

THE PHANTOM

Autumn 2023



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Chair Report: Libby Fletcher

Hello Everyone,

Before I sat down to write this report, I was watching the students from St Paul's in Hamilton crossing the lake in kayaks. It was such a beautiful sight on a clear crisp autumn morning. Let's hope this weather will hold for the Easter break.

AGM

The 53rd AGM of the Lake Tarawera Ratepayers was held on Sunday 15 January 2023. The meeting was very well attended with the Mayor and two of the new Councilors from Rotorua Lakes Council, the Chair and Councilors from Bay of Plenty Regional Council, and Todd McClay the Member for Rotorua, plus 85 members. The minutes of the meeting, Chair report and the link to the Financial Report for the year ending 30 September 2022 are included in this edition of the Phantom.

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Update on Sewerage

We have been given several dates as to when the scheme was to start, but I have been assured that work will start on 17 April.

Over the first couple of weeks the contractors - Fulton Hogan, will be drilling holes to check services. This will then inform their drilling plan (launch sites, angles, and elevations etc). Drilling will start once this has been completed.

The first drilling run will start at Okareka Loop Road – near the mountain bike park on Tarawera Road, following the road and will push approximately two kilometers up the hill to the high point between the Blue and Green Lakes. This is approximately three weeks drilling time, however due to the complexity of the design the total construction time will be approximately two months.

The drilling rig will then move to the northern end of Spencer Road and will work its way south from there. This was a deliberate decision to enable most of the drilling in the housing area to be done in the quietest period to ease disruption. Once drilling has started on Spencer Road, it will continue along Spencer Road to Tarawera Road to link up at the highpoint between the Blue Lake and the mountain bike park.

Let's hope that we have a dryer winter, it is important to remember that the contractors are **not digging a trench for the pipeline, the pipeline is drilled underground.**

The LTRA committee will continue to seek further funding for the sewerage scheme and will be putting in submissions to both Rotorua Lakes Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council for their Annual Plans.

Cell Phone Tower:

After waiting for many years, the cell phone tower went live two weeks ago. There is now good coverage north of the tower, at Hot Water Beach and parts of the lake, Boat Shed Bay has good coverage but there is still a large part of Spencer Road that is not covered. I have written to the Rural Connectivity Group asking if there is a solution, but at this point, I have not had a reply. Once I have an answer, we will send out an email to our members with an update.

Neil Callaghan

It was a sad evening on 11 March when Neil died; he had spent a very happy day with his family, and he had celebrated his 85th birthday on 7 March. Neil was a great friend to many at Tarawera and a great contributor to the community; a past Chairman of the LTRA; LTRA Life Member; member of the

Lakes Community Board, and for many years a committee member of the Lakes Water Quality Society. Many of us from Tarawera attended his funeral in Hamilton, there were loving tributes from the family along with a myriad of stories of how involved he was in the communities in both Hamilton and Tarawera. Neil will be sadly missed and our thoughts are with Ngaire and the family.



Neil and Ngaire in March 2020

Wishing you all very happy and safe Easter.

Best wishes,

Libby

LTRA AGM Chair Report: Libby Fletcher

CHAIR REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

It is my pleasure to present to you the Chair's report for the year ending 30 September 2022. It has been a very busy year for all the members of the LTRA committee, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their dedication and unfailing support over the year.

Lake Tarawera Sewerage Scheme

In early December 2021, a joint letter from Rotorua Lakes Council and Trility, stated that the first phase of the project – design work that will include finding the best location on each property for the Low-Pressure Grinder Pump was underway. Most of the visits had been completed, meanwhile the design work was underway.

In early March, ratepayers received a letter from RLC, advising that the Project Funding Group had met several times and have discussed further views and considerations on the subject. The outcome of this work has resulted in proposed modifications to the initial repayment options for the net capital costs of the scheme. The option for all affected ratepayers are to pay the net capital contribution by either a voluntary lump sum upon completion or through a targeted rate over a period of 10 years. The options were subsequently presented to Councilors and approved on 9 June.

At last year's AGM you may recall that Stavros Michael of RLC said in his update, that the Ministry for the Environment suggested that the \$6.5M allocated for Tarawera reticulation could be applied to Rotoiti/Rotoma who have a funding deficit, on the basis that reticulation at Tarawera was proceeding slowly. The wastewater committee of RLC rejected the stance of Ministry for the Environment (MfE) and

(Continued from page 3)

was confident that the Minister would support the \$6.5M being applied to Tarawera.

Naturally the LTRA committee were deeply concerned that the \$6.5M could be transferred and Ray Gatland, Peter Fahey and I attended the Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Meeting in February, where the possible transfer of the \$6.5M to Rotoiti/Rotoma was discussed. RLC, Regional Council and Te Arawa Lakes all agreed that this money should be retained for Tarawera; following this meeting, a letter was sent to the Ministry.

By the end of April, Minister Parker was to decide on these funds. In the first week of April, I wrote to both Minister Parker and Minister Mahuta seeking an urgent meeting. As there was no reply from either Minister, I wrote again later in April, again with no response. On 10 August, the LTRA in conjunction with Te Putaiki o Tarawera (mana whenua) wrote to the Prime Minister seeking urgent confirmation that the \$6.5M remains available and that the Deed between MfE and RLC will be executed forthwith. We had an immediate response from the Prime Minister's office, and I received confirmation from MfE on 22 August that the \$6.5M was available.

On 25 August, RLC Councilors voted in favour for Stage One of the reticulation to proceed, this is the



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(Continued from page 4)

main trunk pipeline which will travel along Spencer Road and Tarawera Road to the pump station at Lake Okareka.

As you know we have been working for a very long time on reticulation and we are pleased that it is finally underway. Over the year the LTRA committee collectively has attended 38 meetings - all connected to sewerage. Our focus now is on finding further funding, we have always said that we want a fair and equitable outcome for all Tarawera ratepayers. We aim to benchmark the cost of the current OSET system, between \$30,000 and \$35,000 per property.

CELL PHONE TOWER

For some years it has been of great concern that there is little cell phone coverage at Tarawera. In April the Rural Connectivity Group contacted the LTRA advising that they had negotiated with a property owner a site for the new cellphone tower and would we write a letter of support for their Resource Consent Application. We sent the letter to RLC, however by the end of financial year we had not heard whether the consent had been approved.

LANDING UPGRADE

Work started on the upgrade at the Landing in February, due to be completed before winter set in. Unfortunately, there were delays due to COVID, it was partially completed by the end of September.

