

Deadline for next issue:
Friday 8th November 2019

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

Learning at the Kura

Our focus this term is shifting into being Kaitiaki of the kura - Guardians of the Kura. We spent Term 1 and 2 inquiring into what makes Lake Rotoiti School special. In term 3, plants were the theme, where we carried out research into growth cycles. This term we will put the research into practice, developing some visual artwork around the kura and developing a planting programme. We would thoroughly love some support with our planting day - please contact us if you can help in any way.

Book Character Day and Quiz night

The date for this has been locked in for Monday November 4th. Thanks go to Page and Blackmore, who will again be the hosts, this year setting up at The Alpine Lodge. We plan to do a parade to the Lodge at 11.00. We invite all the community to join us, including preschoolers. (They can be in costume if they wish). Each year we complete Book Character Day with an evening Quiz. This year it will be held at the Alpine Lodge, starting at 6.00pm. We are opening Quiz evening up to the public - so please contact the kura/school for expressions of interest. Team numbers are set for 5 to 6 players per team - come and join us and do battle against Lake Rotoiti School readers!!!

Coming up

Wednesday 30 October 7.15pm

Rotoiti District
Community Council
Meeting. DOC Meeting
Room (behind Visitor
Centre). All welcome

Thursday 31 October 10am

Kiwi Conservation Month
morning tea. DOC
meeting room

Saturday 2 November 6.30pm

Fireworks
Nicholls farm
Sue & Ali Nicholls
5211110 or
ali.sue.nicholls@gmail.com

Monday 4 November 11am - 2pm

**Lake Rotoiti School
Book Fair**
Alpine Lodge, 79 Main
Road, Saint Arnaud

29 Nov to 1 Dec

Marahau
Community weekend
Sue & Ali Nicholls 521
1110 or
ali.sue.nicholls@gmail.com

6th December 5.30pm at
Alpine Lodge; Christmas
music with Alpine Flash
Mob

For regular weekly
activities, see later in the
newsletter.

**Photo credits "Flirt" RS
Hamlett. Track, Rachel
Lamborn, Roroa, DOC.**

**We would love to
include your photos
here. Please be in touch**

Swimming Pool

We are currently in the process of getting things sorted for opening the pool this year. A date at this stage is not set but we will keep you informed. If you wish to join the pool committee, please contact Alistair.

Tennis Net

Thank you to the person who dropped off the tennis net. Brent went to set the net up but has discovered the wire structure for the net is missing - if anyone has any idea as to where this is please let the kura/school know. Hopefully we can get the net up soon and the court open!!

Police Blue Light - Youth Programme

The kura has recently connected with Marcus, the Richmond Community Police Officer. He shared some interesting information regarding the **Police Blue light - Youth Programme**. This a police charity organisation to enhance and support tamariki at risk. For more information please use search these links: <https://www.bluelight.co.nz/> <https://www.teararoa.org.nz/>.

To support Te Araroa and Bluelight, there is currently a person fundraising (arohamai/sorry I can't find the name), by walking the Te Araroa trail. He is anticipated to be in the St Arnaud area around the 13th -14th January 2020 and Marcus is looking for tamariki to be involved and walk to Lake Head Hut with him. (Complete with a free boat trip back). If you and your child/children are interested in supporting this event please contact the kura.

Our P.R.I.D.E Stars

This fortnights P.R.I.D.E stars are: Jasmine, Jessica and Ben. Antony received a Principal Award and Sophie and Max K completed being actively involved within our Kura PRIDE award.



Destination Nelson Lakes presents books to Lake Rotoiti School



Destination Nelson Lakes, the former community group, is presently being wound up.

As part of the agreed distribution of remaining funds, a recent meeting agreed to contribute \$400.00 for the purchase of library books for senior students at Lake Rotoiti School.

About 20 books – ranging from Bear Grylls' Bushcraft book to adventures on the Silk Road to computer programming and popular fiction – were presented to the senior class last week by Jan Thomson and Tracey Grose.

Jan Thomson, former DNL Chair, selected the books with help from experienced staff at Page and Blackmore Booksellers, Nelson. (They kindly gave us a nice discount so we could get a couple of extra books. Thank you!).

The senior students showed enthusiasm for the books. We hope you enjoy reading them all.

**Community Weekend
Marahau**

Fri 29 Nov to Sun 1 Dec 2019

**Family fun weekend for all the
community.**

Beach, sun, fun, food, friends repeat!!!!

