

THE PHANTOM

Summer 2019

Waka on Lake Tarawera Nov 2019

Photo: Libby Fletcher

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From The Chair: Libby Fletcher

On a beautifully clear and still morning recently I was sitting at my desk and heard chanting out on the lake. Three waka were out with a group of local school children; this is always a sign that the holidays are rapidly approaching.

Tarawera Sewerage Scheme

On 30 October, Glenn Snelgrove and I attended a meeting at Rotorua Lakes Council to receive the Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA). Since that meeting we were advised that:

- Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) is putting together a response to the CIA recommendations – especially the feasibility of a Waste Water Treatment Plant at Tarawera
- RLC clarified with Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) that uncertainty regarding septic tanks involves 20 properties not (170) as stated in the CIA. BOPRC has taken further inspections and have issued necessary direction to

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those properties

- RLC is trying to identify a suitable time to meet with Mana Whenua to go over the CIA report and its responses. Timing at the moment is unclear.
- Following the meeting, the Project Team will convene a joint meeting to chart moving to an agreed option confirmation and means to inform the community, before detailed design commences.
- RLC will be seeking updates on this during their Draft Annual Plan

There will be an update at the AGM by Glenn Snelgrove on Sunday 12 January 2020

Power Pole Replacement

You will have noticed that work is well underway with the replacement of poles on Tarawera Road and the first part of Spencer Road.

We have been in touch with Unison Networks about undergrounding of the power poles and a representative from Unison will give us an update at the AGM.

Tarawera Pest Control Fundraising Event

On Saturday 26 October we held the Tarawera Pest Control fundraiser at Black Barn. A very big thank you to Glenn and Shelly Barbour for their generosity. The feedback that we have received has been extremely positive and we have been asked numerous times if we will be hosting further events like this—we hope so.

The only downside of the evening was the rugby score ...

We were delighted with the results of both the live and silent auctions and we raised well in excess of the \$6,000.00 that is required to provide rat traps for the foreshore along Spencer Road.

Lookout pests—you are being targeted!

Tarawera Landcare

We were very grateful to receive 500 trees from Bay of Plenty Regional Council. On the 9th November we had a planting day and with a good number of volunteers we managed to get most of the trees planted. The following day there was torrential rain, which was great, and hopefully before Christmas we will have a pipeline across Kariri Point so that we can water the trees when it is really dry. The

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Trustees were very happy for us to install the pipeline, as they said it would be terrible to see these trees die.

Transfer Station

After Labour Weekend there was a terrible mess at the transfer station and I met with Smart Environmental to find a solution to the problem of too much rubbish. They are now coming out each day to check and clear the transfer station if necessary.

There continues to be some very selfish people who think that they can dump anything there. The 24 hour service we have is for rubbish bags only – not for garden rubbish; recently one container had a huge pieces of bamboo sticking out.

I had a conversation again on Tuesday 3rd December with Smart Environmental and I was advised that a new camera is to be installed at the transfer station. This camera can be monitored 24 hours a day and there will be a facility that allows Smart to speak to anyone who is dumping rubbish illegally.

Lake Tarawera Ratepayers AGM

This will be held on Sunday 12 January, 2020 at the Community Hall starting at 10.00 am. **See further Info on Page 7. Nomination and Proxy forms on Page 8.**

We will be having an update on the Sewage Scheme; our committee looks forward to seeing you all there.

Brett Bosley (Bos)

Thank you to everyone who has written to me after the updates on Bos we have such a caring community at Tarawera, Bos remains very positive and very appreciative of everything that is done for him. For those of you who have misplaced the bank account details for the Bos Welfare Trust here they are:

ASB Bank

Hamilton

A/c No. 12-3492-0046008-00



Wishing you all a safe and very happy Christmas and I shall look forward to seeing you at the AGM in January.

Libby

Lake Tarawera Pest Control: December 2019

I said in the last posting that the rats hadn't given up and this is most certainly true given our bait usage. Compared to the five year average, bait usage for this time of year is at least 28 % up. On my own bait stations I can see the bait usage continuing when normally alternative food sources would have taken the rodents on holiday. I think it is mostly due to a mild winter where rodent populations have remained at higher levels than normal.

Regardless of the analysis, it means there are rodents around just busting to get inside your house, shed, pantry, or all of the above and we need to maintain our baiting regime to at least put a lid on the population.

Last month's charity fundraiser in aid of Lake Tarawera Pest Control was a huge success, the funds being allocated specifically for the installation of a line of rodent traps along the length of the lakefront walkway. I am pleased to say we raised more than enough money to do this but ... there usually is a but somewhere ... because the traps are both close to the lake and in a public environment there are a number of boxes to tick that fall broadly into the Health and Safety space, before we can commence.

Our Plan is to install from 60 to 100 traps. One every 100 metres along the walkway

- They need to be traps (Victor and DOC series treadle traps), not bait stations given the potential for bait to enter the lakeshore environment
- Enclosed and tamperproof
- Under National Animal Welfare standards (they do apply to rodents) the traps must kill humanely
- GPS located and individually named and marked
- There are parts of the walkway that will need to be cleared and joined up to make the task of track checking easy, if it isn't easy it won't get done

There are other issues as well, this is why you haven't seen a slew of traps dotting the foreshore. I am not sure if we buy off the shelf or make a suitable trap enclosure. We have a specific requirement that doesn't seem to have an off-the-shelf solution. I am just about ready to go out to the wider world and issue a set of specs to see if someone has got a solution. I have some ideas, however, I think collectively we can come up with something that will work.