TARAWERA LANDCARE

Thank you to all the willing volunteers who come to the working bees. We now have groups working at Kariri Point and this year we started work at Otumutu Lagoon. Prior to Easter we had two very successful working bees there and cleared a great deal of blackberry and honeysuckle that was smothering the ground and trees. At Easter we had a celebration BBQ and bonfire, where all the blackberry and honeysuckle was burnt. Work has continued there over the winter on a Wednesday morning clearing the pest plants along the foreshore and replanting with natives, from the Community Garden towards Solitaire Lodge.

At Kariri Point in February with financial help from Regional Council, contractors undertook the spraying of the Old Man's Beard on the cliff face. A number of working bees during the winter had to be cancelled due to the weather but work continues there and the natives that have been planted over the last few years are thriving. We are very grateful to Regional Council for all the plants they have donated.

TARAWERA PEST CONTROL

Thank you to all the volunteers who fill the rat bait stations; due to the mild winter the rats have been very hungry. Rabbits continue to be a big problem and we can't lay poison because of dogs, the only

(Continued from page 5)

way to deal with them is by shooting them which is problematical. There have been sightings of stoats—unfortunately they are very difficult to catch.

LAKE TARAWERA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

A big thank you to our volunteer fire brigade, it is an incredibly tough job they do. This was very evident with the devastating fire at 253 Spencer Road, the intensity of the fire was unbelievable. It was very disappointing that there was criticism at the time it took for the team to get to the property, they were the first on the scene pumping water up to the house from the lake and were at the property all day. I was told later that for each water tanker that came from Rotorua, their tank was emptied within 11 minutes, so it was vital that there was more water available.

The Tarawera community were very supportive to the family providing meals, groceries, and clothing. I am sure for most of us it was a wakeup call, this could happen to anyone of us; a number of people I spoke to afterwards have installed fire extinguishers and are checking their fire alarms regularly.

We were deeply saddened to hear of the tragic death of Susan Cutler, whilst working for St John, she was involved in a head on collision when returning from Waikato hospital after transferring a patient. Susan will be greatly missed; she was a valuable member of our fire team since its inception.

SECURITY CAMERAS

We now have four security cameras operating at Tarawera, two at the Buried Village; one is a number plate recognition camera. The third is at the fire shed and one outside George Gilmour's property. The fire team contributed \$500 towards the cameras and the balance of \$11,000 was paid for by members of the LTRA from their subscriptions.

SPRING FAIR

It was so disappointing for the Spring Fair Committee that after all their planning, only a matter of days before Labour Weekend, they had to cancel the event due to COVID.

TARAWERA SAILING

It is really pleasing to see the number of young sailors on a Sunday afternoon out on the lake enjoying themselves, and to see the numbers growing each year. Thank you to the dedicated team for the great work they are doing.

FINALLY

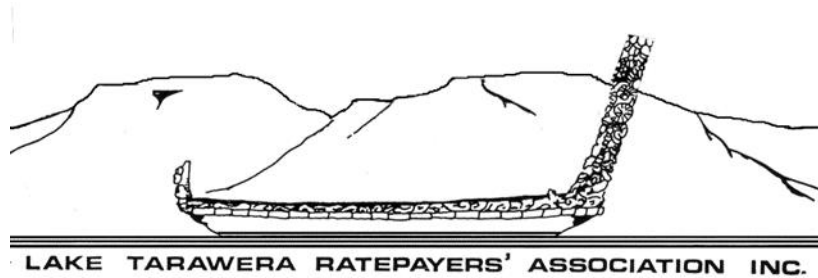
Thank you to everyone in the community who gives so willingly of their time. Fire Safety, Pest Control, Tarawera Landcare, Spring Fair Committee and Tarawera Sailing. Again, a big thank you to the

(Continued from page 6)

committee for your tremendous efforts throughout the year, you have all be so willing to help, I certainly have appreciated your support at all the meetings you have attended at Council with me.

We are very fortunate to have all the volunteers looking after our community.

Minutes of the 52nd LTRA AGM: 15 Jan 2023



Welcome:

Libby welcomed distinguished guests: Rotorua Lakes Council Mayor – Tania Tapsell, Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chairman – Doug Leader, Bay of Plenty Regional Council Cr Kevin Winters, Member for Rotorua National Party – Todd McLay, Lakes Water Quality Society Chairman – John Gifford, Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Helen Creagh, Rotorua Lakes Council Councillors – Conan O’Brien, Karen Barker, Stavros Michael, Ian Stabler Rotorua Lakes Council, Peter MacMillan and Nick Chater, Lakes Community Board, LTRA Committee and 83 members.

Apologies:

Mark & Robyn Chapman, Murray & Cathie Dillner, Garth & Sue Williams, Martin Wiseman, Phil & Liz Cooper, Dane & Claire Stewart, Janet Scott, Rotorua Lakes Councillors Sandra Kai Fong, Gregg Brown, Chief Executive of Bay of Plenty Regional Council Fiona McTavish, Bay of Plenty Regional Councillor Lyall Thurston, Lakes Community Board Chair Phill Thomas.

Congratulations:

The meeting congratulated Wallace Bain on being appointed a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Minutes of the 52nd AGM

Approval of the minutes, moved, seconded, carried.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Brief discussion on footpaths, border on road edge and fibre optic progress

Chairmans Report:

Attached

Financial Report:

Final position within \$2K of previous year. Major expenses include Wildlands Report for Moura Point, legal fees for assistance in writing letters to central government re retaining funding from Freshwater Fund and to the victims of the house fire. Approved subject to minor change, it and then will be on website.

Election of 2023 Committee:

All current members, having consented to act and being nominated, were reappointed. No election was required as there being no other nominees.

Update on Sewerage Reticulation from Stavros Michael of RLC:

Freshwater Quality Standards are driving RLC's infrastructure improvements. So far 2,500 septic tanks have been replaced with Grinder Pumps. In the Rotorua District, Tarawera has only two options, reticulation or OSET systems, but 40% of Tarawera properties are unable to accommodate an OSET system so reticulation only option. The \$6.5M grant from the Freshwater Fund has been retained and RLC entered into a contract for final design for Stage 1 (main trunk line) in August 2022. The cost of Stage 1 is \$15M which includes \$1.5M for design. Still looking to reduce cost of Stage 2

Costings for Stage 2 (grinder pump and connection to main trunk line) significantly higher than original estimates - \$17M. RLC are sensitive to community concerns regarding final cost but are optimistic that can achieve a reduction in the final cost.

Stage 1 to begin in January/February 2023 involves 23km of main trunk line. Will take approximately 12 months to complete.

