

# Lake Rotoiti Community News

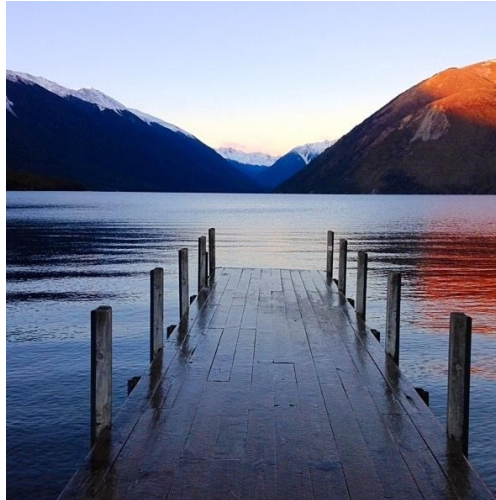
5 April 2020

Deadline for next issue:  
Friday 10 April 2020

Please send your newsletter items to  
[rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.lakerotoiti.school.nz/newsletters)



Coming up

... not much,  
unless it's at your  
house 😊



Please read the attachment from Nelson Lakes Civil Emergency Management... keep everyone healthy and safe... thank you



Nicolas Diaz



Rachel Lamborn

We'd love to print your photos here. Send to  
[rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto:rotoitinews@gmail.com)

### Rotoiti School News

In 1898 a British Parliamentarian claimed that there was an ancient Chinese curse which says "May he live in interesting times." The same person went on to say "Like it or not, we live in interesting times. They are times of danger and uncertainty; but they are also the most creative of any time in the history of mankind."

While we are stuck at home, there are many people taking the opportunity to be creative – some of the Facebook posts have been truly incredible and some of the things our families have been doing to maintain interest have been equally creative.

I believe that many children have, for the first time, the total attention and engagement of their parents. This has to be a good thing for our society. In addition, I have noticed the return of the community spirit in Christchurch that was present during the earthquake crises. This is the spirit that drew my wife and me to St Arnaud.

School starts officially on Wednesday 15 April using online learning. All things going well we will be back on site at school on Wednesday 22 April – if not we will carry on using the internet.

Keep being creative, stay warm, stay safe and hopefully we will be out and about soon.

Mike Allen  
Principal



Congratulations to Jacqui & Kerry Stratford on their 50 years of marriage who were married in Stoke on 28 March and honeymooned at the batch "Cram Um"



Hi Everyone,

Just a quick note to let you all know that our hours at the **St Arnaud Alpine Store** from Monday onwards will be back to **8am -8pm 7 days a week**. If anything changes during these trying times, we will endeavour to let you all know as soon as possible.

We also have an option for locals that wish to make private grocery orders through us; we can take grocery, bread, milk, seasonal fruit & vegetable orders with approximate delivery days being Monday, Wednesday & Fridays, this of course can be dependent on items being in stock with the suppliers, with everything going on at present & the demand on certain items being higher than usual, they may not be available immediately, we will certainly do our best for you all though.

We really appreciate your patience & support.

You can call us on 03 5211854 with any questions or to make an order, payment will be discussed at the time of order.

We will still be keeping the store well stocked with our regular items, however if there is anything you need that you don't see on our shelves, please just let us know, we are always happy to help, if we can!

Please note that during Level 4 lockdown, it is a one in, one out policy in store.

Our staff & customers health & wellbeing is important to us, so please at the advice of the NZ Government & MOH, shop wisely for essentials, send one person from your household (Bubble) to shop, only touch what you intend to buy. Use Paywave or Eftpos where possible & call us first before popping in if you are unsure we have something available.

Many thanks,  
Naveen & the Alpine Store Team.



We are very fortunate to live on the edge of the public conservation lands. To get our exercise and 'out into nature' wellbeing fixes are very easy for us. Chances are that when you do see others out there you will know them. This is no time for a close-up chat however – maybe from a distance of 4 or 5 metres – but no closer. Socially connected but physically distant needs to be the rule.

