

THE PHANTOM

Spring 2023



IN THIS ISSUE:	PAGE NO.
From the Chair	1-2
Spring Fair	3
Assuring Lake Water Quality	4-5
Telfer Marine	6
Tarawera Sailing	7
Jenny Donne—Bayleys	
Tarawera Pest Control	8
Collab Electrical, AED 's	9
Tailored Builds	
Rotorua Festival of Gardens	10-11
The Community Centre Update	12
BOPRC: On the Water	
DOC Update	14
Community Board Update	15-16
Te Arawa Lakes Trust	16-17
BOPRC: Biosecurity	18-19
Merlin Electrical	
Message from Mayor Tania Tapsell	20
Fish and Game	21-22
Rotorua Festival of Gardens	
LTRA Committee/Useful Numbers	23

Chair Report: Libby Fletcher

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Phantom. How very welcome the clear, still days have been recently with the trees bursting into life, what a treat.

Lake Levels:

The lake is still very high and there are still parts of the walking track that are underwater or very muddy. With the exceptional high levels and extensive flooding at Rotoma and Rotoehu unfortunately Tarawera is not a high priority currently. However, the two Councils have been advised of the concerns of the Tarawera property owners.

After the last significant rain event at Tarawera all the drains along Spencer Road have been cleared and the cesspits cleaned out. Some of these drains have caused significant flooding.

Tarawera Sewerage Scheme:

Work on Stage One is progressing well. You may have noticed that the contractors have now moved further along Spencer Road towards Black Barn. The reason for this is that above Boat Shed Bay hill they have found more rock, which requires larger drill bits

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

to get through, currently they are not available. With Labour Weekend approaching, it's possibly a good thing that there will not be disruption along this winding piece of road.

Members of the LTRA committee are meeting monthly with Gerhard Mostert and are regularly updated with progress.

Hopefully you have received the Council's Tarawera Sewerage Scheme Update – September 23 2023.

Here is an extract of this letter:

'In response to community requests, Council had previously pursued a lump sum price for Stage 2. Costs received were deemed too high to accept without further assessment of the construction market. Council instigated open market tendering for Stage 2 alongside Stage 1 construction, to identify the most economical method for Stage 2 construction.

With tendering now closed, Council has agreed to confirm the recommended preferred tender as the most competitive outcome for the scheme and delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract for the delivery of Stage 2, subject to the conclusion of the following next steps.

Officers to inform the community of the outcomes of the open procurement process and the improved gross costs range expected for the scheme. (Letters were posted and emailed to property owners on 25 September 2023).

Seek feedback from the Tarawera community before **31 October 2023** on two pertinent matters:

Self-installment of the specified on-property systems. We need to know the level of interest from property owners wishing to undertake self-installation through a direct contract with the nominated contractor (subject to compliance with Rotorua Lakes Council self-installation compliance requirements).

The community's views on the self-installation option that could potentially dilute some of the economies of scale of a community-wide installation led by Council.

Officers will assess the feedback received and will make recommendations to Council in early November on the actions required to commence the implementation of Stage 2 from early 2024."

If you have queries or concerns, please contact Gerhard Mostert, Engineer's Representative, via email to TaraweraSS@rotorualc.nz or phone (07) 348 4199.

Members of the LTRA committee will be at the Spring Fair at Labour weekend and will look forward to talking to you.

If you are travelling to the lake for the weekend, have a safe trip and a very happy holiday weekend.

With best wishes,

Libby

SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER

\$\$\$ Cash Only \$\$\$ from 10.00 AM \$\$\$ Cash Only \$\$\$

Stoney Point, Spencer Road, Lake Tarawera

Shop Early For Christmas!

**ARTS & CRAFTS, JEWELLERY, CARDS, CANDLES, SOAP, WOOD TURNERS
IRISES, TARGET GOLF, REAL ESTATE, KIDS' STALLS, CHRISTMAS GIFTS ETC.**

**FOOD STALLS - INCLUDING BAKING, PRESERVES, REDWOOD BUTCHERY, SAU-
SAGE SIZZLE, CREPES, FUDGE, COFFEE TRUCK ... and much more**

Variety Auction Commences 1.00 PM

THIS IS A CASH FAIR – No EFTPOS

Boaties: Please use alternative parking areas at Boatshed Bay and Bayview Road on
Saturday and Sunday.

Anybody willing to help on the day please email laketarawerafair@gmail.com

**Any money raised by the Lake Tarawera Spring Fair Committee will be donated to
local community organisations**



Assuring Lake Tarawera's Future Water Quality:

Dr Stuart Corson FRSNZ

Key decision time

Decisions made by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council in the coming months will largely determine the water quality of Lake Tarawera for the coming 30 years. In their turn, the aspirational level and implementation of these decisions will be influenced by the Council's appreciation of the strength and unity of the community voice for the highest possible water quality in the lake.