In response to questions expressing concern at the final cost, Mayor Tania Tapsell, Todd McLay and Doug Leader all spoke in support of reticulation for the Tarawera community. Stavros explained that RLC can't guarantee the final cost but that they are doing whatever they can to reduce the final cost. In answer to a question he stated that it may be possible for property owners to undertake some of Stage 2 work themselves.

The Chair stressed the need for the whole community to work together and wherever possible to assist the LTRA Committee in sourcing additional funding to achieve an equitable outcome for all ratepayers.

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GUEST SPEAKERS

Doug Leader, Chairman BOPRC;

Doug acknowledged Libby and the Committee. Took 4-5 months to secure \$6.5M. The BOPRC will continue to support the Lake Tarawera community

Kevin Winters, Cr BOPRC:

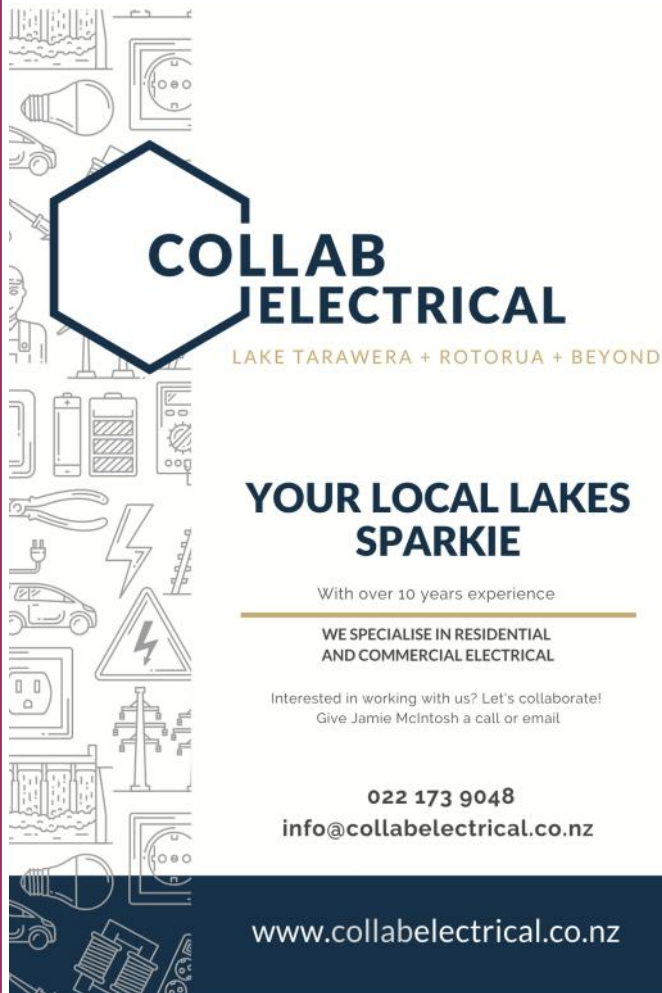
The Rotorua Lakes now have three dedicated vessels patrolling the lakes. Any issues people have regarding vessel activity on the lake should be reported by calling **0800 5 KNOTS**.

General Business:

The state of the lakeside walkways is to be referred to RLC's Parks and Reserves

The new cell phone tower start date is imminent.

The Financial Statements for year ended 30 September 2022 are on the LTRA website:
<https://www.laketarawera.org.nz/page/about/>



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Thanks PJ

For an other
 fabulous fireworks
 display on New
 Years Eve!

Community Centre Update: Claire Stewart

Regular events

- ♦ **Tai Chi Weekly:** Thursdays 2:00 PM

For more info call Alison Walker **07 362 8151** or **021 100 5425**

- ♦ **Yin Yoga** with Madelyn Skilton from Empower Wellness. Casual classes are \$20.

Email empowerwellnessnz@gmail.com for times and more information.

- ♦ **Friday Night Drinks:** Every Friday from 5.30pm. All welcome. BYO drinks and nibbles.



Working Bees on the hall buildings and grounds

Held the first Sunday of every month at 10.00 am.



Lake Kids



Families at the lake have formed the group Lake Kids and try to get together for regular catch ups at the community centre. Join the Facebook group to connect with local families and find out about events planned: [www.facebook.com/groups/ lakekids/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/lakekids/)

Membership Fees

Thanks to all those who have paid fees. Fees go towards costs such as insurances, building warrant of fitness, electricity and general maintenance and are paid annually. The hall also generates a small additional income from renting the hall to members and non members. Members enjoy the benefit of having this facility in the community and invitation to attend the community events which are run here as well as a discounted rate for their own rental of the hall.

Annual Membership Fees 2022: \$30 per family

Payment to be made by internet banking to:

Account name: Lake Tarawera Community Group

Account number: 03-0415-0068074-000

Reference: Please include your name

If you have any further questions regarding the Lake Tarawera Community Group please contact Claire Stewart on clairemariestewart@gmail.com

Regards

Claire Stewart

Lakes Community Board: Phill Thomass



ROTORUA LAKES
COMMUNITY BOARD
fb: @lakescommunityboard

What happened to summer?! With daylight saving ending I guess we have to just admit that it has almost completely missed us this year. I can't remember a

wetter 'summer', after such a wet winter. All our lakes have been at near record highs as well, and spare a thought for residents at Rotoehu where not only the boat ramp jetties are underwater, but also some of the roads.

Rotoma is at its highest levels since the 1970s, and Rotoiti has been at or above its maximum operating level for months. This has all meant extra pressure on our other lakes from boaties and picnickers, especially Lake Tarawera and Okareka.

I was pleased to see one of the Community Board funded projects for Tarawera completed in time for the Christmas rush (although there were a few teething problems) – the refurbished toilet block at Stoney Point. This has been a request over several years so the Board was delighted to be able to support and fund this project.

On the local government front, although the new Council has now been in place for six months, it is only in the last two or three, that we have seen the new structures of committees and how Council intends to work, come into focus. Unfortunately these new structures seem like a step backwards for the Community Boards (both Lakes and Rural) with us being excluded from sitting on the main committees as we have for the last two terms, and also seemingly excluded from Council 'forums' where ideas around the future of Rotorua are shaped.

This will have a real impact on what we can achieve for our communities, including Tarawera, as Board members' opportunities to interact both formally and informally with Councilors, and to put forward to them the aspirations and needs of our lakeside communities will be severely reduced.