You might have seen that mountain bike parks close to town and at Kaiteriteri have been closed to riders, but still open for walkers. This is because the bike parks offer challenge and adrenaline as much as exercise and the emergency services, medical centres and hospitals cannot afford to be tied up rescuing and fixing up people who have hurt themselves. It's the same reason that tramping and hunting and all water sports are prohibited.

With this concern, I have closed the Teetotal MTB bike tracks on the hill to all riding. The lower tracks on the flats – Skating Pond Loop and Rattler Rim and the Village Link track to access Teetotal are still open to riding but please ride conservatively. There are not a lot of people around, so it is easy enough to ride on your own or with your 'bubble mates'.

You will see some new DOC 'closed' signs around the place. I have supplied these to Russell Ferens who kindly put them up where the occasional visitor may look to camp or park up while going for an extended or overnight tramp – both of which are prohibited under alert level 4.

The reality is that only people who have been up here since the start of the lockdown should be here now and no more. The Murchison and highway police have spoken to a few who have had other ideas. Hopefully those few have now taken this on board and will stay in town.

Noho ora mai (Stay well, look after yourself)

John Wotherspoon  
DOC Operations Manager



The Rotary Club of Whakatu and Rotoiti Lodge Outdoor Education Centre regret to inform that you of the postponement of the lodge open day on Sunday 5 April. This is due to public health concerns related to the current coronavirus pandemic scare.

Rotary and Rotoiti Lodge Outdoor Education Centre take health and safety very seriously and to that end have reached the difficult decision to postpone the event until it is safe to hold it. While we are disappointed not to be able to show off our fabulous lodge refurbishment and upgrade, we want to keep everyone safe.

We will be back in touch with you in due course and will look forward to welcoming you to Rotoiti Lodge to share in this wonderful community project.

Karen Stade  
President  
Rotary Club of Whakatu  
Education

Russell Ferens  
Manager  
Rotoiti Lodge Outdoor  
Centre

# RAEWARD fresh

...are now taking orders by sending your shopping list to email [richmond@raewardfresh-si.co.nz](mailto:richmond@raewardfresh-si.co.nz) and advise if you would like them to pick and pack your order ready for collection or delivery. In your email include your name, contact number of full shopping list (quantities, brand preferences etc.) One of the staff will complete the shopping and get in touch with the total cost – for payment they can either take credit card over the phone or on pick up.

Any questions, contact by email or phone  
03 5440824.

*Mark the Postie will advise if he is able to pick up*





## A word from your car while in lockdown

Hello all car owners

While in lockdown your car is probably not getting its usual use. So please take a few minutes and just check a few things:

1. Traps and baits, rodents are very happy to call your car home so when you open the bonnet to check water and oil have a look for nests and chewings. If parked in a garage leaving the bonnet open is a good deterrent!

But I suggest a bait or a trap placed under the car and or in the car by where your feet go works well.

2, Tyre pressures, a gauge is best, but at very least walk around your car and look at the tyres, checking for a flat.

3, Water and oil check, yes please.

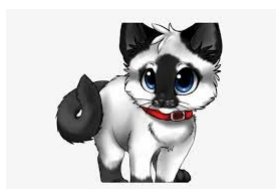
4, Flat batteries....running your car DON'T do this if in an enclosed space.

Most cars don't mind being left un-started for a few weeks, but if your car does flatten the battery if left, you can take the keys out of the car and then disconnect the negative battery terminal or ...

If in a well ventilated area you can run your car but keep it running at least until the heater is blowing hot air, any less and you're doing more harm than good.

If worried about any of this please feel free to ring and discuss with your mechanic.

Alistair Nicholls



Please keep a lookout for my lost cat. Last seen down by Dine Hard Cafe. Very special kitty as we enter him into shows. His name is Tinkles.

Reward offered.

Please ph Jonny Christie 0273844464



## An update on the current fire restrictions situation in Nelson /Tasman:

Nelson Tasman CDEM has implemented a ban on fires in the open air under Sec 91 of the CDEM Act. Essentially if it isn't fully enclosed and doesn't have a chimney then don't light it.