Wasps

I have been asked by lots of people what we are doing about wasps. There is really only one tool in the toolbox and that is VESPEX, this is a wasp targeted bait that has been very successful, however, it requires monitoring to only bait at the correct time or it is all a waste of time. To make this work it will

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require a lot of community involvement as we will need about 100 bait stations to run the length of Spencer Rd. If there is enough support we will use some of the Charity Fundraiser proceeds to fund this program in Jan / Feb of 2020. Still on wasps if you find any wasp nest can you contact me on rats@eol.co.nz and I will organise for the nest to be exterminated.

Kariri Point

Tally to date:

- * 278 Rats,
- * 47 Possums
- * Five Mice

Regards

The Ratmeister



Pine Pulling: Mount Tarawera—Saturday 18 January

Join keen Tarawera locals for a rewarding day ridding our lovely mountain of invasive wilding pines. It's a tough but enjoyable day and a great opportunity to go up Mount Tarawera. Places are limited.

- ◆ Age 15+
- ◆ Reasonable fitness required
- ◆ Transport is shared from a central meeting point
- ◆ A gear list and further details will be sent out to participants



Please contact Fiona McAllister

fiona@betterwords.co.nz

Community Centre Connections: Claire Stewart

There's always something happening at the Community Centre ...

Friday Nights



Every Friday from 5.00 PM, locals meet at the Community Hall.

All welcome—BYO drinks and snacks.

Christmas Carols

Dust off your Christmas cheer and singing voices, it's time for our annual Christmas Carols.



When: Sunday 22nd December

Time: From 4 pm

What to bring: A plate of food for a shared meal, drink of choice and a present for any child you're bringing, to be handed out by Santa.

Membership fees

Are an important way to cover the basic costs of keeping the building going. Thank you to all for your contribution last year. If you have not done so already, we're asking for your contribution again with a minimum \$20 donation per family. This fee will go towards the basic running costs of the building.

*Membership subscription 2019/20- **\$20 per family***

Payment by internet banking to:

Account name: Lake Tarawera Community Group

Account number: 03-0415-0068074-000

Reference: Please include your name

Community Hall Scheduling and Rental

The hall is available to community members for hire.

Hall Rental Fees

Child's birthday party or similar event half day:

\$30 (member) \$50 (non-member).

Council or similar external 'commercial' group:

\$150 base rate for half-day hire.

If you would like to hire the hall please contact Paul Twigden on 07 362 8141

Lake Tarawera Ratepayers Association (LTRA) AGM

Notice of 50th Annual General Meeting

TIME: 10.00 am

DATE: Sunday 12 January, 2020

VENUE: Community Centre Hall (former Playcentre), Alexander Road

AGENDA

- Welcome and apologies
- Minutes of the 49th AGM held on Sunday 13 January 2019
- Matters Arising
- Chairman's Report
- Financial Report
- Election 2020 Committee
- Update on Sewerage from Glen Snelgrove
- General Business
- Other Business: Any other matter raised at the AGM will be recorded and referred to the incoming committee to action

EXPLANATORY NOTES: Election of officers and committee. Nominations are invited for chairman, officers and the committee; a total of nine must be elected.

Libby Fletcher, Terry Beckett, Peter Fahey, Fiona McAllister, Richard Noke, Jane Spear, Don Stewart and Martin Wiseman offer themselves for re-election.

A candidate must have a nominator and a seconder, and be agreeable to serve. Names of candidates must be forwarded to the Secretary by 01 January, 2020 at PO Box 1913, Rotorua 3040, so they can be posted on the Fire Station noticeboard in accordance with the constitution. **Nomination and Proxy form on Page 8.**

VOTING (if required): Will be by ballot. Ballot papers will be counted at the meeting.

PROXIES: Will be accepted and the secretary should be advised (at the address above), by nomination in writing the name of the person exercising the proxy and for whom, at least three days before the AGM.

LTRA AGM Nomination/Proxy Form

LTRA COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM 2020

I (name of nominator) _____

Of (Tarawera address of nominator) _____

Being a financial member of the LTRA Inc. hereby
nominate (name): _____

For the position of Committee Member/Chair/
Treasurer, of the Lake Tarawera Ratepayers' Assn.

Nominator's signature: _____

Nominee's signature of acceptance: _____

Seconder's signature: _____

LTRA PROXY VOTE AGM 2020

I (name) _____

Of (Tarawera address) _____

Being a financial member of the LTRA Inc. hereby
appoint

Name: _____

To be my proxy at the AGM of the above association
to be held on Sunday, 12 January 2020

Signature of Person requesting Proxy: _____

Why? David Walmsley

We genuinely care about our environment and try to do our best to maintain a level of care. In many cases we try and improve it or have an aim to get it back to a better state for us and future generations. A good example of this is the massive commitment to the restoration of our lakes and similar projects. Great efforts are made by dedicated locals to minimise the effect of the out of control foreign plants and pests around Lake Tarawera also.

So why do some people not care about these things?