National freshwater management reset

Across New Zealand, the management plans for all freshwater bodies are being reset. This reset is required by the Government's National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020, NPS-FM. NPS-FM 2020 requires every regional council, in consultation with its community, to develop a plan for maintaining or improving the state of freshwater in the region. There are a number of compulsory values and attributes (measures of the state of a river or lake) that must be met, and communities can choose to go above and beyond these.

The new or amended plans giving effect to the NPS-FM 2020 must be notified by 31 December 2024. These plans should be for a period that is both aspirational, but reasonable (typically 30 years). Providing a plan for Lake Tarawera is the responsibility of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Whatever is written into the plan will largely determine the attention given to the lake for the next decades. The Lake Tarawera community's involvement in this process is critical to assure the lake's excellent water quality into the future.

LTRA engagement

As its first step in the community engagement process, LTRA has made a submission to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, specifically for Lake Tarawera, in which it has requested that

"[BOPRC] identify and proactively implement the sufficient, timely actions necessary to restore the lake to its pre-1994 conditions, (TLI = 2.6) and maintain this improved state without further loss, in the face of the:

present general environmental **factors causing its current, unrelenting deterioration.**

inevitable, deleterious impact of the **lower quality waters entering the lake from the surrounding lakes** of its greater catchment.

predicted deleterious impact of the **more intense weather events** that are confidently expected to occur with increasing frequency **as the result of changing climatic conditions.**

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

The background to these specific points is;

Firstly, that the lake's water quality has deteriorated steadily over the past three decades, *albeit* that the general quality is still very good. Now, adding to the established environmental factors causing this deterioration are the threats of such invasive pests as catfish and gold clam, amongst many others.

Secondly, the waters flowing into Lake Tarawera from its surrounding six lakes are generally of significantly higher (worse) TLI value, 3.3 to 4.8, and will inevitably lower the water quality of Lake Tarawera over time.

Thirdly, the more intense rainfall predicted to occur with changing climate conditions will wash proportionately greater quantities of the surrounding phosphorous-rich volcanic soil into the lake, where it will accelerate the generation of the cyanobacteria responsible for algal blooms.

Te Mana o te Wai

Fundamental to the future management of all freshwater is the concept "Te Mana o te Wai". This concept recognises the vital importance of freshwater and the connections of New Zealanders to it. It imposes a hierarchy of obligations. Highest priority is given to the health and well-being of water. Second priority is given to the health needs of people (e.g. drinking water). Third priority is given to the provision of the social, economic and cultural well-being of people and their communities. This hierarchy does not, however, mean that any particular waterbody must be restored to a pristine condition before other needs are met.

BOPRC process

The intended management plan for Lake Tarawera will be developed within a wider plan for the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes. In their turn, these lakes will comprise just one of the 13 Freshwater Management Units into which the wider Bay of Plenty has been divided by BOPRC for their administration of the process. Historically, the Rotorua Lakes have received significant local and central government investment to restore their water quality over the past 20 years - particularly the lower quality Deed Lakes; Lakes Rotorua, Rotoiti, Rotoehu and Okareka. Because of its better water quality, Lake Tarawera has not warranted the same level of attention. Now, there is a recognised need to distribute available funds more widely across a rather larger list of the Bay of Plenty's degraded waters. The successful combat of the threats facing Lake Tarawera and the maintenance of a high level of lake water quality will be best aided by a strong, united and sustained community voice.

Dr Stuart R. Corson, FRSNZ.



TELFER MARINE ROTORUA

Looking for a Local Supplier to service your summer boating needs?

Get in touch with Telfer Marine

We service all make and model of outboard.

REV UP YOUR SUMMER MY 23 RUN OUT

SAVE
\$1000*



EX | EX DLX |
JETBLASTER

SAVE
\$1500*



VX LTD | VX DLX |
VX CR HO | SUPERJET

SAVE
\$2000*



FXHO | FXHO CR |
GP HO

SAVE
\$3000*



FX SVHO | FX CR SVHO |
FX LTD SVHO | GP SVHO

BOATING & OUTDOORS

≈ Supplies for the Kiwi lifestyle ≈

236 Te Ngae Road, Rotorua

Ph: 07 345 9854 | E: office@telfermarine.co.nz | www.telfermarine.co.nz

Lake Tarawera Sailing ~ 2023/24 Season

Registration Day: Sunday, 19 November

Cliff Road Reserve: 2:00 PM



- Families are welcome to come along and learn to sail together
 - Adult learners are also very welcome
- Training craft and other yachts are available for you to learn in
 - Come along and check us out!

A **WINNING** COMBINATION

Jenny Donne and Bayleys are a winning combination at Lake Tarawera.

Working here with buyers and sellers is my passion and with over 12 years of experience, it has become my speciality.

Contact me for a comprehensive, confidential market appraisal.