After Easter, Council will be consulting on their proposed Annual Plan. Normally an Annual Plan won't deviate too much from the Long Term Plan and may be more of an information process rather than consultation. This year while the Community Boards have not been told what is in the proposed plan, we do know it is expected to be markedly different from the Long Term Plan, so Council needs to consult with the people of Rotorua to see if they support the changes proposed. I worry that the proposed plan will focus only on central Rotorua and ignore our lakeside and rural communities.

It seems likely a number of proposed changes will have an impact on our lakes communities. The Mayor has indicated that spending may stop in some areas, so we all need to look carefully to see

(Continued from page 11)

what is proposed, especially around community funding as this is something the Lakes' areas rely upon and changes there would affect us directly. For example the Neighbourhood Matching Fund makes possible a lot of the work done by our voluntary groups (such as the amazing work done by your Landcare group in clearing pest weeds, maintaining tracks and replanting etc) so we need to make sure that those community funds remain.

It is also a possibility that Community Board funding could be removed. Our funding is what enables larger projects (such as the Stoney Point toilet block refurbishment) to go ahead, we also support our Community Halls, playground refurbishments, publicly accessible AEDs and more, as well as using our funding to partner with Council to ensure some of their projects around the lakes go ahead or are expanded to meet the aspirations of locals.

So please, do take the time to read the information on the proposed Annual Plan, and support your Community Board and your community in maintaining services. You can put in a submission online or by attending one of the consultation events, or you can show your support by coming along to Council when the proposed Annual Plan is debated in June.

But before then, have a wonderful break over Easter!

Phill Thomass

Chair, Rotorua Lakes Community Board

Post: C/- Rotorua Lakes Council, Private Bag 3029. Rotorua Mail Centre, Rotorua 3046

Email: rlcb@thomass.net Phone: 027 547 4455

The Tractor Book Exchange: 213-215 Spencer Rd



Lift the tractor's lid and you'll find a lidded plastic box with an interesting array of books.

Feel free to browse, borrow or exchange a book anytime but please clip the box lid down and secure the lift up part of the tractor so the books don't get wet.

In consideration of the owners, please park up on the grass beyond the driveway rather than in the driveway itself.

Lake Tarawera Pest Control

Wasps

I might be wrong but wasps don't seem to be as prevalent as previous years; wasps don't like the wet as they mostly nest in the ground, so maybe our wet summer has impacted them—or maybe our extermination efforts are working.

I have dealt with 22 wasp nests this year compared with 19 same time last year... maybe wishful thinking.

If you find a wasp nest text me on 029 575 0943 with the details and I will sort it out.

Possums:

So too, possums are not as bad as last year, I am not capturing as many and there are not so many dead on the road.

Rabbits:

Rabbits have taken up the space left by wasps and possums, they are really breeding like bunnies for sure. I have been shooting them slowly but I am waiting for the crowds to thin before having another cull.

Rats:

Very interesting that I am not capturing as many rats in traps but the amount of bait being consumed is similar to previous years when I was trap-capturing more. Perhaps they are getting smarter. A small indication at my house, where I have eight rat bait stations and physical traps, there have recently been a number of skinks in the garden. Rats like tasty skinks, I'm not sure how to explain that anomaly.

Feral Cats:

The other night I was watching reruns of Coronation Street when outside emerged a small tabby feral cat, first time ever to have seen one at home. I suspect there are way more feral cats than we see. A project over the winter is to use some trail cameras to do a count of feral cats in specific areas and if there is a problem—which I suspect there is—plot their downfall.

They are wily and hard to capture but on the flip side they predate native fauna and do a hell of a lot of damage to our wildlife.



Is it a bird?

Is it a plane?

No—it's

***your local Waspmeister—ready
for action on your wasp nest!***

(Continued from page 13)

Lastly you will begin to see tucked in the undergrowth some used green truck mudguards. These are being used as rodent trap shelters, the rodent trap will be underneath the sign written mudguard.

Next issue I will enclose some photos of the trap and cover.

The Ratmeister (& Waspmeister)

Phone: 029 575 0943

Email: rats@eol.co.nz



Happy

Easter!

BOP Regional Council: Harbourmaster's Report

This summer will go down in history as one of the wettest in memory with lake levels throughout the region reaching highest levels for some time! While regionally this brought a few challenges for our team (such as sinking boats!), for the most part, our patrols functioned as usual albeit with a few weather cancellations.

Regionally our patrol team had 3644 interactions, with 10,326 people spoken to.

Interaction stats for Rotorua Patrols: 19/10/2022 – 29/03/2023

Total vessels: 1432. Total people spoken to: 4708

Lake Tarawera:

Total vessels: 541. Total people spoken to: 1787.

Reason for interactions:

Lifejackets: 399; General Education: 84; Vessel name/PWC (Jetski) Rego: 27; Speed: 20; Skiing: 9

Vessels:

Powerboats: 437; PWC (Jetski): 45; Paddle craft: 42

Compliance has been ok this season, with mostly visiting boaties being unfamiliar with the rules. Thank you for doing your bit when you're out on the lake!

If you are unsure of any of the navigation safety bylaws on Lake Tarawera or other lakes, please look up our **Boating in the Bay** publication. Available online or from our BOPRC office.

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Notice of Abandoned Vessel for Removal from Lake Tarawera

In September 2022, our Maritime team pink-stickered this sunken vessel on Kariri Point in the hope the owner would come forward so we can work with them to have this vessel removed from the Lake. We have made several phone calls following information passed on to us, however we have been unsuccessful in establishing the owner.

ABANDONED VESSEL

Notice is hereby given that the following ship has been deemed abandoned and will be disposed of under section 33L of the Maritime Transport Act 1994, unless the owner(s) contact Bay of Plenty Regional Council by 8 May 2023 to claim ownership and arrange payment of debt:

Description; un-named - Wooden construction custom motor vessel. Kariri Point, Lake Tarawera.