Every second day my friend Graeme and I walk along Tarawera Road from the Buried Village to the Blue Lake lookout for our morning exercise. And every day (especially after the weekend) we are constantly bending over picking up the discarded rubbish from people visiting the lake. You can guess the type of people doing it by the type of rubbish they throw out of their cars. Soft drink cans, RTD mix cans, small beer bottles, takeaway packaging and disposable coffee cups etc.

My final frustration came around the Tarawera lookout. Over the last few months we have gone through a process of reprinting the lookout panels that tell the stories of Tarawera. We graffiti guarded the panels and reframed them with aluminum edging including glue mounting them back in place. Within weeks three of the panels have been attacked by someone with a knife and keys. With hundreds of visitors stopping there each year to enjoy the view and learn a little about the history of Tarawera, what does that say about us.

I do acknowledge the issue is not unique to here.

What do these people get out of it? Is it a lack of self-esteem? Does it make them feel better somehow? If I could answer that maybe I could see a way of changing this attitude.

Community Centre: Christmas Carols

A FESTIVE FAMILY EVENT AT
OUR COMMUNITY CENTRE

Christmas Carols

With special guest Santa

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 22ND • 4-8PM
LAKE TARAWERA COMMUNITY CENTRE
475 SPENCER ROAD

B.Y.O PLATE OF FOOD & DRINKS & A
SMALL PRESENT FOR ANY CHILD
YOU'RE BRINGING

Lake Tarawera Fire Unit: Susan Cutler

Summer weather is heating up and with it comes the usual fire risk. The Pumicelands fire risk level board on Tarawera Road has already reached Moderate several times in the last month, and in some places in the region has reached High. Although there has been rain, the wind has contributed considerably to this rise.

Reminder

Open fires cannot be lit anywhere around the lake - this includes the three DOC campsites. If you see a fire when you are out on the lake, advise the people concerned that it is not allowed. Fires must be completely extinguished and reported to DOC and Fire and Emergency via a 111 call.

The Fire Permit notice is printed on the following page. The website clearly explains the process and is simple to follow. *Please read it and check before you light up.*

Training

A number of our crew have attended the following courses recently:

Working with Aircraft [safety around helicopters, loading and exiting, and filling monsoon buckets;] Management and Leadership; Participating at a controlled house burn; CIMS [Coordinated Incident Management System - Civil Defence procedures and planning;] Respect and Inclusion. Steve Gatenby, our 2IC, had the opportunity through his work to go to New South Wales for 3 weeks, working from the helicopter at the fires they are having over there.

Orientation of Properties

Over the New Year period our volunteers are planning to visit properties to gain details of water sources and lake accesses. Locations of water tanks [sizes], streams, etc., and degree of accessibility to the lake, are needed for our maps to aid us in the event of fire callouts.

We will only visit where people are at home and will not wander around your property if you are absent.

Smoke Alarms

Our Fire Unit aims to ensure every house at Lake Tarawera has working smoke alarms. We hope to have pamphlets about these when we visit about the water supplies, if you have any queries.

“When you are asleep, you lose your sense of smell. Don’t assume your smoke alarms are working. Press the button to check - monthly.”

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It is important to make sure you have photoelectric type smoke alarms installed in your home.

Alarms have a 10 year lifespan and if they do not have long-life batteries, the batteries must be changed every year.

FIRE PERMITS

In the Lake Tarawera area, there is a restricted fire season all year round. Permits are required for lighting of fires in the open air. There are exceptions with conditions. To check if you require a permit, go to Fire and Emergency **OR** www.checkitsalright.nz

Allow at least three to five days for application process and possible site inspection.



Rubbish Bags

The Rotorua Lakes Council have not sent out a letter with a voucher for rubbish bags this year. However you may collect them from **Smart Environmental's office at 24 Te Ngae Road** opposite Countdown.

These bags are free; if you don't have a rates invoice they will check on their data base to see if you are entitled to free bags.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE BLACK BAGS THAT YOU CAN PURCHASE FROM THE SUPERMARKETS.

The Great Tarawera Trout Smoke-Off: Dec 29 2019



THE GREAT TARAWERA TROUT SMOKE-OFF

SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER

NOW'S THE CHANCE TO SHOW OFF YOUR
TROUT SMOKING SKILLS AND DONATE TO
A WORTHY COMMUNITY CAUSE.

ENTER YOUR BEST SMOKED TROUT
FOR JUDGING BY AN EXPERT PANEL IN
A BLIND TASTE TEST.

PLUS FREE LOCAL SMOKED TROUT
FOR ALL TO SAMPLE

EVERYONE WELCOME

**BYO DRINKS AND
GLASSES**

2.00 - 2.45PM

PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR ENTRIES

3.00PM

JUDGING BEGINS, FOLLOWED BY
ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

ENTRIES

\$10 PER TROUT - NO LIMIT!
CASH ONLY PLEASE

SPECTATORS

GOLD COIN DONATION

**ALL PROCEEDS TO THE
TARAWERA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

LAKE TARAWERA HEALTH & SPORTS MASSAGE **Relaxation–Therapeutic–Sports Massage**



Launch special:

*Discounted 60-minute massage over December & January
@ \$75 - the perfect gift to yourself or someone special*

Pricing:

- ♦ 30 minutes - \$50
- ♦ 60 minutes - \$85
- ♦ 90 minutes - \$115

Contact:

Dr Jackie Blue, Dip Therapeutic & Sports Massage

Rangiuru Bay, Lake Tarawera.