Jenny Donne | Rotorua Lakes Specialist
P 027 385 0566 E jenny.donne@bayleys.co.nz

BAYLEYS REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED & MEMB THE REA ACT 2008

Proud sponsor of the Lake Tarawera Sailing School

Lake Tarawera Pest Control

Possums:

I am continuing to catch possums in my garden and they are in good condition. Timms traps work well baited with cinnamon and raw apple. So if you have a pesky possum I can lend you a trap to deal with it.

Rabbits:

Rabbits - these are the bane of my life! I have shot a reasonable number but they keep on coming and unfortunately they seem to like the urban life which limits the opportunities to shoot them. I have said before the mild winter has allowed an extended breeding season. I counted 12 rabbits at Rangioru Bay one night recently.

Rats:

I have had three calls about rats in peoples ceilings, two have been the result of overhanging trees touching the roof which allowed Mr Rat to run along the gutter and enter under the roof eave. The other one was a rat that scaled a trellis and accompanying vine to enter under the eave. It never ceases to amaze me the cunning of rats and their ability to navigate narrow spaces. Many times I have looked at pipes, wires and branches and thought "How in the hell can a rat navigate that?" but they do.

Long after I'm dead and gone there will be rats around—our task is to keep a lid on their number. To that end we have more Regional Council-funded rat bait now and I have been distributing it to people. So for the next few critical months we shouldn't be short on bait.

Feral Cats:

Feral cats remain as a problem and I have purchased a couple of live capture traps with the intention of trapping feral cats in known hot spots.

There is a protocol about identifying cats before deciding their fate, these traps will help us adhere to this protocol.

Wasps:

If you see a wasp nest can you tell me and I will come and deal to it. We have the 100% formula to deal with them, no wasp nest has escaped the power of my Magic Wasp Killing Powder.

The Ratmeister

Phone: 029 575 0943

Email: rats@eol.co.nz





**COLLAB
ELECTRICAL**

LAKE TARAWERA + ROTORUA + BEYOND

**YOUR LOCAL LAKES
SPARKIE**

With over 10 years experience

WE SPECIALISE IN RESIDENTIAL
AND COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL

Interested in working with us? Let's collaborate!
Give Jamie McIntosh a call or email

022 173 9048
info@collabelectrical.co.nz

www.collabelectrical.co.nz

AED's 1&2
(Heart Defibrillator)
Lake Tarawera Fire Station
(Secure external cabinet by front door
and in the crew's medical kit)
Stoney Point Reserve
151 Spencer Road
Lake Tarawera

Phone - 111
(Does not require phone
reception)



for cabinet combination
from Ambulance
Communications 24/7

AED 3 The Community Hall
475 Spencer Road

Accessed through main door with key
from lock box or call George Gilmour for
key

027 282 9034

AED 4 At the Buried Village

AED 5 11 Rangiuru Bay Rd
(No phone needed)

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



**TAILORED
BUILDS**



**MASTER
BUILDERS**

Looking for trustworthy local builders? Look no
further! We are dedicated to meeting all your
construction needs and turning your dreams
into reality.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with John Goad.
We are looking forward to working with you.

022 524 5741
John@tailoredbuilds.co.nz
Tailoredbuilds.co.nz

Rotorua Festival of Gardens: Nov 10-12



Jane Burrows Garden

Time To Go Down the Garden Path

The biennial Rotorua Festival of Gardens is a mere three weeks away so it's definitely time to go online and purchase a festival pass. With proof of purchase on hand (via phone or printed out) a festival pack including pass can be picked up from our festival hub, Palmers Rotorua the same day.

Whilst there aren't any Tarawera or Okareka gardens featuring in the programme this year, there is certainly a great line up of other properties with a wide variety of styles from pretty cottage gardens to a bird-attracting native haven, rambling country acreages to a painted storybook fantasy garden to delight young and old. There are 20 new offerings amongst the 41 gardens that will be open from 9 am to 5 pm each day of the November 10, 11 & 12 festival.

A fabulous array of complimentary activities has been added to this year's festival to bring additional value to the three-day festival pass. Gardening talks, floral demonstrations, and product displays as well as entertainment including singers, dancers and musicians will feature in a dozen exhibitor gardens.

Amongst the options is organic gardening expert and author Leah Evans who has recently released her first book, *Hands in the Dirt*. Leah will be giving three different half-hour talks on how to get started gardening daily at 10 am at Palmers Rotorua during the event.

(Continued from page 10)

First-time exhibitor Sarah Beadel is a botanist and ecologist by profession and nature. She will be hosting 30 to 45-minute walk 'n' talk sessions on her almost 2-hectare Tikitere native garden at 10 am and 2 pm daily.



A display of Stihl outdoor gardening equipment will feature in Tania Brown's Paradise Valley garden whilst the local Honeybee Club will feature in Jacqui and Grev Hesketh's Hamurana garden.