What we want to prevent is Volunteers getting turned out to smoke sightings / controlled burns and risking exposure to themselves and those in their family bubble

Recent small rains have greened things up a bit but it's still very dry with only 30% of our normal rainfall to date this year.

Marlborough Rural Fire District is still has a Prohibited fire season under FENZ legislation for banning of fires still in place there due to it still being very dry there.

## LRVFF Response Capability

We currently are still able to provide full emergency capability to emergencies although we have split into separate rostered crews (bubbles) to reduce the risk of full exposure to the brigade.

We also have sufficient PPE to respond to medical emergencies should the need arise.

So technically its business as usual although expect to see smaller number of crew respond in the first instance and additional crew members only turn out if the incident requires it.

If you have any questions regarding fire restrictions then please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Regards, Wattie Mortimer  
Property Co Ordinator – Tasman/Malb/West Coast  
FENZ Fire Permitting Officer - Tasman Zone 8  
Controller - Lake Rotoiti Volunteer Fire Force  
P 0224928841 – [watson.mortimer@fireandemergency.nz](mailto:watson.mortimer@fireandemergency.nz)

Hi folks

Mark your postie here again. Many of you have tried the Countdown online service to be disappointed. Either you have a week's wait or can't get on due to the fact they have shut down the site for a period of time.

I have sourced another option at the Wakefield 4 Square. Ruth has been awesome to deal with and wants to help.

Also My Food Bag and Bargain Box are no longer options unless you've been a previous customer. They have had an enormous influx of orders and won't be taking on any new customers.

For Wakefield 4 Square orders: Send an email to [ruth.bell@foursquare-si.co.nz](mailto:ruth.bell@foursquare-si.co.nz) with your Name, Address, Contact phone number and then list what you want. Ruth will contact you if there is something they can't supply.

The Milk and Wakefield Pharmacy options are going great. Just let me know if you have any thoughts on how I can help.

**Contact Mark on 021954784, 03 5466295 or [The.gills@xtra.co.nz](mailto:The.gills@xtra.co.nz)**

### Contributing to the newsletter

Please send your contributions in the following formats:

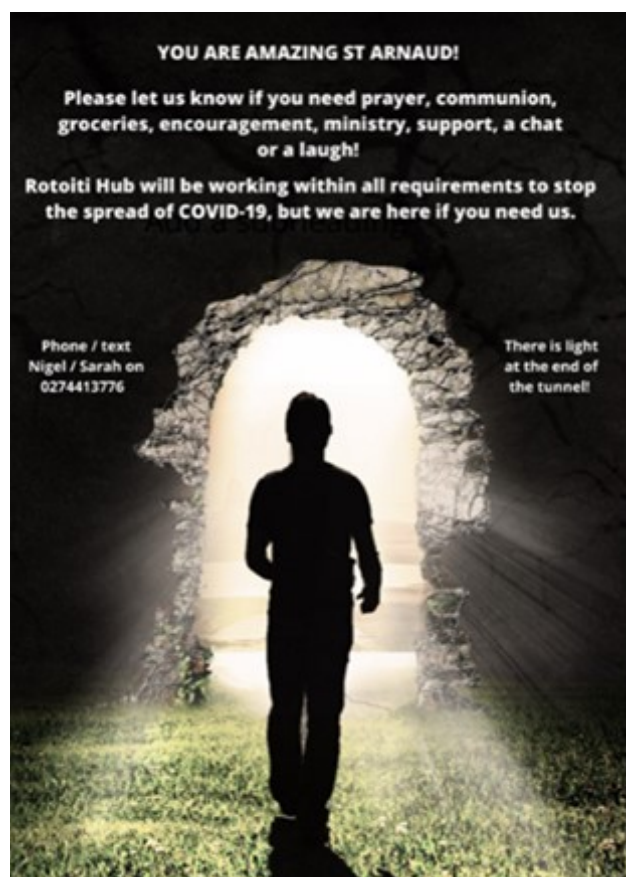
Advertising and notices sized to fit the newsletter columns. Accepted formats: MSWord, PDF or JPG.