P: 07 362 8954 M: 021 224 1347

E: jackie@taraweramassage.co.nz

W: www.taraweramassage.co.nz

Lakes Community Board Update: Phill Thomass



Following the Local Body Elections in October I'm pleased to welcome two new Board Members to the Lakes Community Board, Sandra Goodwin from Lake Okareka, and Jennifer Rothwell who lives at Hamurana. Cr Tapsell has also been reappointed as our Councillor Representative.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank, and acknowledge the hard work done by, Fred Stevens and Jim Stanton who both stood down at the election.

The roles of the Community Boards continue to be expanded by Council, and we are all keen to build on what our Board has achieved in previous terms. This term Jennifer and I will be taking the lead for Tarawera issues. You can contact Jennifer at jennifer.rothwell@rotorualc.nz, and myself at phill.thomass@rotorualc.nz or on 0275 47 44 55. You can of course contact any Board Member, our contact details are all available on RLC's website.

Tarawera Landcare (TLC2115): Pete Fahey

I've been reflecting on the last twelve months and the progress in that time. We've been very effective in our fundraising efforts to date. We took possession of a brand new 500cc Honda Pioneer (now officially known as Rhonda) as well as a trailer. This purchase was funded from a combination of sources including the RLC Neighbourhood Matching Fund, the 'Ratties' and the LTRA. Rhonda has proven to be a very useful tool and contributed greatly to the effectiveness of the monthly working bees.

BOPRC in the form of Shane Hona, has been incredibly supportive of our work and have provided 500 native plants, agrichemicals, equipment, aerial mapping and advice to help with the work we are doing.

The Sir John Logan Campbell Residuary Trust has provided us with \$20,000 for use on Kariri Point. Most of this is directed to ridding the point of Acacia trees. We will be putting in another application for funding prior to September 2020.



The trustee owners of Te Rua a Umakaria Trust have been very supportive. We have been very careful to keep them in the communications loop so that they know what is going on every step of the way.

Our working bees on Kariri Point have been very well attended and I have noticed, particularly of recent times, a great community spirit and 'ownership' of this special project.

I must say that the morning teas are becoming a particular highlight as the ladies compete for bragging rights and last Saturday's was no exception ... Christmas cake, cheese scones with homemade jam, lemon cake, raspberry and blueberry muffins. Great for those attending and those that don't show up are missing a treat not to mention extra calories.

Of very recent times we have planted out 450 native plants on the Point which are doing exceedingly well in the month they have been in the ground, although there has been some well-timed rain in between times. We are about to install an irrigation system to keep things moist over the summer and thus ensure their survival.

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In 2020 we are keen to attack the white flowering cherries along Spencer Road. These invasive pests have the potential to take over, as they have in some parts of the community.

If anyone reading this has some ideas about pest plant eradication in their neighbourhood please let us know. We have considerable resources and enthusiasm at our fingertips thanks to the support from the community and parties mentioned earlier.

Thanks again to Sir John Logan Campbell Residuary Estate, Treescape and Stihl Shop for supporting our efforts



Remember the Stihl Shop in Rotorua give anyone associated with Tarawera Landcare 2115 a discount by way of a donation - so be sure to get your toys serviced there.

DONATE TO LTRA WATER QUALITY MONITORING FUND

LTRA manages a special fund to support a water monitoring and testing programme for Lake Tarawera, using data collected from a dedicated weather station, lake water sampling and temperature measurements. The programme operates under the technical direction of Dr Troy Baisden of Waikato University. LTRA invites residents and lake users to offer their support.

Enclosed is my donation for 2019/20

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please tick: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100

Other \$ _____

Donations may be made by direct credit to LTRA's account: **12-3155-0095175-50**

or by cheque made out to *LTRA Water Quality Monitoring Fund*, and posted to:

The Treasurer, LTRA, P O Box 1913, Rotorua 3040

Lakes Water Quality Society Update: Don Atkinson

On November 7-8, we held our “Float the Boat – Certify” Symposium. Excellent papers were presented over the two days by leaders in their field. The principal theme was putting the case for better biosecurity through self certification. NIWA provided the history and spread of pests in our lakes. Doctor Lars Anderson from California, provided a valuable contribution on how they are preventing the spread in the USA, with the main focus on Lake Tahoe. There, using a token system they have prevented further pest incursions for over 10 years. A further example of biosecurity in New Zealand was given in the Fiordland area.



The case was well made and supported for our proposed certification requiring all boat trailers and equipment to be checked, cleaned, drained and dried before launching. To achieve this, legislative change to the Biosecurity Act will be required to enable infringement notices to be issued and instant fines attached. To this end we heard that the Act is currently in review so this is timely. In addition BOPRC's Regional Pest Plan needs to be inclusive of a Rule change; this is currently in process.

An educational programme has commenced and we anticipate seeing a lot more activity around boat launching this year.

The complexity around the Tarawera 8 Lakes System was revealed by Chris McBride. The best opportunity for funding wallaby control is through the Regional Development Fund, this was signalled by both Minister David Parker and Guy Salmon.

Lake Rotoehu algae blooms came under focus and alternative alum dosing explored. Let's hope this can be implemented to provide respite while the land use changes have the necessary time to kick in.