Rotorua Lakes Council's Waste Minimisation Officer, Meghan Cooper, will be running drop-in sessions at Ngongotaha's Trinity Church Community Garden on Friday and Saturday, Nov 10 & 11 between 10 am and noon. She'll be answering questions and offering trouble-shooting advice about worm-farming, bokashi and regular composting.

The first ever series of pre-festival gardening themed workshops for locals got off to a flying start on October 7 despite damp conditions. Cushla Plaice, a leading light at the Ohinemutu Community Garden, ran the 'hands on' workshop.

From long-time locals and new immigrants through to small children intrigued by the process, the participants learnt about 'the circle of life' - planting and growing heritage vegetables from seed then collecting seed from the mature plant at the end of season and saving to plant out the following year.

Rotorua Festival of Garden's project supervisor Rosie Waller said the reaction by locals to fully book out the first two workshops was a pleasing result. She said attendees were enthusiastic and many commented how much they had learnt and were thrilled to go home with a potted heritage vegetable to plant in their own garden.

Heritage seeds was the first of four workshops supported via the Rotorua Lakes Council's Neighbourhood Matching Fund. The other three themes are growing kumara, DIY natural fertilisers and DIY natural insect sprays. There are limited spaces for the final two workshops fertilisers (Oct 28) and insect sprays (Nov 4). Both start at 1 pm. Contact rosiewaller55@gmail.com for further information.

To book Rotorua Festival of Garden tickets and all other festival information go to www.rotorugardens.org.nz



Images top & right: Jenna Austin Story Book Nooks

Community Centre Update: Claire Stewart

Regular events

- * Tai Chi: Contact Alison Walker for more info **07 362 8151 or 021 100 5425**
- * 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/.

Membership Fees

We are now requesting fees for our 2023/24 financial year. 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. Fees remain unchanged from the previous year.

Annual Membership Fees 2023: \$30 per family

Payment to be made by internet banking to:
Account name: Lake Tarawera Community Group

Account number: 03-0415-0068074-000

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

BOP Regional Council: On the Water

It's great to finally be able to enjoy a few fine days and the threat of El Nino winds heading our way in the lead up to Christmas, every calm sunny day on the water is a good one.

Wind is always a factor for skippers to consider. The weather forecasting lately has been pretty good, so make sure you take a good look at predicted conditions before you head out. Look at the strength as well as the direction of the wind and keep an eye out for any changes while you're out.

Expect a busier lake this Summer. We're anticipating more boaties on Lake Rotoiti and Lake Tarawera this summer given several other Rotorua lakes have boat ramps out of action thanks to high lake levels. It's a good reminder to skippers to always keep a lookout for floating hazards.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)



Debris removed due to high lake levels

Vessel safety checks are a must when pulling that trusty boat out of hibernation. Check the expiry on your safety devices, EPIRB, flares and fire extinguishers. Run a test call on the VHF and as a minimum check all your PFD's (lifejackets) are in service and in good order. Most importantly service your outboard. I know all the marine outboard service agents are busy servicing boats for summer, so you'll need to get in sooner rather than later.

Our Summer Patrol Team has been training hard and we have a great team lined up. This summer you will see three Harbourmaster vessels on Lake Tarawera. *Kura* our little grey inflatable. *Eke Ngaru* our 5.8m Naiad and hopefully in the new year *Rua*, our 670 Powercat. *Rua* will be used to service all the navigation buoys and signage around the lake as well as patrol.

The focus for our patrol team is to ensure everyone is being safe on the water and gets home safely. Maritime Patrol often come bearing gifts for those following the rules (lollies) and those not following the rules ... well you will get something different (*not lollies*). Fines range from \$200 to \$500 for Navigation Safety Bylaw infringements so skippers please ensure you both know and follow the rules. Other things that lake users should remember this summer and that our patrols will be checking, are the need to have three people to ski, the 5 knot rule, ensuring boats are named and jetskis (pwc's) are registered.

Copies of the **2017 BOPRC Navigational Safety Bylaw** and the **2024 Boating in the Bay** publication can be obtained from any of our Patrol vessels if you see them around the lakes, or a copy can be picked up from the BOPRC office (1118 Fenton Street, Rotorua) or downloaded from the BOPRC website.

Wear your Life jacket PLEASE. Last year our team was involved in two body recovery efforts, both of which were preventable drownings if lifejackets had been worn. We make no apologies for having a zero-tolerance policy for vessels not carrying enough lifejackets (of a proper size and fit) for everyone onboard. **Remember kayakers and stand-up-paddleboarders must also be wearing lifejackets.**

You can report any bad boatie behaviour or navigational hazards to **0800 5KNOTS (0800 55 66 87)**

All the best for a safe and fun summer and a big thank you to everyone that gives our patrols a wave on the roads and the water!