All welcome.

**More information contact Sue & Ali
Nicholls 521 1110 or
ali.sue.nicholls@gmail.com**



The (short) story of kiwi at Rotoiti

October is Save the Kiwi Month. What better time to remember the history of kiwi at Nelson Lakes?

Friends of Rotoiti volunteers and DOC staff remember the days – not so long ago, really – when no kiwi lived in Nelson Lakes National Park. The last kiwi had been killed, probably by a stoat, years earlier.

Great spotted kiwi could finally be released in Nelson Lakes again after several years of hard work by Friends of Rotoiti and DOC staff undertaking trapping and baiting to reduce predator (stoats!) numbers.

During May 2004 nine adult great spotted kiwi (roroa, *Apteryx haastii*) were transferred from the Goulard Downs (North-west Nelson) to the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project (RNRP) area, a “mainland island” in Nelson Lakes National Park.

This first reintroduction was a milestone for kiwi management and for the RNRP: the first ‘wild to wild’ re-introduction of adult great spotted kiwi to an unfenced mainland site to be adequately monitored and documented; and the first reintroduction of a protected species to the RNRP.

The reintroduction of great spotted kiwi to the RNRP recovery area follows thousands of hours of research, monitoring and pest control undertaken by the RNRP team and volunteers since its inception in 1997.

Since that time, about 20 great spotted kiwi have been translocated from the West Coast and Kahurangi, with the help of Friends of Rotoiti, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Ngāti Waewae, and other DOC staff. About 10 kiwi have been hatched and raised by these re-introduced birds.

Get to know the roroa / great spotted kiwi

- Great spotted kiwi/roroa are a large grey mottled kiwi endemic to New Zealand’s South Island.
- As with all kiwi species, adult females are larger than adult males.
- Female great spotted kiwi can reach 4.5kg weight in cool upland areas, making them the largest kiwi; however, males are usually no heavier than 3kg.
- All kiwi species are more or less nocturnal and feed mostly on invertebrates by probing in litter or soil.
- Great spotted kiwi apparently consume more seeds and leaves than other kiwi species.

- The great spotted kiwi can produce no more than one chick per year.
- Females lay a single egg between mid-winter and mid-summer and will seldom replace this if it fails during incubation.
- The male incubates the egg during the day and part of the night, but the female incubates for about five hours during the night while the male takes time off to feed.
- The egg is incubated for about 70 days before hatching.
- Great spotted kiwi utilise a variety of forest, scrub and grassland habitats from warm lowlands to the cool alpine zone.

This article is based on the Paul Gasson’s report *‘Translocation of great spotted kiwi/roa (*Apteryx haastii*) to Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project’* (2005).



You are invited to join
Friends of Rotoiti and DOC staff
to celebrate

The Great Kiwi Morning Tea
in support of ‘Save the Kiwi Month’

Thursday 31 October
10:00am
DOC meeting room

Donations of baking will be appreciated.



Gold coin donation goes
to ‘Kiwis for kiwi’.

Kiwis for kiwi™ is a national charity that raises and distributes funds to kiwi conservation projects across New Zealand. Established in October 2012, it continues more than two decades of work to help protect kiwi and the places they live.

Kiwis for kiwi operates in partnership with DOC with a shared vision to take kiwi from endangered to everywhere. Kiwis for kiwi has distributed more than \$7 million to kiwi conservation groups across the country.

The Great Kiwi Morning Tea is
sponsored nationally by Ti Ora Teas.
Samples will be available to try.



Page and Blackmore Booksellers St Arnaud Book Fair.

Here's an excerpt from the Page and Blackmore newsletter:

All schools are special, some are exceptional.

When Lake Rotoiti school contacted us a few years ago, asking if they could bring the entire school to the shop for the students to each choose a book, we of course said yes. I was so impressed with the visit – the students' keen book knowledge, their manners and good spirits - I wrote to the school afterwards commending them on their students.

Last year the school asked if we would be interested in having a book fair at Lake Rotoiti – and of course we said yes. We packed up a van load of books and headed off to St Arnaud for the day. The entire community supported the book fair with a steady stream of local families stopping by, plus the students, all dressed as their favourite characters, came shopping.