AGM date for 2020 is Auckland Anniversary Day January 27th at 10am at the Pikiaro Rugby League Club, Mourea.

All welcome, casual lunch provided. We look forward to seeing you on the day. We will provide the highlights of the symposium; Regional Council will provide updates for their programmes and it will be an opportunity for you to bring to our notice your concerns. We anticipate good representation from both Councils.

Support us and our restoration of the lakes by becoming a member of LWQS, it only costs \$20.

www.lakeswaterquality.co.nz

Don Atkinson

Chair LWQS

King of the Lake 2020 Sailing Race: 3 Jan 2020

Date: Friday 3rd January 2020, 1.00 pm

Where: Te Karamea Bay beach, near Cliff Road reserve

Entry: Gold coin per boat.

Rules:

1. At least one sailor per sail i.e. if the boat has two sails, two sailors must be on board.
2. Race will be 'Mark Foy' style, with handicapped starts. Boats with an estimated faster race time will start later than slower boats.
3. The course will be dictated by weather, expect to sail to 'Twin Creeks' then 'White Cliffs' then back to the start.
4. The winner is the first boat back to the beach.

Boats are available for hire from the Lake Tarawera sailing school at Cliff Road Reserve.

Any questions to Pat Thorpe at 07 362 8341.



Te Karamea Bay



Start Point

Bay of Plenty Regional Council: Lucas MacDonald

Kia ora koutou, The Bay of Plenty Regional Council has undertaken a programme of pest fish monitoring in the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes over recent months. The process involves collecting water samples and analysing the DNA sequence for the presence of aquatic pests. Also known as eDNA testing, this new method complements existing techniques such as netting and visual surveys, and is another tool which allows us to detect invasive species.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council undertook sampling for all known invasive pest fish and plant species in New Zealand at the Rangiora Bay Boat Ramp, Lake Tarawera in August 2019 using the eDNA testing method. No new pest incursions were observed in the results.

The eDNA testing is also able to detect other fish and terrestrial animals which had a DNA presence in the samples taken. The results of the testing are summarised below and provide an interesting insight into what is present in our lakes. We intend to continue using this cost effective and informative method of testing going forward.

Species Detected at Rangiora Bay Boat Ramp



- ◇ Daphnia galeata (water flea)
- ◇ Fulica atra (eurasian coot)
- ◇ Gobiomorphus cotidianus (common bully)
- ◇ Hydra vulgaris, hydra viridissima and astrohydra japonica (water polyp)
- ◇ Retropinna retropinna (smelt)
- ◇ Craspedacusta sowerbii (freshwater jellyfish)
- ◇ Cygnus atratus (Black Swan)
- ◇ Todiramphus sanctus (Sacred Kingfisher)
- ◇ Trichosurus vulpecula (common brushtail possum)

No new pest fish incursions were detected in the sample including catfish, perch, tench or rudd or koi carp. The Cyprinidae family was detected and this is likely indicative of wild goldfish which are widespread in the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes.

Twelve DNA signals were detected to species level, with many results to genus and family level. Genus and family detections indicated the presence of freshwater snails, bullies and trout.

If you have any questions about these results, please feel free to contact me.

Lucas.macdonald@boprc.govt.nz
Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Biosecurity Officer (Aquatic Pests)
Phone: 0800 884 881 ext. 8428

Rotorua Lakes Council: Update



The Lake Tarawera walkway markers should be completed in December and the Boyes Beach Playground at Lake Okareka has had the safety surface replaced.



Janine Field:

Recreation Maintenance & Renewals Advisor

Sport, Recreation & Environment

Ph.: 07 351 8061

Email: janine.field@rotorualc.nz

Website: rotorualakescouncil.nz



A Word From The Mayor: Steve Chadwick

Your new Council has had a busy start to the triennium and there is much to do and achieve on behalf of our district.

A new and very diverse group of people will bring fresh thinking, ideas and skills to decision-making and we look forward to working with communities like yours to achieve positive outcomes for all.

I'm very encouraged by the energy and enthusiasm of elected members and the way forward has been clarified through a comprehensive induction programme that provided insights into needs across the district, and helped determine our priorities for the next three years.



We need to finish work and projects that are already underway, including planned improvements in our lakes communities, and creating liveable communities will be the other priority area with housing the key component of that. This will require collaboration and partnerships with Government and its agencies, iwi, landowners, developers and the community, and we are already underway with development of a district housing plan to deliver homes that match Rotorua's needs.

The district's 2030 vision established in consultation with the community in 2013 still holds, but we will continue to check, challenge and review and, as we must always hold a long-term view, we will look to extend that vision out to 2050 this term.

I've been particularly impressed to see the lakes and rural community boards, led by Phill Thomass and Shirley Trumper respectively, really hit the ground running. I'm sure your community will continue to engage and work positively with the lakes board and with Council to highlight and address concerns, to collaborate and to share ideas and feedback.

We look forward to speaking with you at your upcoming ratepayer group meeting and I know you are progressing with your work on a sewerage scheme for the Tarawera community. I would like to thank all those who are involved in this important mahi on behalf of your community, in partnership with Council.

I look forward to ongoing input from the Tarawera community and wish you all a wonderful and safe summer.

Mā te mahi tahi, kia tutuki ai ngā moemoeā. Working together, we can achieve our aspirations.