Ngā Mihi

Roly Bagshaw:

Senior Maritime Officer (Lakes)



Department of Conservation Update: Caraline Abbott

North Island Dabchick Breeding Season

Lake visitors may observe North Island Dabchick engaged in breeding and nesting behaviours. These threatened native birds are part of the grebe family and there are thought to be less than 2000 birds in existence.

A successful breeding season has the potential to bolster dabchick numbers, especially given the ongoing pest control efforts around the lakes. The nests are usually tethered to submerged vegetation making them susceptible to changes in water level including boat wash.



For occupiers of lake structures such as boat sheds and jetties, we ask that maintenance and repair work is reserved for after the breeding season around November but sometimes as late as December. In some Resource consents, restricted maintenance this may be a condition of your consent.

Dogs on DOC Administered Land

Within the Rotorua District, dogs are not permitted on DOC administered land. The exception is if the dogs are included as part of a valid hunting permit. The Department has received a recent increase in the number of dog-related complaints.

Rotorua Lake Council administer dog-exercise areas in Rotorua. Further information can be found on their website.

Campground Bookings

Online bookings to stay at DOC campgrounds including Te Tapahoro (Tarawera Outlet) are now available. Please visit www.DOC.govt.nz to book and pay for your campsite.

Restoration Work

The Department recently worked with an alleged offender who had removed native vegetation in the Lake Tarawera Scenic Reserve without authorisation. The vegetation clearance was noticeable enough to have been detected using an online mapping system. The alleged offender has restored the area at their cost by planting native trees and shrubs and removing rubbish as a result of fly tipping.



Community Board Update: Phill Thomass

Hello fine weather (please)!

After such a wet winter I've been holding my breath that the promised El Nino would settle in, which seems to have happened.



ROTORUA LAKES
COMMUNITY BOARD
fb: @lakescommunityboard

While this will bring other problems especially for our friends on the East Coast, the drier weather is bringing some relief to our neighbouring lakes of Rotoehu and Rotomā, which this year have seen flooding of private properties as well as public assets (indeed all boat ramps and public toilets at both lakes, and our new playground at Matahi Spit have all been under water for months), with the road into Lake Rotoehu under water and closed. Residents there have had a ½ drive to Kawerau turned into a nearly 2 hour journey.

These issues have coincided with the Lakes Community Board focusing on helping all our communities develop and review their localised Civil Defence planning. It's great to see that Tarawera's thinking on localised plans are so advanced, no doubt your committee will be in touch with you all on this in coming months.

I am so pleased to be able to welcome Jennifer Rothwell (back) to the Lakes Community Board. Earlier in the year Stephanie had to step down from the Board, as she and her partner were offered a wonderful opportunity in Australia. Jennifer, who was a member of the Community Board last term but who was unable to stand for personal reasons at the last election, put her name forward for the empty position on the Board and I'm pleased to say she was elected unopposed and sworn in at the September Council meeting. It is great to have her back on the Board, she is extremely hard working with a wide range of interests spanning all of our lakes and their issues.

A major issue facing us all this summer, and indeed going forward, is the discovery in recent months of Asian or Gold Clams in the Waikato. Quickly following this discovery was the fact that they were found to have already spread 100 kilometres along the Waikato River. This has created alarm within Lakes and Regional Councils and Te Arawa Lakes Trust and our communities. The successful request to MPI by local Iwi to close Lake Okataina for a month has received considerable press coverage, and in conjunction with this there is a temporary halt on permitting any public events on our Rotorua Lakes until appropriate rules have been developed for event organisers to put in place to protect against Gold Clams arriving here. With approximately 1/3 of boats on our lakes coming from the Waikato we really need to get protocols in place as soon as possible, not just for events but also for individuals visiting and using our lakes. The Board will be working with Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Regional and Lakes Councils and MPI to get information on this terrible pest out to all our communities and to help develop and distribute educational material on how to protect against them. We're also working with both Councils and Te Whatu Ora to develop better systems for informing everyone of health warnings at our lakes.

Councillors are currently working on developing their ideas for the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. A long Term Plan (LTP) is Council's roadmap for what they'll do for the next 10 years, but they are reviewed every 3 years. Previously the Lakes and Rural Boards were included in the workshops to develop the last LTP, but this year councillors decided not to include us. However both Boards presented to Council last week

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

on what we see as the important issues and projects for our respective communities, and we will continue to put forward your and all our lakes communities issues to councillors as they work through developing the LTP. After they have come up with a proposed LTP they'll be asking for public feedback early in 2024. I encourage you all to engage when that feedback is called for.

Finally, after a number of years where we haven't been able to, I'm pleased that at our last Community Board meeting we resolved that next year we will again be bringing our meetings out to all our communities, with every second meeting being held at a different lake. Once the Council Meeting Calendar has been set I'll be back with further information on this.