BOPRC contact details:

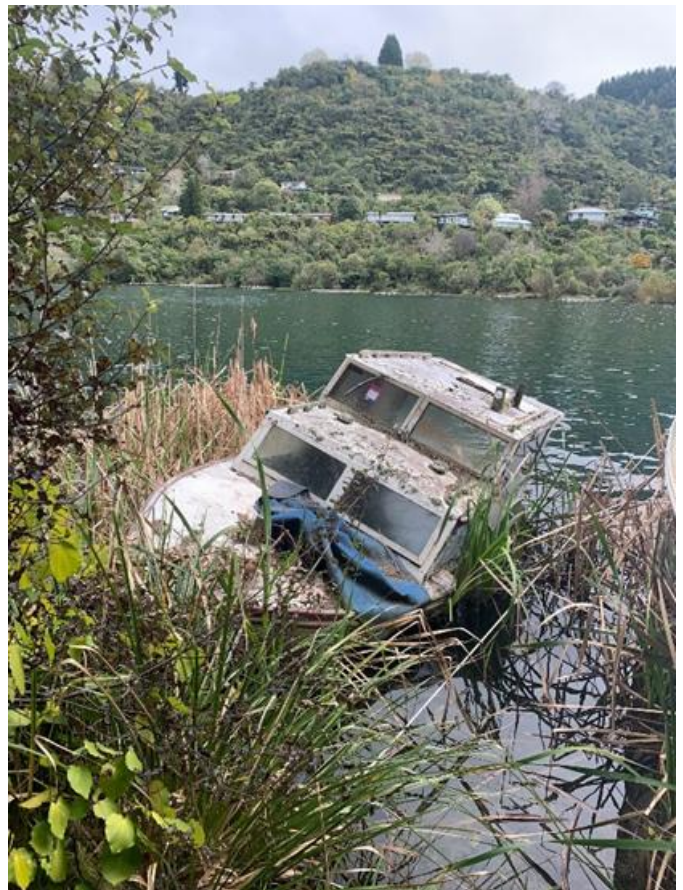
Senior Maritime Officer - Roly Bagshaw

Email: Roly.bagshaw@boprc.govt.nz

Phone 0800 5 KNOTS
(0800 55 66 87)



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TOI MOANA



Good news - as at Thursday night, 6 April I have just been advised this has GONE! (Editor)

Tarawera Sailing 2022-23 Season: Patrice & Ray Gatland

Tarawera Sailing has had another very successful sailing season. The weather was less than ideal at times but there was no lack of enthusiasm from our families who attend week in week out. In fact the generally more challenging conditions demonstrated just how far our young sailor's skills have developed. The season has seen real improvements in up-wind sailing and dealing with changeable conditions. Sailors practised sailing triangular courses, often in pairs, as we progress towards having regular racing.

Parents and grandparents take an active role in the sailing programme, whether it is involvement in the teaching, being on the safety boat, or monitoring the skills acquired by the sailors: rigging their boats using the correct knots, being able to swim in a sailing vest, being able to right an upturned boat, being able to go about and gybe while under sail and understanding points of sail.

A very pleasing feature of the season has been a resurgence in adult sailing driven by parents of our young sailors deciding to take to the water themselves. Week night sailing has been introduced for adults to practice their skills. They sail one night a week organised via a WhatsApp group according to weather conditions. The enthusiasm and support for each other is wonderful to see. Ten sailors have been active in the group this season.

Adult sailors sail Lasers and Spirals. The Spirals are essentially scaled down Lasers making them ideal for learning while still thrilling to sail. We have two Laser rigs with small sails, which are also very popular with first time sailors.

The season is from November to April and sailing is from Sunday 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm at the Cliff Road Reserve.

History

In 1999 a Lake Tarawera working group led by Ian Thorpe set up a sailing scheme to encourage all families to enjoy sailing on Lake Tarawera under the guidelines for water safety.

A training programme was adapted from the NZ Yachting Federation to suit lake conditions, and all sailors now receive a certificate of achievement at the end of each sailing season.

A storage shed was built in 2004 at the Cliff Rd reserve and since then the fleet has grown, with most boats being generously donated by members of the community.

Our income is derived from charities, private donations and fundraising at the annual Spring Fair.

(Continued from page 16)

Money is used for maintenance, new equipment, rental, and insurance.

Membership is FREE and open to children and adults who want to learn to sail.

Fund Raising and Donations

The club is at present fund raising for a second safety and teaching boat. We currently have a 3.1m RIB with an 8hp outboard, which we are very happy with. However, sailor numbers have increased and we now need a second similar RIB to provide adequate safety cover for the longer sailing courses we will move to next season.

The total cost of a Southern Pacific RIB, outboard and beach trailer is approximately \$10,000.

Regatta Day: 2 April 2023

The end of season regatta is the highlight of the year. The regatta format was established by Pat and Ian Thorpe in the early days of the club. There is a lot of fun racing, including the championship races, a lottery challenge and a pirate relay, which are followed by prize giving.

We had a sunny day with some light and tricky winds. There was a strong attendance providing terrific support for our sailors and a wonderful community atmosphere. We had almost all our sail boats on the water and the largest number of adult sailors for many years. A very successful day.

Many thanks to our trustees: Tony Perks, Julie Gilmour and Dave Townsend and their families for supporting Regatta Day with safety boat duties, barbeque and prize giving; and of course to Carol Gilchrist and Pat Thorpe for their excellent organisation.

Prizes presented to the sailors are as follows.

Championship Races:

JUNIOR (Firebugs) 1st Isabella Bollard 2nd Sebastian Bollard

INTERMEDIATE (Microns) 1st Elsie Papps 2nd Isabella Bollard

ADULT (Lasers and Spirals) 1st Jeff Alexander

Season Most Improved:

JUNIOR Spencer Stewart

INTERMEDIATE Elsie Papps and Sebastian Bollard

ADULT

Claire Stewart

Top Sailors:

JUNIOR

Jack Schulte

INTERMEDIATE

Daniel Alexander

SENIOR

Isabella Bollard and Connor Scott



Photos:
Jacqui
Alexander



It's a Transfer Station NOT A DUMP



Carole Pepperell of Smart Environmental, says dumping of items like this lounge suite and building materials at the Tarawera Transfer Station is becoming increasingly common as people renovate. She says, while Smart accepts that it is not always Tarawera locals, the amount of building materials and these kinds of objects are just increasing.

Smart are investigating installing permanent cameras to tackle this problem - which ultimately costs us all. Every additional visit to collect this stuff costs... None of us want to pay higher rates for the refuse collection or even worse lose the Transfer Station. Please play your part.

The Tarawera transfer station

Using the local transfer station correctly helps to lower the cost to maintain the facility, and maximise the amount of waste that can be recycled.



Disposing of household rubbish

Household rubbish goes into the red lid bins, in red plastic Council bags only.

To get more red bags, visit the transfer station during manned hours or call ☎ 07 348 4199 for more options.

Household recycling

Recycling goes into the yellow lid bins. This includes paper and cardboard, aluminium and tin, and only plastic items numbered 1, 2 and 5 (due to limited onshore recycling facilities in NZ).

Items that are commonly mistaken as recyclable are foil chip packets, polystyrene, tetrapak (long-life milk packaging), plastic bags and gladwrap. Please put these in the household rubbish.