A Word From the Editor: Fiona McAllister



Christmas is now just days away and no doubt many of you will be excitedly heading to the lake for a well-earned break, if like me, you're not lucky enough to reside permanently at Lake Tarawera. I've just done the Great Walk around Lake Waikaremoana with my brother from Switzerland—really beautiful—verdant, lush bush. Here I am with my rather large backpack. Fortunately it did get lighter.

There's lots happening in the community with the Christmas Carols on Sunday 22 Dec, The Great Tarawera Trout Smoke-Off on Sunday 29 Dec and the King of the Lake yacht race on Friday 3 Jan, so get involved and meet old friends and perhaps make some new ones. The LTRA AGM is also on at the Community Centre on Sunday, 12 January, 2020.

Best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

Sailing: Dave Townsend

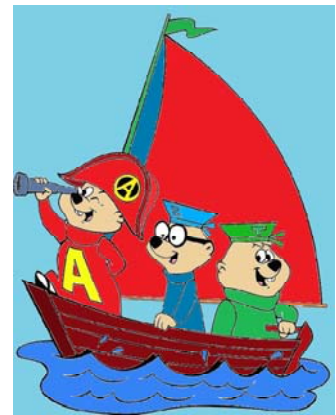
Interested in learning to sail or keen to refresh your skills?

Lake Tarawera Sailing Trust is in business for the 2019/20 season at 2.00 pm on Sundays from their base at Cliff Road.

All are welcome to attend and join in.

With over 20 yachts available there is sure to be one for you whatever your age or skill.

Any questions call Carol or Dave on 07 362 8489



Can You Help?



I am a Tauranga local with a 28' trailer sailer looking for a mooring or jetty from around 23/12 to 25/01 (I'm flexible with dates).

My aim is to leave it here and pop back and forth from Tauranga for three or four night stints of exploring the lake with my family. Please call Brent on 022 494 0726.

lake tarawera and beyond

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Wall calendar \$30, Desk Calendar \$15

All photos taken by Sophie McKenzie - John Paul College, Year 12,
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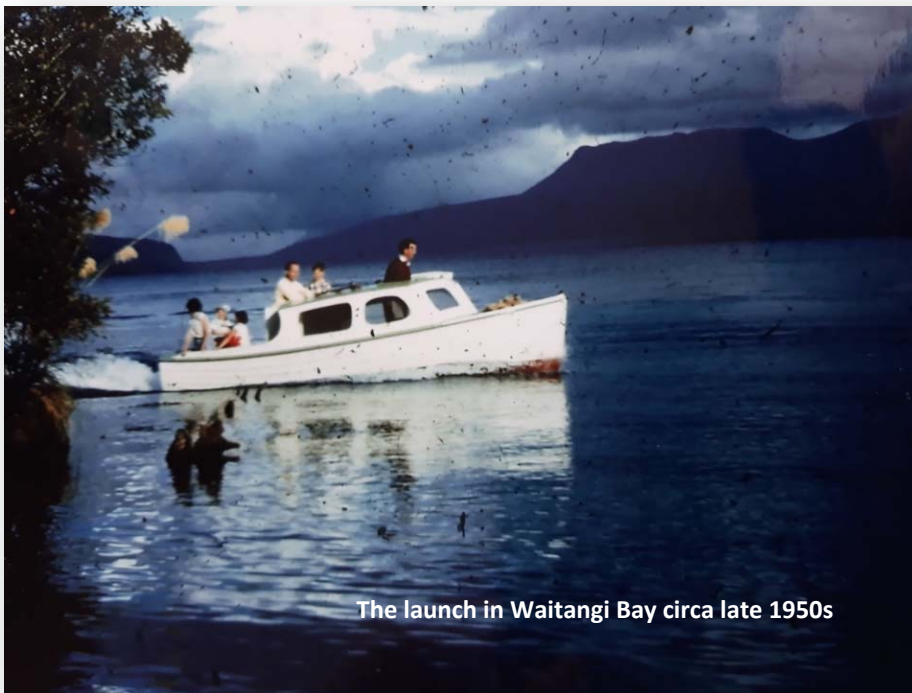
Fundraising for a class trip to China in 2020.

Introducing Your LTRA Committee Members

COMMITTEE MEMBER (& TREASURER): DON STEWART

I first came to Tarawera in the early 1950s to stay at my grandfather Harold Thomas's cottage situated at Waitangi Bay. This cottage was relocated to the point on the south side of the bay and still stands today.

Childhood memories are of the long drive from Auckland, the dusty corrugated pumice road, then spending many weeks with my siblings and cousins, swimming, enjoying the bush, catching tadpoles, eels, then trout, and graduating to be allowed to use the seagull outboard.



The launch in Waitangi Bay circa late 1950s

Occasionally there was a trip across the lake to the Outlet or Hot Water Beach, in my grandfather's launch, which was usually a day long excursion, sometimes with a rough home trip against the afternoon northerly breeze.

This reminds me of a time in the 1960s when a group of 5-10 of us were dropped off at the Outlet by boat by parents.