Rotorua Lakes Community Board, Chair Phill Thomass

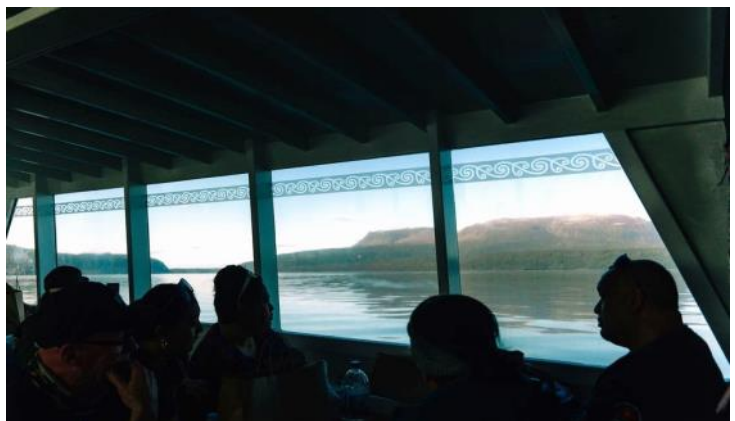
post c/- Rotorua Lakes Council, Private Bag 3029, Rotorua Mail Centre, Rotorua 3046, email rlcb@thomass.net, phone 02 75 47 44 55

Te Arawa Lakes Trust: Nicole Hunt

Te Ora o Tarawera, formerly known as the Tarawera Collective Impact Project, held its first wānanga for whānau, hapū and iwi of Tarawera in early September. 'Wānanga Tiaki Wai' was a three day wānanga focused on building the capacity and capability of whānau, hapū and iwi to participate in and make decisions for freshwater management, strengthen hapū and iwi relationships and interests across kaitiakitanga, and support whānau into reconnecting with their whenua and wai. The wānanga also enabled whānau, hapū and iwi to collectively dream of a better future for Lake Tarawera.

The wānanga was a huge success with 60-70 attendees over the course of the weekend. Whānau that attended learned about Te Mana o Te Wai/freshwater policy reforms, environmental DNA, current restoration work taking place across some of our lakes and wetlands, a mātauranga Māori method of monitoring freshwater kōura and much more. Workshops were facilitated by some of Te Arawa's own leading experts including freshwater scientist and biologist Dr. Ian Kusabs and environmental consultant Deliah Balle.

During the wānanga whānau were also taken on a special boat ride across Lake Tarawera with place-based historical kōrero shared along the way. We would like to extend a huge thank you to Karen Walmsley and Totally Tarawera for their services and generosity, and enabling whānau to foster reconnection to Lake Tarawera.



(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

Te Ora o Tarawera's team has almost been finalised with Tamihana Hamiora-Reweti leading the community engagement side as Pou Hononga Taiao, Data Managers Rikki-Lee Ruha and Corey Ruha, Communications and Engagement Support Nicole Hunt, and Administrative Support Chanelle Murphy.

The focus for the team for the rest of the year will be to continue to connect, provide support and empower communities of Tarawera to ensure the long-term care of Lake Tarawera and its seven connecting lakes, while also ensuring that the ways in which we do this reflect Te Arawa values. The team will be hosting a further workshop before the year closes out.

To keep up to date with the project you can find us on:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/oratarawera

Instagram: @oratarawera

For further information please contact:

Tamihana Hamiora-Reweti – tamihana@tearawa.iwi.nz

Nicole Hunt – Nicole.h@tearawa.iwi.nz



BOP Regional Council: Biosecurity


The discovery of the invasive new-to-New-Zealand Freshwater gold clam in the Waikato earlier this year highlights just how vital it is that lake users check, clean, dry when moving between waterways.

**ALL BOAT RAMP
USERS MUST
SELF-CERTIFY
BEFORE LAUNCHING**

You must ensure that:

- Your vessel or craft (including trailers) are free from freshwater pest fish and freshwater pest plants, including fragments.
- Any water on the vessel (including ballast, bilge, and water in the anchor bay) was drained before launch.

SELF-CERTIFY NOW


 **Scan this QR code**

OR Fill in the form at boprc.govt.nz/ccd-self-cert

OR Complete the paper form and display on your vehicle's dashboard

Warranted officers under the Biosecurity Act 1993 undertake regular compliance inspections to ensure that the rules are being followed.

Go to boprc.govt.nz for full details of rule 7 of the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) 2020-2030.



New boat ramp signage artwork for Bay View Rd.

Here in the Bay of Plenty we go one step further to ensure that people do the right thing and under Rule 7 of the Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) 2020 – 2030, all Rotorua Te Arawa boat ramp users must self-certify that their craft, vessel, and trailer are free from freshwater pests.

