the fish passage assessment/remediation supplier will be working in your area.

One key focus of this project is to support private landowners by assessing any in-stream structures (such as culverts) and completing remediation when required and within the scope of the project funding.

This project is funded by Tasman District Council, the Ministry of Environment with the support of local iwi – in the hope of assessing all structures on private land in the district by June 2026.

If you have an in-stream structure on your land, a team of fish passage experts from Kūmānu Environmental are visiting private land to help connect waterways and will be in touch with landowners in the coming days to see how they can help.

This work is completely free to landowners and is generally simple to carry out.

The team looks at in-stream structures to see if fish can pass through. If they can't, or are unlikely to, they try and 'fix' any issues.

By adding materials that reduce water speed and create surfaces for fish to swim or climb over, we can have a positive impact on the success of fish migration.

What's involved?

- Potential in-stream structures are identified using aerial maps.
- The field team contacts the landowner to explain the project and arrange a site visit.
- The field team assess any structures to see if they meet the scope of the project (i.e. partial/full barrier).

For more information contact:
fishpassage@kumanuenviro.co.nz or
freshwaterimprovement@tasman.govt.nz

**GreenBreak Working Party Sunday
11th of Feb, 9 to 12. All welcome.**

We will be chipping branches already cut and clearing edges of the break.

Something for everyone!

If too wet, cancellation by email Sunday 8am or a notice posted at the start of Lodge Rd

Any questions call Robbie Thomson 021 2950305



Free Delivery in St Arnaud

Paul 0212644207

Simon 021511955

Qualified builder

Available for jobs

in the St Arnaud area

Call Jack

027 714 9234

Wasp poisoning is about to happen (between mid January to end of February) through the Village and at various other places. More information is available at the DOC Visitor Centre, St Arnaud.

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup meets Thursday 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



**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"*



LOCAL HAPPY St.Arnaud CHICKEN EGGS!

Order your weekly EGGS:

\$10 dozen : Pick up from Main Road Box

Turn Off to Nelson.

Email : koru@nym.hush.com

Mmm- yummy omelet!

Holistic Herbal Consultations

**custom tea blends to support
immunity, sleep, energy, child
and baby, and women's health**

**contact Certified Herbalist
Ashton Reid**

022 525 7871

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

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

BE | GET | STAY

Regular activities in and around St Arnaud

Monday and Wednesday 10am Casual exercise group. Community Hall. Gold coin koha. Julie 0272385597

Mondays 7pm Badminton. \$3 per person to go towards hall and shuttle-cocks. Racquets available, all welcome! Ed 03 5211106

Seido-Karate

Community Hall

Tuesdays 5pm - kids & beginners

Thursdays 5pm – General Class

Graeme 021 0859 4088. Gold coin donation

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).



Local Carpenter now available for all your building requirements
Design work, estimates, at no charge
10 year Halo Guarantee for new builds

*Design by inspiration
Built with love and care by Santosh*

Call Santosh: 021323228
or
Email: livingspacenz@yahoo.co.nz