We were to traverse the mountain and be collected late afternoon inside the Te Ariki arm. A fierce northerly storm arrived and we made our way down in almost zero visibility. The waves were like surf rolling into the arm and we made a bivouac and luckily got a fire going under the acacia trees, spending a long night. The tourist launch Reremoana appeared at first light after the storm abated, with a bedraggled parent on board and his runabout in tow. We then learned of the drama of the parent having set out to collect us, being washed ashore at Twin Streams, spotted by an aeroplane, and a major panic erupting. The launch had one attempt to tack right across to the lee of the Humphreys shore to be able to turn towards the arm, then gave up because the waves were too large, having to wait until the storm died down early morning. A real lesson on how quickly the lake can rough up, as was witnessed in June 2018 when many jetties were destroyed.

I developed a love for trout fishing, landing my first double figure fish at Waitangi Stream when I was

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10 years old, and later, a love of hunting, after I became a permanent resident.

In 1980 we decided to move to Tarawera permanently. Having spent a couple of years overseas after getting married, and then another couple of years back in Auckland, Clare and I found ourselves more and more attracted to Tarawera. We rented a house for two years at Te Toroa Drive, then purchased land at 295 Spencer Rd where we built our house.

Over the past almost 40 years, we have had a wonderful lifestyle, with three of our four children being born at the lake, and me establishing a Chartered Accounting practice in a provincial town. Clare was mainly running around after the children in the early years, but later on resumed her nursing career, with stints as a Practice Nurse, and also in theatre at the hospital. She also spent some time as my receptionist, and was the best Credit Controller we have ever had!

I have had at least three terms as a committee member of LTRA, from the days of Maurice Scobie and fighting for Makatiti Dome reserve, Barry Prior and averting a large development at Kariri Point, to the current time when water quality and sewerage reticulation are the main issues.

We recently moved into Rotorua, mainly due to health reasons, but still have an option to return when I fully retire. Our son Dane and his family have purchased our family home, having also moved from Auckland, and their children have now become the fifth generation to have lived at Waitangi Bay since my grandfather purchased the property in 1946.

My “happy place” is either sitting on our old deck, or drifting in the boat under the pohutukawas, gazing at the lake and mountain and listening to the bellbirds, which to me has always been the sound of Tarawera.



Introducing Your LTRA Committee Members

COMMITTEE MEMBER: PETE FAHEY

I've been coming to Tarawera on a regular basis for a long time, over 60 years in fact. My parents built a simple bach in the late 50's. I recall the pumice road, huge trout, seagull outboard motors, the introduction of leadlines (and fears that they would ruin the fishery). I can remember catching five fish at the Wairua one morning with a combined weight of fifty- five pounds.

I have Tarawera water running in my veins—although of recent times it has been polluted with overflow from unmaintained septic tanks and increasing natural pollutants ... maybe that's what is making my joints creak a bit these days.

Mum and Dad retired from the dairy farm in Morrinsville and moved here permanently in 1967. If my memory serves me correctly the LTRA was founded about that time and Dad was a foundation member. I think I am the first second-generation committee member. Again, I could be proved wrong.

We built our first bach here in 1978. Our four kids holidayed here and now the ever- increasing body of grandchildren are getting infected with the magic of Tarawera.

Chris and I moved here permanently in 2013.

I joined the LTRA committee in 2015 after being hijacked by Libby. My hope for the LTRA is to see the reticulated sewerage system installed and operating as planned. There has been some amazing work done behind the scenes so far to this end. On the other side of the coin it is frustrating to see unnecessary obstacles put up by those with less than honourable intentions.



I have Tarawera water running in my veins—although of recent times it has been polluted with overflow from unmaintained septic tanks and increasing natural pollutants ...

Tarawera Landcare 2115 has been a great success so far and my hope is that this will continue to thrive well into the future as new and enthusiastic volunteers come along to continue the vision and provide the imagination and sweat.

It is a real treat to be on a committee that is incredibly well lead, doesn't muck around and has a clear picture of where it is going.

Introducing Your LTRA Committee Members

COMMITTEE MEMBER: JANE SPEAR

Although I am based in Hamilton —Tarawera is fast becoming our main home—a meeting place for our ever expanding family and now the fourth generation of my family is enjoying what their parents and grandparents once did.