This summer, to help boat ramp users certify faster and more easily, new boat ramp signage is being put in at eighteen Rotorua Lakes boat ramps to enable online certification either by using the QR code or by going to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website. This new option also takes away one of the previous issues when the paper forms ran out. For Lake Tarawera, new signage is going in at Stoney Point, The Landing, Boat Shed Bay and Bay View Road.

Guidance on how to thoroughly check clean and dry boats and gear has been updated to include gold clams. Juvenile clams have a sticky mucous thread which can attach to boats and gear. This means hosing down equipment to wash it off, draining all water, then drying for at least 48 hours. Any absorbent gear that has been used in a waterbody should be soaked in hot water for at least 20 minutes or bleach solution for one hour to kill any larvae or juvenile clams.

The use of detergent to clean gear is no longer recommended.

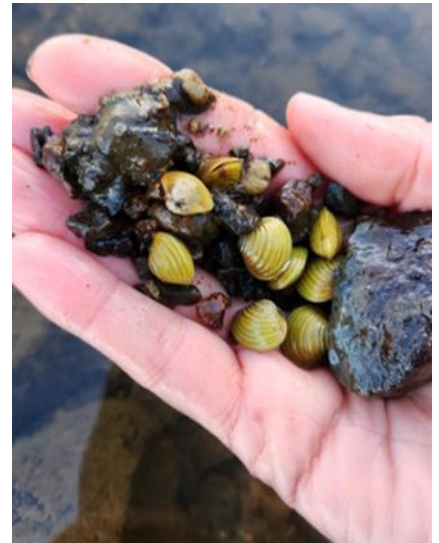
As in previous summers, warranted Biosecurity officers will be out every weekend throughout summer and daily over the peak Christmas break. The focus will be far more on compliance this year and ensuring that lake users, regardless of where they come from, have freshwater pest-free boats, trailers, and gear.

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)


About Freshwater gold clam (*Corbicula fluminea*)

The freshwater gold clam is native to eastern Asia and is widely established in North and South America and Europe. These clams reproduce rapidly and form large populations that can clog water-based infrastructure such as electricity generation plants, irrigation systems, and water treatment plants. They are filter feeders that can potentially compete with native species for food. We do not yet know how this species will respond in New Zealand conditions. Overseas, this clam has proved difficult to control and eradication has never been achieved. Biosecurity New Zealand is the lead agency for the management and control of gold clam.




When moving between waterways, check clean and dry all water equipment to reduce the risk of spreading aquatic pests such as the freshwater gold clam. **If you discover the freshwater gold clam, record your location, take a photograph and report to Biosecurity New Zealand on 0800 80 99 66.**

A Controlled Area Notice (CAN) has been declared for Lake Ōkātina for the month of October under section 131 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.



**MERLIN'S
ELECTRICAL LTD**



Merlin Sheffield
Registered Electrician, Rotorua

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

It's your responsibility to
KNOW THE RULES

Always wear your lifejacket

Take enough for everyone and wear them unless the skipper says it's safe to remove. Must be worn when being towed.





Always carry more than one way to call for help

A cellphone in a waterproof bag along with a VHF radio, flare or beacon.

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 111

FOR WEATHER REPORTS, TUNE INTO COASTGUARD ON VHF 02 TO REPORT MARITIME HAZARDS, PHONE 0508 5 KNOTS





Message from Rotorua Mayor Tania Tapsell

Tēnā koutou katoa,

I hope you've all enjoyed a wonderful start to Spring. It really is a beautiful time of year for our district.

Earlier this month, we marked the one year anniversary since Councillors and I were elected to Council. This was a valuable opportunity to reflect on all that has been achieved over the past 12 months.

Internally we turned around a \$5.6million deficit and adopted an Annual Plan that stops unnecessary spending but makes investment in critical infrastructure a priority.

This includes progressing with the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme. Stage 1 is well underway and outcomes from the Stage 2 tenders' evaluation were reported to our Infrastructure and Environment Committee in September. Currently staff are working with property owners regarding on-property installation options. This information will be assessed and recommendations will come to our Council in November on the actions required to start Stage 2 of the project. We will keep you updated as this work progresses.

We are currently recruiting for a new Chief Executive and Council's Executive team has been restructured to deliver more efficiently on our new priorities. To improve transparency and accountability for the public, we have also transformed our decision-making processes.

To solve issues in our community we delivered an exit plan from emergency housing through the Rotorua Housing Accord which has reduced the use of motels by around half and ensures more appropriate housing options are being built.

Our Council stopped the sale of our reserves, preserving these important green spaces for future generations.

To help prevent crime, a Community Safety Hub is coming to our inner city next month and we have a community safety plan underway in partnership with local Police. This focuses on greater visibility and responsiveness to crime and having recently heard from our Lakes and Rural Community Boards, we understand this needs to include our whole district.

Rotorua Aquatic Centre upgrades are underway and will provide our community with brand new fit for purpose facilities.