The visit was enormous fun and we are delighted to be invited back this year, again with a wide-ranging collection of latest titles. We shall be at the fabulous Alpine Lodge, 79 Main Road, St Arnaud, Monday Nov 4th 11am to 2pm if you happen to be in the area.

So what makes Lake Rotoiti school so exceptional? I suspect a combination of highly committed teachers, energised students, a strongly supportive community, plus the independent character required to thrive in this sometimes challenging, always spectacular location.

Bring your bags and stock up on great reading for you, your friends and family.

If you have a wish list, email us and we shall bring your selected books for you.

<https://shop.pageandblackmore.co.nz/>

Reiki I Workshop

November 10th 10am – 4.30pm

Reiki is a gentle healing modality encouraging self-healing and support of family, friends and animals.

Contact Gael Woolf 0272804078

/039700991 or Skyfarm@farmside.co.nz

Responsible Camping

Tasman District Council have developed a Draft Responsible Camping Strategy and are now seeking feedback.

Over the past few years there has been a significant increase in freedom and budget campers. This has come with challenges, including littering, waste disposal, noise, public space conflicts, safety and commercial competition concerns.

Council want to continue to be welcoming hosts to people wishing to enjoy the uniquely Tasman experience, and we expect our visitors to respect the special places and communities as they pass through.

The Draft Responsible Camping Strategy is intended to provide direction as Council manage responsible camping through regulations and by providing facilities and visitor information. It may lead to changes in the Tasman Freedom Camping Bylaw.

Now Council need to hear from you. The Draft Responsible Camping Strategy is **open for consultation until 18 November 2019**.

A summary of the Draft Responsible Camping Strategy can be viewed on website www.tasman.govt.nz/feedback or at Council offices and libraries.

If you wish to discuss any aspects of the Draft Strategy with Council staff we are holding drop-in sessions as follows:

Motueka – Wednesday 30 October 2-6pm, Motueka Office, 7 Hickmott Place, Motueka

Richmond – Monday 4 November 2-5.30pm, Richmond Mall

STUDIO TO LET

Self contained fully furnished studio in village to rent either short or long term, becoming available mid December. Suitable one person. Contact Karen to discuss availability on 021 066 7000



Rural Women invite you to sit and relax

St Arnaud's Rural Women invite you to watch the world go by from two new seats donated to the community.

The seats are in prime locations: next to the playground in Kerr Bay and on the Village Link track.

Marg Anderson, Chair of St Arnaud Rural Women, said the Kerr Bay seat is a great place to watch children in the playground, and the long view from the Village Link Track over the lake and surrounding mountains is one of the best in the area.

Member, Julie Sowman, was happy to see people sitting on the Kerr Bay seat reading books in the sun.

The seats were a donation from the management of Fulton Hogan Ltd in appreciation of the special dinners catered by St Arnaud Rural Women while they had staff in the district repairing the 'alternative highway'.

Feel free to try out the seats.



Photo Abbie West enjoying the sun at Kerr Bay



2019/2020 SUMMER OPEN DAYS

Rainbow Skifield is opening its gates to the public over the summer so you can experience this beautiful location without snow.

OPEN DATES

December 14-15, 21-22nd

January 25 - Feb 2nd February 15th - 23rd

April 24, 25, 26th

Gates open between on **0800-1600** on the selected dates. Please leave the hill at 1600, at latest.

\$20.00 per vehicle

Pay cash into the green box beside ticket windows. Funds go towards the upkeep of the road.

If you wish to leave your vehicle overnight, leave intentions with staff who will be onsite during the open days. Return on an open day between opening hours to collect your vehicle.

Event inquiries welcome (weddings, school trips/camps, photo-shoots, etc).

DOGS and DRONES ARE NOT ALLOWED ANYWHERE ON THE SITE

Please email info@skirainbow.co.nz with any questions or inquiries.

Tom Harry

Operations Manager



Julian McGaveston
Registered Electrician

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Give Us A Break! 2

Yes! We have a deal!

The Department of Conservation and your local community council (RDCC) have signed an agreement enabling the Lodge Rd "green" firebreak to proceed. (For 5 years plus right of renewal for a further 5).

It's a courageous commitment on DOCs part, enabling locals to work in the National Park modifying vegetation types to reduce fire risk. We all need to respect DOCs commitment, and the conditions of the community agreement, with the attendant health and safety procedures.

There has been a good start to the firebreak and several 20m² blocks have been cleared of dead material and selected canopy trees. This has revealed seedlings of less flammable species which now have the space and light to grow.