Glass recycling

Glass recycling is sorted by colour.

Please remember to remove bottle caps and jar lids before recycling your glass items.

Items for landfill

If you visit during manned hours (Thursday and Sunday, 1 - 4:30pm), you can dispose of green waste or rubbish for the Rotorua Landfill Refuse Transfer Station.

Fees changed in July 2021, after changes to the national waste disposal levy and Emission Trading Scheme by Central Government. You can find out more about this on Council's website.



Help us keep your local transfer station tidy by reporting illegal dumping, on ✉ info@rotorualc.nz or ☎ 07 348 4199

ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

King of the Lake ~ 3 Jan, 2023: Pat Thorpe

Three Wing foilers, six Lasers, a Windrider, a Windrush, a Spiral and an Esprit competed in ideal conditions for “experienced” sailors.

The Old Gold Trophy was won by Ray Gatland in the fastest time since racing began in 1986!

CONGRATULATIONS RAY

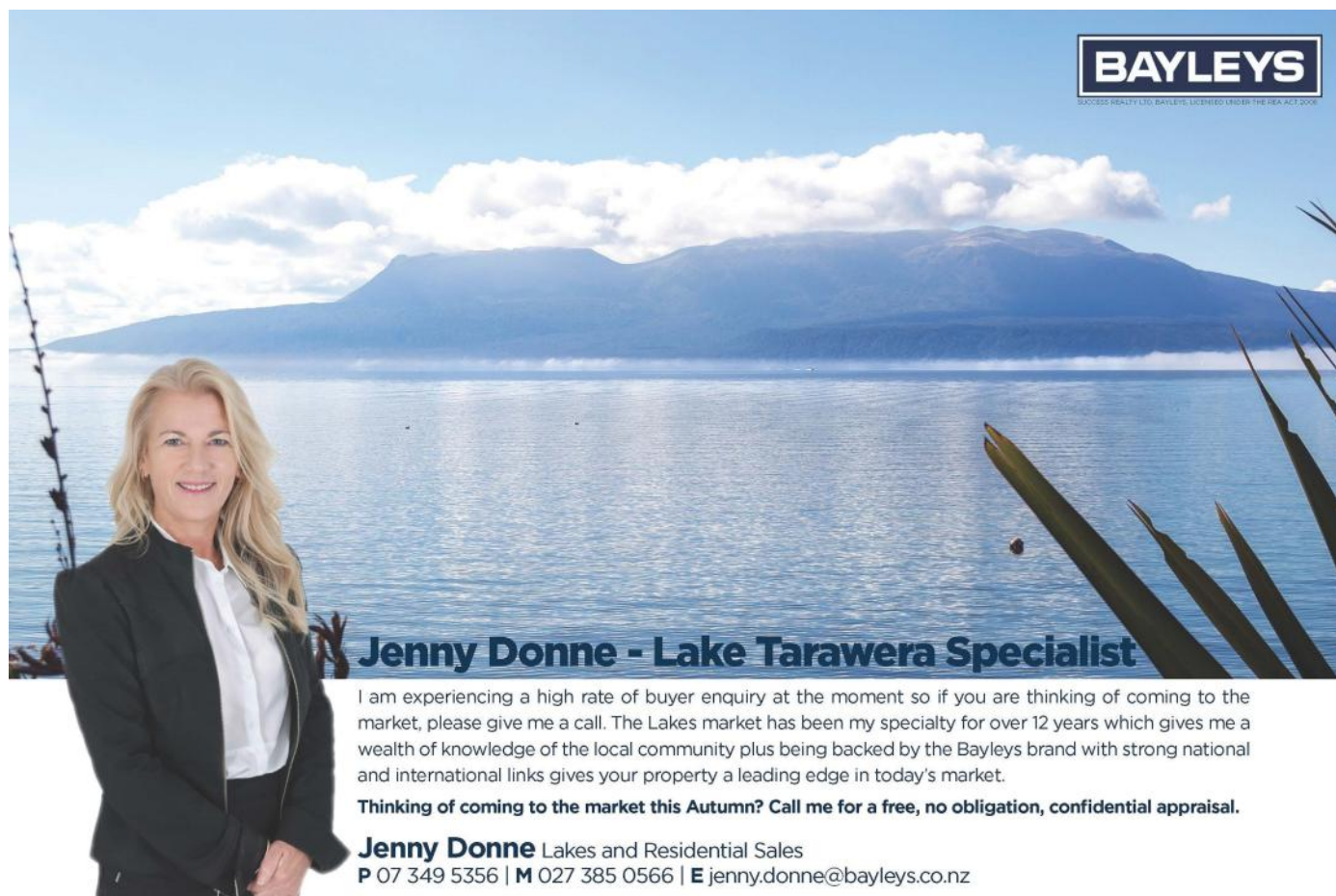
- The Solitaire Trophy went to Colin Elvin in the Windrider - just one minute behind Ray.
- The Wing Foil sailors were a new introduction to the fleet. They said they sailed for fun – next year there will be a special trophy for the foilers.

Thank you Chris, Simon and Aaron for such fast, colourful and exciting action on the water.

Thank you to the Safety Boat helpers – Kerry and Richard Mason, George Gilmour, and the Millet family.

Thank you also to the onshore team with Carol Gilchrist on radio contact with the safety boats, Jasper – time keeper, and Jody and Jenny who coped with registration and racing details.

Lastly - thanks to all the spectators who cheered the sailors as they raced across the finishing line.



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SUCCESS REALTY LTD. BAYLEYS IS LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

Jenny Donne - Lake Tarawera Specialist

I am experiencing a high rate of buyer enquiry at the moment so if you are thinking of coming to the market, please give me a call. The Lakes market has been my specialty for over 12 years which gives me a wealth of knowledge of the local community plus being backed by the Bayleys brand with strong national and international links gives your property a leading edge in today's market.

Thinking of coming to the market this Autumn? Call me for a free, no obligation, confidential appraisal.