We have committed to re-opening our iconic Rotorua Bathhouse and Museum and have helped unlocked industrial land development that will help grow our local economy and create jobs.

We're focused on restoring the reputation of Rotorua as a world-class destination and have delivered international events like the NRL Indigenous All Stars tournament. Business confidence is increasing and tourism is bouncing back, bringing visitors and economic growth to our beautiful city.

Together, we've achieved a lot in one year and we've enjoyed doing it for our Rotorua community. We're confident we have a bright future ahead of us, and we'll keep working hard to make Rotorua a better place for all.

I hope you all have a restful and safe long weekend and I look forward to bumping into some of you at the Tarawera Spring fair.



**Kindest regards,
Tania**

Fish and Game: A New Trout Fishing Season Underway

Anglers turned out to celebrate the kick-off of the 2023-24 trout fishing season at Lake Tarawera on the 1 October. Opening day of the fishing season is always a highly anticipated affair, especially so for Tarawera boat anglers given the three-month closure to boat angling on the lake between 1 July and 30 September.

Fish & Game have been surveying anglers and their catch on opening day at Lake Tarawera for the past 50 years which provides an enviable and unbroken set of data. The three major ramp locations (Boatshed Bay, Stoney Point and The Landing) are manned and a boat also patrols the lake to interview anglers that are staying out around the lake or returning to private jetties.

This opening day at Lake Tarawera, Fish & Game staff and helpers interviewed 276 anglers and measured 270 rainbow trout. The harvest rate on the day was 1.03 fish per hour (excluding boat surveys as they provide incomplete angling trips). Anglers found the fishing was a little harder than previous openings, though the wind didn't help, forcing many to fish in more sheltered locations than perhaps the areas they wished to. The two-year-old fish, which make up the largest proportion of early season catch and reflect the most recent growing conditions within the lake were similar to the fish from the previous opening. Those released in Autumn 2022 (at 170mm length) came in at 544mm and 1.85kg. These were 7.5mm longer, and 4g heavier on average than the same aged fish from the 2022 opening. The two-year-old Spring released fish (March – May, at 180mm length) averaged 524mm and 1.66kg. As with the autumn releases, they were longer (3mm) though slightly lighter (19g).

All in all, this points to a continuation of very good productivity within the lake during the past season. The 2022 opening two-year-olds were the best we had seen from the lake over the past ten-year period, so given the longer frames this season's fish had during the opening period – we would expect some terrific weight gain through the summer as the smelt population builds. The biggest Tarawera fish we measured over the opening week was a 650mm, 3.5kg (nearly eight pound) three-year old hatchery spring released rainbow caught by Arthur Olsen from Whitianga.

Arthur Olsen & Daniel Rasdall enjoying success on Lake Tarawera



Early season, we find trolling tends to lend itself to catching more fish than jigging. Early in the morning and during the early evening as the light dims, fish are found nearer the surface so shallow trolling or harling is the way to go. As the day brightens, the trout head deeper and as they are spread throughout a range of depths, the best way to target them at this time is deep trolling with 10 colours of lead line, wire line or downriggers. In saying this, you may encounter trout smelting on the surface (slashing at smelt schools) so be prepared to fish to the conditions and what you observe on the day. From mid-November when the thermocline starts to form, trout become more concentrated around a depth band and jigging will become the go to method for many.

On our other 'trophy' lakes that opened after a winter closure, Rotoiti produced slightly larger autumn

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

two-year-olds (552mm and 2.05kg) and slightly smaller yet heavier spring two-year-olds (522mm, 1.69kg), and the largest fish seen was a 655mm, 3.1kg hatchery released autumn three-year old. Rotoiti's harvest rate was also below average for the opening day and the lake became very rough after midday.

Make sure you Check, Clean, Drain and Dry your vessels and gear between waterbodies to keep unwanted hitchhikers out. It was great to see so many clean and weed-free boats launching at the ramps over the opening period. Well done everybody. Just a reminder though, catfish are present in Lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti and just waiting for the opportunity to get into other lakes, and there is a new pest (Golden Clam) on the border that has been found in the Waikato River and several hydro lakes. Biosecurity Officers from Te Arawa Lakes Trust will be out and about this summer advocating this message, so please help them out. Also, filling out a self-certification form or online via the app is required before launching your vessels.

Best of luck with your angling this summer, we hope to see you out there and share advice and tips. Don't forget your fishing licences before you head out on the water.

Tight lines from the Fish & Game team.

Matt Osborne

Fish & Game Officer



Be inspired



**Rotorua
Festival of
Gardens**



Palmerston



10 | 11 | 12 NOVEMBER 2023

Tickets on sale now | www.rotoruegardens.org.nz

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@extra.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

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 Rangiu Bay Road (last house on right of Rangiu Bay Reserve)