Full page ads incur a fee - \$30 (b&w) or \$70 (colour). This is a contribution towards photocopying costs. 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).

Contacting us: email [rotoitinews@gmail.com](mailto:rotoitinews@gmail.com) with any questions



### **Rotoiti Property Maintenance**

- Landscaping & Design
- Gardening
- Tree & Hedge Trimming
- General Property Maintenance
- Light General Engineering
- Water Engineering and Irrigation
- Vespex Wasp Control



**Phone: Richard Thoms  
03 5211 083 or 021 288 6664**

# Nelson lakes Civil Defense Emergency Management (CDEM)

Unite  
against  
COVID-19



Well we have made it through the first 10 days of level 4 lock down. I know that this has produced challenges for all of us around how we socialise, work, shop and spend our free time.

On Saturday Dr Ashley Bloomfield announced that he had issued a Section 70(1)(f) Health Act Order, this came into effect 1800hrs 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020. This order has further clarified what you can and can't do and has also given the police guidance on enforcing it. More information can be found at

<https://www.police.govt.nz/news/release/additional-guidelines-alert-level-4-rules-0> and

<https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/Legislation-and-key-documents/COVID-19-Section-701f-Notice-to-all-persons-in-New-Zealand-3-April-2020-v2.PDF>

I have also asked the editor/s to attach a copy to this newsletter.

I would like to thank you all for way in which you have adapted to the sudden change and the manner in which you have just got on with it. There have been few bumps along the way but all and all, you have helped to make the past week not so hard from a Civil Defence Emergency Management point of view.

Unfortunately, though we have the reoccurring issue of a small number of people choosing to split their time between the family home and the Bach at the Lake. This is prohibited under the Level 4 lock down and has been publicly held up as an example of prohibited activity by the Government at media conferences and through advertising. This is classed as unnecessary travel and aids in the spread of Covid 19. If you are aware of anyone choosing to do this please let me know and also complete the [105.police@govt.nz](mailto:105.police@govt.nz) form.

The trick now is to keep up the good work and not let the 10 days that has passed be in vain. Remember we need to isolate and stay in our bubble, but this doesn't mean that we can't still be sociable we just need to do it in a different manner. I had coffee with a friend the other day over skype and have heard of family's having dinner over skype as well. Don't panic though it doesn't have to be that complex, we can still phone and text each other or have a conversation with the neighbours over the fence or at the end of the driveway we just need to remember that we need to maintain distance. You may also be surprised at the amount of joy that receiving a simple letter in the post brings.

## Other helpful Information

- For urgent welfare assistance (food, clothing etc.) – please call 0800 50 50 75 (hotline for Nelson Tasman residents)
- Are you worried about price gouging? Please send through any reports (photos or receipts) of price gouging and it will be investigated: send to [pricewatch@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:pricewatch@mbie.govt.nz)
- The government has relaxed its definition of an essential service to include stores that sell blankets, heaters, kitchenware and appliances, whiteware, computer equipment, and mobile phones. Details can be found on [COVID19.govt.nz](https://covid19.govt.nz)
- If you see groups of people or want to report someone (or a business) not self-isolating, then please use the online form at [police.govt.nz/105support](https://police.govt.nz/105support)

# Nelson lakes Civil Defense Emergency Management (CDEM)

**Unite  
against**  
COVID-19



- Covid19.govt.nz has the latest information, and it is updated daily. The DHB are posting daily updates as well on <https://www.nmdhb.govt.nz/quicklinks/about-us/emergency-management-and-planning/covid-19/> (relating to Nelson Tasman specifics)

As before to contact the Nelson Lakes Civil Defence Emergency Management Team please email [nlcdem@yahoo.com](mailto:nlcdem@yahoo.com).

If you are aware of day trippers coming to the Lake, hunters coming out or similar please feel free to contact me or if you just want to have a chat, 5211828

Remember, be kind. This a hard time for all of us.

Russell Ferens and The Team  
Nelson Lakes  
Civil Defense Emergency Management