Jenny Donne Lakes and Residential Sales
P 07 349 5356 | M 027 385 0566 | E jenny.donne@bayleys.co.nz



MERLIN'S
ELECTRICAL LTD

Merlin Sheffield
Registered Electrician, Rotorua

P (07) 362 8572
E merlselectrical@gmail.com



WANTED

Empty 15 litre water bottles for protecting
new native plants from rabbits at
Kariri Point and Rangiuru Bay



Please drop off to 214 Spencer Road,
Lake Tarawera

AED 1 (Heart Defibrillator) **Lake Tarawera Fire Station** (Secure external cabinet by front door)

Stoney Point Reserve
151 Spencer Road
Lake Tarawera

Phone - 111

(Does not require phone reception)
**for cabinet combination
from Ambulance
Communications 24/7**



AED 2 (Heart Defibrillator) - (No phone needed) 11 Rangiuru Bay Road, Lake Tarawera

This is the farthest house on the right of
Rangiuru Bay as you look out to the lake
Access across Rangiuru Bay Reserve or
down Rangiuru Bay Road



Private Property—Please Respect

Rotorua Lakes Council Update

Kariri Point/Boatshed Bay update

Kariri Point/Boatshed Bay Reserve is a popular lake access spot for locals and manuhiri (visitors) heading out onto Lake Tarawera.

Over the last couple of summers, the number of visitors to the reserve has increased considerably, and the shortage of reserve space due to storage of unauthorised vessels and trailers was fundamentally compromising the experience for users.

Last summer, Council trialled the removal of unauthorised vessels and trailers being stored on Kariri Point/Boatshed Bay Reserve to free up space for those parking on the reserve and to help improve the user experience over the busy summer period. This trial was successful, and we have received positive feedback in terms of creating a more functional space for users.

Council understands the value the reserve provides in allowing lake users to park vehicles and trailers while out on the lake and overnight when they are undertaking **short-stay** camping (one to two nights) across areas of the lake. Signs will go up on the reserve around the Easter break, however, reminding users that **storage of vessels and trailers etc on the reserve is not permitted**, to ensure that the reserve is open and provides a usable space for vehicle turning and parking easily – particularly in peak season.

Council's intention is to continue to work towards great outcomes for the community and visitors at this reserve. We appreciate the community's support in creating a space for all users to enjoy.

Waitōharuru/Tarawera Landing Reserve Redevelopment update

Finishing touches are now being made on the Waitōharuru/Tarawera Landing Reserve Redevelopment. This includes the installation of picnic tables and chairs in the lawn area at the southern edge of the landing, as well as some additional planting in the rain gardens. New parking and information signage will be installed around Easter. The addition of a new pontoon to be installed off the swimming beach away from the jetty is also in the procurement stage.

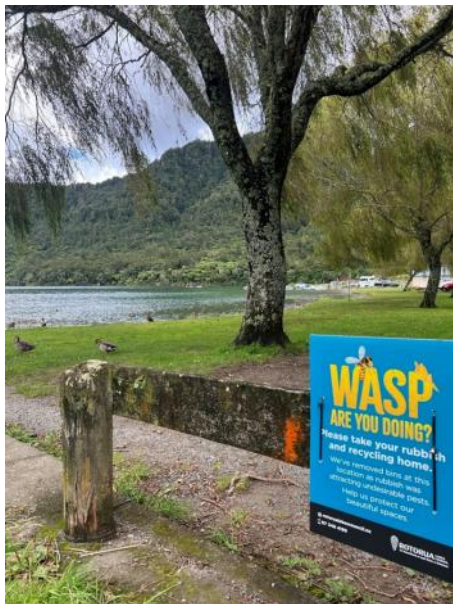


Last week, line marking painting in the carpark took place. The entire project is expected to be completed by late May 2023, and Council has worked with Tūhourangi Tribal Authority along with other key stakeholders to bring this project to life.

Wasp are you doing? Take your waste home with you!

The community and manuhiri are being encouraged to take rubbish and recycling home after visiting popular reserves around the district to keep unwanted pests from hanging around bins. Seven wasp

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nests were removed from Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake) earlier last month, which were posing a threat to lake users. It was found that the public litter bins were attracting wasp swarms.

While the wasp nests have been removed and further management will be needed, wasps are difficult to eliminate, especially with the attractive bush surrounds and access to food and water nearby.

As a result, Council is trialling the removal of rubbish bins from Lake Tikitapu to keep lake goers safe, as well as to deter pests from hanging around in these popular reserves.

Read the full story on our website [HERE](#).

Tarawera Landcare 2115: Pete Fahey

The highlight for Landcare of recent times is the establishment of a track/access way in the Otumutu Lagoon area. I've mentioned in past issues the efforts of a dedicated group of locals to establish this path.

The feedback I personally have received has been extraordinarily good. Both residents and holiday makers are making very good use of the track. Where we might have expected a bit of resistance there has been virtually none. Its very gratifying to see the work being done by an enthusiastic handful of people adding value to the area.

As Easter is upon us, I urge recipients of the Phantom to, if you haven't already, take a stroll and enjoy a different aspect of our beautiful lake.

Because I have a case of writer's block at the moment and because this contribution is rather brief I thought I'd pad it out a bit with a bit of useless information.

Did you know that your rubber bands will last longer if you keep them in the fridge ...



Meet a Local ~ Karen Walmsley: Fiona McAllister

When her parents met, Karen's father worked at Te Rapa airbase as a radio technician and in logistics, while her mother worked as the wages clerk for AFC (Allied Farmers Corp).

Karen grew up in Hamilton – she says her parents felt it was the 'safest' choice – living between their two respective tribes; Ngāpuhi in the Far North and Te Arawa in the Lakes area. The two tribes had battled against each other in New Zealand's early history; something not forgotten easily.

As a consequence of her mother's poor health after giving birth to her, Karen was raised for her first six years by her paternal grandparents at Ngāwhā Pā in Ōhaeawai. At six, Karen moved back to join her family.

Her early schooling was at Nawton School in Hamilton. By then her dad had left the air force and worked as a labourer building State houses in the area. His military influence continued to feature strongly in his approach to life; Karen recalls she was 12 before she was even allowed to iron his hankies!

Once in Hamilton, Karen's mother regularly brought her children back to meet their maternal family, at Whakarewarewa. When Karen's grandfather died prematurely at 49, her mother succeeded to (inherited) her Māori land here, of which Tarawera was part --- but never brought her family here and it didn't feature in Karen's life at that time.

After the death of Karen's mother, Karen and younger brother Lance succeeded to all of her Māori land, of which several parts were from Rotomahana-Parekarangi (it was never referred to as Tarawera). Her aunties felt she was disconnected from her land, as she had never lived here. One Christmas in the early 1980s, her aunties said we are going to this place called Tarawera, which we think you should see. Karen, David and their four children, Maria, Antonia, Tracy and Paul packed up the car and met her cousin at Whakarewarewa as Karen didn't know where to come to. Led by her cousin they drove out and when they reached the point on Spencer Road (below Te Mu road), where you get your first sight of the three mountains we refer to as Tarawera (Wāhanga, Ruwāhia and Tarawera), Karen was overwhelmed with emotion and to everyone's surprise - including her own, began to sob. By the time they reached the piece of land known as Ohorongo (which prior to the eruption was the second biggest pa after Te Wairoa), she was still weeping and her aunty, who seeing how moved Karen was, was also sobbing, welcomed her formally on to the land. For the next 18 years the Walmsley family and their children, aunties, uncles, cousins and wider whanau came every summer, to camp on this ancestral land, for around six weeks.