The work will be ongoing until conditions become too dry in summer. There are a range of jobs suitable for all levels of fitness and ability. Anyone over 18 years can help (and quite a few grandparents have already!) - from the heavier jobs of cutting and mulching, to pruning, possible propagation of local species and weeding out emergent kanuka/manuka seedlings. Even if you can help out for an hour or two it would be appreciated.

While we've been at work feedback from passersby has been interesting...most have been enthusiastic, some puzzled (hence the info notices posted around the break edge). A few have stated that it's a waste of time. One walker also has property on Durville Island and has recently set up a mobile firefighting pump/hose for the island - he understood!

Those with extensive firefighting knowledge say that the break will at least buy us time. Time is critical in a fire, both to get people out of danger and get aircraft and other firefighting equipment on site.

We may not know how effective the break will be until a fire comes through, but it's better to do something to reduce fire risk than watch that risk grow year by year. If a fire comes from the northwest it may send embers flying in to the village (remember Wakefield last year?). Or a fire may start in the village itself and radiate out.

The green firebreak is one means of reducing fuel for a fire. There are many other ways of risk reduction that are simple and effective for you, as a property owner, to carry out.

The community and DOC are looking to help protect our village, now you need to look at how you can reduce fire risk for both your own property and your neighbours.

"Give Us a Break part 3" will look at ways that you can do this while you still have time to get started before summer.

We need volunteers! If you own or use a property at St.Arnaud, are aged 18 + , please consider volunteering a few hours to helping with our community "green" fire break.

Firebreak working parties work two shifts- 9am-12, 1pm-4pm.

You can come along for half or a full day (or even just an hour or two if that's all you can manage). We do need to have an idea of numbers committing to a working session, as the mulcher is expensive to hire and needs to be picked up from Nelson each time.

Some work can be carried out outside the working party sessions.

Please consider helping- this is your chance to help your community and protect both life and property (possibly your own) in a fire. If you would like to add your name to the phone/email list please contact either Robbie (5211999) robbiethomson55@gmail.com or Wattie (022 492 8841) and we can let you know when work is happening!

Thanks to all have helped so far ☺



CARDS GALORE

Looking for cards??



I have a very large collection of quality greeting cards for sale which I have imported from the UK.

Priced from \$2.00 each.

Contact Tracy Younger on 0278927630

or tracyyounger0603@gmail.com.

Check out my website - www.tycards.online



Alpine Yoga & Massage



You may have noticed a new sign on the main road of St. Arnaud for 'Alpine Yoga and Massage.' Well, hello! I would like to introduce myself and tell you why I am here! My name is Ashton Thompson. I am originally from California but moved to St. Arnaud last year with my partner, Thomas. Throughout my life, I have experienced pain and

discomfort in my body and mind. These moments have led me into a journey of self-healing. I have studied yoga and massage as healing modalities to come into a place of acceptance, vulnerability, and flow. I understand pain and how it differs from person to person. My goal is to help you feel nourished and vibrant from the inside out. We have all had pain in our bodies at some point in our lives. Whether the trauma was caused physically or emotionally; we have all been there and as Deepak Chopra says, "The body is the place memories call home." Experiencing pain changes our nerve pathways, immune system, and our hormone levels. This affects everything in the body and in turn in the mind. Pain changes us on a molecular level. We cannot hide in the shadows when it arises. Ignoring or putting a bandaid on the situation is not sustainable because what we resist persists.

At Alpine Yoga and Massage, I offer to you the tools to allow your body to flow through the cycles of life. Massage uses touch as a way to scrape the toxins away with intention, the warmth of the hands burns away impurities, and the motions of the strokes sweep stagnation out of the body. Practicing yoga allows you to tap into your nervous system through intentionally linking together movement and breath bringing your body back to homeostasis (which is, inner harmony). Yoga and massage meet you where you are. Both modalities to healing are slow and gentle to allow you to connect inward with your body and strengthen your self-awareness.

These tools will allow you to learn how to live with patience, presence, and acceptance for what is by giving yourself time and space to process tension. It is so important to acknowledge what serves you and to clear out what does not. This state of mind allows for lighter steps and an open heart.

I cannot wait to meet you in the yoga room!



