

THE PHANTOM

Spring 2024



IN THIS ISSUE: PAGE NO.

From the Chair	1-5
Hanson Heating - Aircon	6
The Spring Fair	7
Tarawera Landcare (2115)	8-9
Tailored Builds	
BOPRC—Pest Plants	9-11
Community Centre Update	12
A Word from the Weather meister	
Collab Electrical	13
Hanson Heating—cool room storage	
BOPRC Harbour Master	14 –15
Tarawera Sailing	16
Jenny Donne Bayley's	
Hanson Heating, AEDs, Bottles	17
Fish & Game Update	18–19
Tarawera Pest Control	20-21
Telfer Marine	
The Black Barn	22
BOPRC Biosecurity Update	23-24
Message from the Mayor	25
Recycling Updates	26-27
LTRA Committee/Useful Numbers	28

Chair Report: Libby Fletcher

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Phantom.

It was great to see so many people at Tarawera enjoying some good spring weather during the first week of the school holidays. Many more people arrived for the opening of the fishing season on 01 October; I heard there were some excellent fish caught, the two-year-old fish are on average 600 grams heavier than this time last year. This bodes well for the fishing leading up to Autumn 2025. The community will be looking forward to the Spring Fair at Labour weekend, the LTRA will be there so please take the opportunity to come and talk to the Committee.

The resignation of myself and Karen Walmsley from the Lake Tarawera Sewerage Working Group has been criticised by some in the community. This decision was not made lightly. We had great hopes and expectations for this group, however there were differences which we could not see being resolved.

The LTRA Committee, want to make it very clear that we agree entirely with the Working Group, on two things:

The Tarawera Reticulated Sewerage Scheme must happen as soon as possible; and

(Continued from page 1)

At the lowest possible price, with 50:50 funding between the community on the one hand and Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC), Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) and Central Government on the other.

Both are long held positions by the LTRA, being necessary precursors to reducing landowner contributions to approximately \$35,000.

We have confidence that 50:50 funding will be achieved because the arguments are and always have been overwhelming. These arguments are set out in the LTRA's submissions and presentations to the RLC and BOPRC Long-term Plans – all on the LTRA website. <https://laketarawera.org.nz/waste-water/>

We also believe that the main source of further funding for reticulation is through Central Government. Government has clearly signalled that a single combined message from the two councils, Te Arawa Lakes Trust, mana whenua and the property owners collectively supporting the project, and presenting a compelling funding case, is the most likely route to success. Once again, this approach is set out in our recent Long-term Plan submissions. We have not executed this funding plan, nor had the necessary negotiations with the Councils, in deference to the Working Group's fund-raising activities.

The current community stand-off with RLC on signing the DDL locality plans is unhelpful to the joint representation outlined above. However, our more pressing concern at present is that this action remains a serious and likely risk to the timely and lowest cost completion of the scheme.

This real prospect disturbs the LTRA. Our recent call for people to sign is simply to achieve a critical number of signed-off properties to allow DDL to mobilise. We understand an initial runway of between 50 and 100 properties is required.

Accordingly, any characterisation that LTRA activities are anti-community is entirely misplaced.

The LTRA has been subjected to criticism, accusations and assumptions, which are totally unfounded. The persistent and unpleasant personal attacks have stung. But we have had a job to do, and we have got on with it. At all times, we have tried to do our very best for all landowners at Tarawera.

The LTRA has been very focused on the Lake Tarawera Reticulated Sewerage Scheme since 2015. Many of you may not be aware of the history and the steps we have taken over the last nine years. Outlined below is a summary of the progress made, and what other activities the LTRA undertakes.