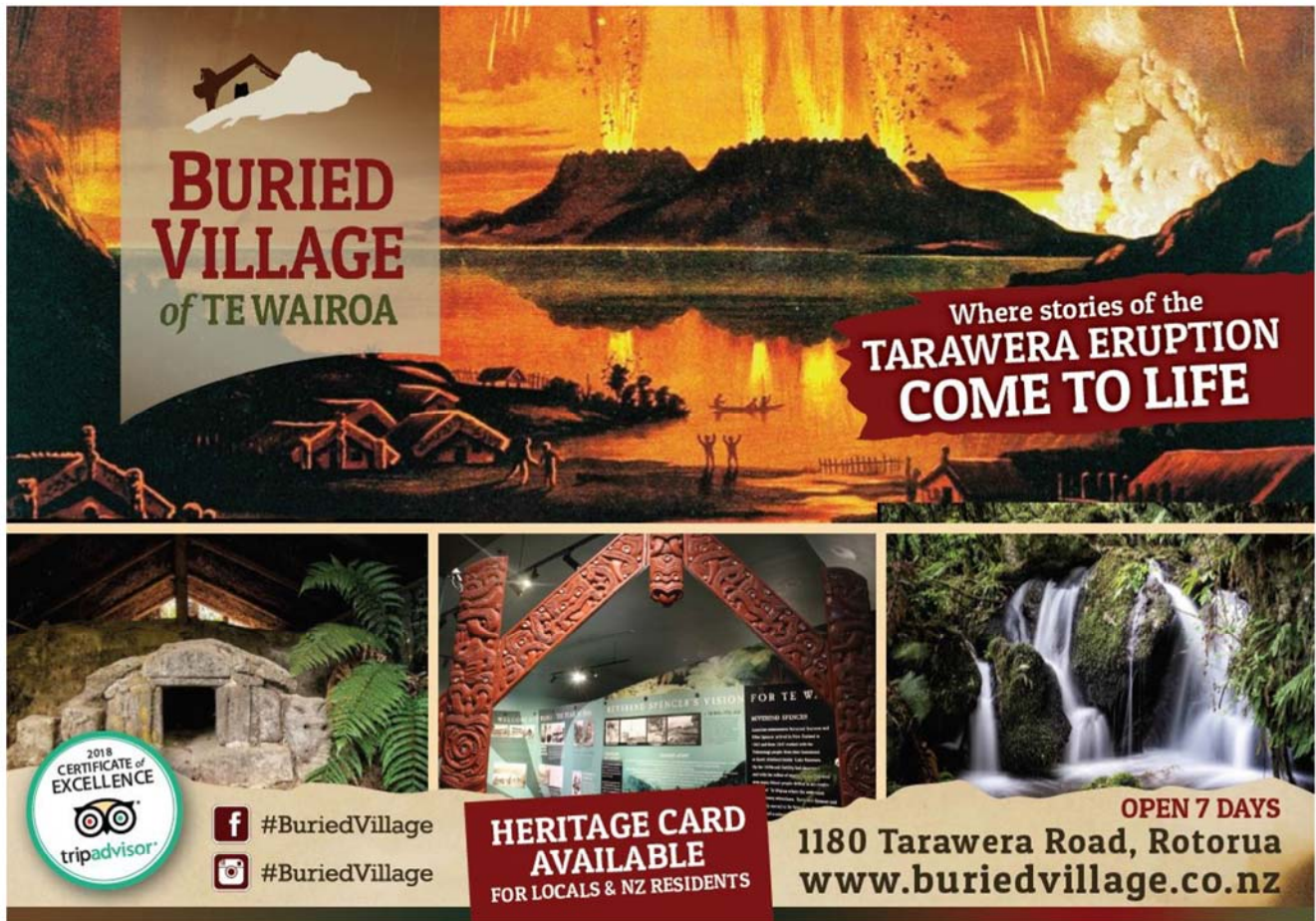
My father had a long, happy relationship with

the Rotorua lakes—his cousin Dudley Woollams introduced him to Lake Tarawera and eventually my parents bought their own slice of paradise on Waitangi Bay. That place was a haven to our family as they were growing up especially as we were based in cities at that time.

Lake Tarawera , to me, is one of the last jewels in the crown in New Zealand and I am passionate about preserving it's tranquility and beauty. Hence the proactive nature of the LTRA committee attracted me to stand for a spot as I feel their (and mine) main objective is to preserve this jewel and to retain the pristineness of the lake and its surroundings.

I am a keen tramper and enjoy the many bush walks around the area, I fish—unsuccessfully! We also row on the lake which creates a few backward glances. I enjoy travel and of course, enjoy good food and wine.

I am a nurse and am still currently working as a Plunket nurse in Cambridge, also a mother of four adult children and four grandchildren- so it all begins again.



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Lake Tarawera Ratepayers Assoc. Current Committee

Chair: Libby Fletcher libby@ultimatenz.com

Secretary: Martin Wiseman martinwiseman@dlpiper.com

Treasurer: Don Stewart dsnairnfisher.co.nz

Committee:

Terry Beckett: becketts.tb@gmail.com **Jane Spear:** janespear2011@gmail.com

Peter Fahey: taraweralandcare@gmail.com **Richard Noke:** nokemeister@icloud.com

Allen Hunter: allenhunter@hobec.co.nz **Fiona McAllister:** fiona@betterwords.co.nz

Rotorua Lakes Community Board Contact:

Chairman: Phill Thomass rlcb@thomass.net

Lake Tarawera website: www.laketarawera.org.nz

Phantom Editor: [Fiona McAllister](#) **Email:** fiona@betterwords.co.nz

Useful Numbers

Emergencies: Police/Fire/Ambulance/Coastguard 111

Tarawera Fire Unit: Brett Bosley 07 362 8378/Dave Townsend 07 362 8489

Rotorua Hospital: 07 348 1199

Lakes Primecare Accident/Urgent Medical: (1165 Tutanekai Street, Rotorua), 07 348 1000

Poisons Urgent Info: 0800 764 766/Non Urgent 03 474 7000

Rotorua Lakes Council: 07 348 4199

Bay of Plenty Regional Council: 0800 884 880

Department of Conservation: 07 349 7400

Fish & Game Eastern Region: 07 357 5501

Rural Delivery -Jan & Glen Harmer: 07 349 1254/022 153 6894

Security – Bos 07 362 8378

Vet Services – Vetora (Cnr of Marguerita St and White St, Rotorua): 07 348 2152 (Ph. 24/7)