This experience led to Karen really embracing what it meant to be Tūhourangi. While still in Hamilton she became involved in Kura Kaupapa (Maori-immersion schools) and had links with Waikato/Tainui as many of the whanau she grew up with were affiliated to this tribe. While in Hamilton, David and Karen ran their own design company, employing up to a dozen people at times, producing corporate imagining, exhibition design and build, product launches and Māori language resources for kohanga and kura kaupapa Māori.

The pull to come and live permanently at Tarawera became stronger for the couple but they had many commitments in Hamilton, including Karen's beloved nana who was by then in a rest home; leaving her was not an option. After she died, they made the move, renting a house on Spencer Road, from Earle and Deb Morris for the first year.

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Karen and her cousin initiated and worked to create the Tarawera Trail walk from its beginning, and it has become one of the great day walks of New Zealand. The Tarawera Trail now has a governing trust made up of members from the Tūhourangi tribal landowners and the Department of Conservation which recognises the significance of the both the tāngata whenua and the public of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Walmsley's current business, Totally Tarawera operates two boats; a 14-seater water taxi to shuttle and guide visitors around the lake and a 60-passenger boat aptly named *Sophia* for larger tours, private functions and transporting people to the various walking trails and campsite on the lake. *Sophia* is named after the infamous guide, Sophia Hinerangi, who prior to the 1886 eruption of Tarawera, was a key guide to the Pink and White Terraces, then considered the eighth Wonder of the World.

Karen says, the tours provide the opportunity “to share our history, stories and connection to the land including the conservation work we support. It’s about manaaki (hosting) and kaitiaki (looking after) our visitors.” The business also operates a glamping (glamorous camping) site. This is located at a secret location around Lake Tarawera, where guests get the opportunity to take time out and really relax in beautiful lake-edge bush surroundings with access to beaches, hot pools, and geothermal cooking. Daughter Tracey and son-in-law Wayne work in the business too.

Karen has been an LTRA committee member since January 2020 and says her major motivation to join was to help ensure that reticulated sewerage is achieved, although she obviously also has a strong interest in events and developments affecting Tarawera. “We should leave this place in a better state than we found it.” The genesis of her interest was being involved in the first Cultural Impact Assessment for Tarawera reticulation, which really made her consider the issue deeply.

Te Pūtaiki o Tarawera was formed in 1873 by a group of Tūhourangi elders who sought collaboration from other Māori as far away as Tūrangi to try and prevent further land losses. This name has been now been adopted more recently to define the agreed collaboration of the more than 10 of a number of Ahuwhenua Trusts at Tarawera which Karen is an active member. Currently Te Pūtaiki o Tarawera aims to ensure that tangata/manawhenua at Tarawera are not forgotten and any development here is done responsibly and efficiently.



Wayne, Tracey, Karen and Dave standing in front of an image of guide Sophia Hinerangi

From the Mayor's Office: Tania Tapsell

Kia ora,

It is my pleasure to be contributing to the Easter Addition of the LTRA Phantom as your new Mayor of Rotorua. I hope that you're all enjoying your Easter holidays! It was great catching up with Lake Tarawera residents at your Ratepayers AGM in January. Our new Council has been working hard to get Rotorua moving in a positive direction and we're already seeing progress on things that matter for our community.

Council is beginning work on Stage 2 of the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme and will be undertaking a transparent and public tender process for this which will produce a better cost outcome for the project overall. We expect to know and share the final costs in June/July and look forward to providing certainty for you on this important project.

We're also kicking off with our draft 2023/2024 Annual Plan Consultation which is the action plan of what Council proposes to do over the next year and how much that will cost. We've been proactive in taking the opportunity to reset Council to focus on delivering well what is necessary. This also means we've made some tough decisions to stop some spending and services to balance the feedback from the community to keep rates as low as possible.

To ensure we get this right your feedback is really important, so we encourage and ask you to consider making a submission when consultation begins on 11th of April: rotorualakescouncil.nz/annualplan

Kindest regards,

Tania



Tania Tapsell

Manukura | Mayor

E: tania.tapsell@rotorualc.nz

A: Civic Centre, 1061 Haupapa St, Private Bag 3029, Rotorua

W: rotorualakescouncil.nz



Your Tarawera to Discover

- **Family or special occasion cruises with BBQ option**
- **Discovery Cruise to learn about the local history and the special places of significance**
- **Walk the Tarawera Trail with pickup**
- **Visit the Tarawera Falls. Noted by DOC as one of the best short walks in NZ**
- **We have mini brochures available for your holiday home guests on all our products**



**TOTALLY
TARAWERA**

07 362 8080

info@totallytarawera.com

www.totallytarawera.com

LTRA: Current Committee

Chair: Libby Fletcher libby@ultimatenz.com

Secretary: Martin Wiseman martin.wiseman@dlapiper.com

Treasurer: Richard Noke noke@eol.co.nz

Committee:

Terry Beckett: becketts.tb@gmail.com

Ray Gatland: gatland@xtra.co.nz

Peter Fahey: taraweralandcare@gmail.com

Jane Spear: janespear2011@gmail.com

Karen Walmsley: taraweratrail@inspire.net.nz

Fiona McAllister: fiona@betterwords.co.nz

Rotorua Lakes Community Board Contact:

Chairman: Phill Thomass phill.thomass@rotorualc.nz

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: Chief Fire Officer:

George Gilmour 027 282 9034/07 362 8378 gilmour06@gmail.com

Deputy Chief Fire Officer: **Steve Gatenby** 0274 664 161 steve.gatenby@til.co.nz

Station Officer: Murray Dillner 021 290 0376 murrayedillner@gmail.com

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

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

Security – George Gilmour 07 362 8378 gilmour06@gmail.com

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

Vet Services – Barrowman & Goodman (110 Lake Rd, Koutu, Rotorua, 3010) 07 343 9090

We currently have five AED Defibrillators on Spencer Road:

1 & 2/At Fire Unit– 151 Spencer Road 3/The Community Centre 4/The Buried Village

5/ On the front deck of 11 Rangiuuru Bay Road (last house on right of Rangiuuru Bay Reserve)