Alpine Yoga & Massage

Yoga Class Schedule	
Monday	7:00pm-8:00pm
Tuesday	
Wednesday	1:30pm-2:30pm 7:00pm-8:00pm
Thursday	
Friday	1:30pm-2:30pm
Saturday	
Sunday	6:30am-7:30am

Refer to Facebook page 'Ashton Kay Yoga' or contact Ashton for updates on schedule

Massage Pricing:

30 min: \$45

60 min: \$80

75 min: \$90

90 min: \$100

Locals get \$20 off first massage

To schedule massage or inquire about yoga

Contact Ashton

Certified Yoga Teacher and Holistic Massage Therapist

022 525 7871

Rotoiti Community Phone Directory

Available from the St Arnaud
Alpine Village Store

Cost - Donation or \$2



Lake Rotoiti Community Hall

Hi everyone. We have a beautiful new floor surface in the main hall at the Lake Rotoiti Community Hall. We are keen to keep the surface in good condition so would ask that (whenever possible) just bare feet, socks or soft soled shoes in the main hall please. If moving heavy equipment please do not drag across the floor, get someone to help you lift. If you are using the stage or other metal equipment in the hall please use a mat under them to protect the floor. There are carpet off cuts in the store room for this purpose.

Thanks for your help in keeping our hall beautiful. Any questions give me a call on 02108594088. Graeme Andrews for Hall Committee.

Working Smoke Alarm Saves Life and Property

The Lake Rotoiti Fire Brigade attended a house fire earlier this year where a working smoke alarm not only woke the occupants so they could escape but prevented significant property damage due to early detection that enabled it to be extinguished before it became more fully involved. Had this fire continued undetected for another 10 to 15mins the outcome would have been totally different. It was a real example of how working smoke alarms (even old ones) save lives and property.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand believe people's best protection is to have working long-life photoelectric smoke alarms in every bedroom, living area and hallway in their home.

These alarms provide up to 10 years of smoke detection, remove the frustration of fixing the 'flat battery beep' and mean people don't have to climb ladders every year to replace batteries and are the preferred option.

Fire and Emergency believe having any smoke alarm is better than not having them at all.



Firefighter Graeme Andrews uses a thermal imaging camera (TIC) to check for hot spots following the extinguishing of the fire

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03 5211225



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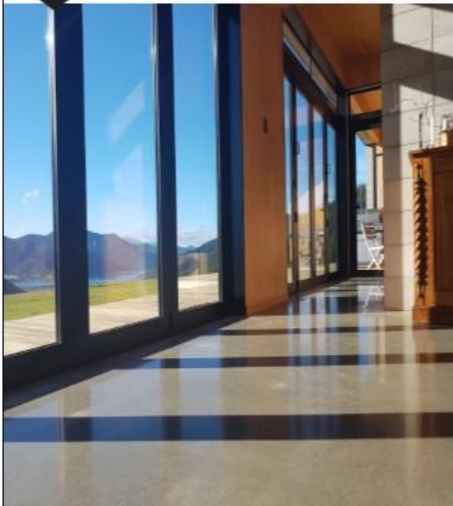


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CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEWSLETTER

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).

Contact: rotoitinews@gmail.com



Regular activities in and around St Arnaud

"Circuit Breakers" exercise group

Monday, Wednesday, Fridays 10 am,
Community Hall

All welcome, gold coin donation
Gael 0272804078,

Seido-Karate

Community Hall

Tuesdays 6pm - kids & beginners

Thursdays 6 pm – General Class

Graeme Andrews 02108594088. Gold coin donation

Yoga – all levels

At Alpine Yoga and Massage – Alpine Lodge
Ashton 022 525 7871

Craft Group

Thursday 1pm – 3.30 pm. Various venues
Bring your crafts and share with others
Jane McConochie 5211844

Te Reo (Maori Language)

Thursday 7 pm - Resuming Oct 24th
All levels welcome.

Lake Rotoiti School staff room

Sue Ford sue.ford@lakerotoiti.school.nz

Alpine Flash Mob (social singing group)

Meet last Monday of each month at Wendy Bolitho's,
19 Toutowai Place, St Arnaud.

Contact Jan Thomson 521 1999 or
www.janthomsonart@gmail.com.

Village Trapping Group – Friends of Rotoiti

Meets every second Wednesday.

DOC meeting room, 10.00am to 11.30 approx. Cuppa afterwards.

Contact Pip Berkett 27 521 1130 or Julie Robilliard
521 1874