Tarawera Reticulated Sewerage Scheme:

- In **December 2015**, RLC Mayor, Steve Chadwick, committed to establishing the Wastewater Working Group with \$50,000 funding. This was approved by Council mid-2016.
- In **August 2016**, the first meeting of the Lake Tarawera Sewerage Steering Group (LTSSG) was held with multi-party representation, including four members of the LTRA Committee and the local community.
- LTRA members approached Guy Salmon and asked if he would prepare a report to accompany the application for funding from the Ministry for the Environment's Freshwater Fund. Terry Beckett and I spent considerable time with Guy, along with representatives from RLC and BOPRC. The application for funding was lodged by RLC as the regulatory authority.

(Continued from page 2)

- In **August 2017**, the Ministry for the Environment granted \$6.5M to the Lake Tarawera Sewerage Scheme.
- In **October 2018**, after thorough investigations of the viable options, the Lake Tarawera Sewerage Steering Group unanimously agreed to support an onsite Low Pressure Grinder Pump (LPGP) system for each property, to be connected via Tarawera Road to the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Rotorua.
- A subsequent community meeting in late **October 2018** was held with property owners and was unanimously supported.
- In the early stage of the LTSSG meetings a Cultural Impact Assessment was created. This was led by Te Arawa Lakes Trust who consulted iwi and mana whenua. A second Cultural Impact Assessment was undertaken by mana whenua which explored the cultural perspectives of the proposals and was concluded in late 2019.
- In late **November 2020**, RLC informed by the community views, the cultural assessment report and the MfE funding requirements, passed a resolution agreeing to include the proposed scheme in its 2021/31 Draft Long-term Plan and consulted on that proposal. In **February and April 2021** property owners at Tarawera received notification of the Council's decision and their further feedback was requested to inform the final Long-term Plan adoption.
- In **June 2021**, the Council after receiving all community feedback adopted the scheme in its final Long-term Plan for 2021/31.
- In **March 2022**, property owners received a letter from RLC providing an update on the status of the project. RLC acknowledged that there would be some in the community who would not be able to afford a lump sum payment on completion of the scheme. A Funding Group was formed and met several times. This included two members of the LTRA and two members of the community. RLC agreed that, on completion of the project, property owners would pay either a lump sum price or a targeted rate paid over a period of 10 years. The LTRA has continued to advocate extension of this payment period (in line with all the other previous schemes) of 25 years.
- The Minister for the Environment proposed that the \$6.5M previously granted to the Scheme should be transferred to the East Rotoiti/Rotoma Scheme. This was opposed by RLC, the BOPRC and Te Arawa Lakes Trust over many months. This deadlock was broken when in **July 2022** Te Putaiki O Tarawera and the LTRA sent a joint letter to the Prime Minister requesting that the \$6.5M that was to be transferred to the East Rotoiti/Rotoma Sewerage Scheme be retained for the Lake Tarawera Sewerage Scheme.
- In August and **September 2022**, the Ministry for the Environment notified us that the \$6.5M would be retained for Tarawera. The scheme commenced with Stage 1 in May 2023.
- In **May 2024**, we requested, in RLC's Long-term Plan submission, an increase in the subsidy to the landowners and stated that the \$2.05M provisionally allocated to the Aquatic Centre would be more appropriately allocated to the Tarawera Wastewater Scheme. Over the last two years the LTRA has been successively lobbying the new Councillors to increase the subsidy to landowners and more recently to all Councillors on the allocation of the \$2.05M.

(Continued from page 3)

- RLC councillors subsequently agreed to an increase in the subsidy to the scheme of \$1,200 per property and that the \$2.05M will be allocated to the Tarawera scheme.

The LTRA is also involved in the following activities:

- **Tarawera Landcare** – Working bees to remove pest plants and improve our local environment. A great opportunity for members of the community to actively contribute and meet other property owners.
- **Pest Control** – Provide bait for rats and wasps. The rat bait is partially sponsored by BOPRC.
- **Water Quality** – inflow sampling and analysis of up to 36 different sites by volunteers four times a year from 2006-2021 was instigated by committee member Terry Beckett. It has led to a long-term record, which is unprecedented on lakes in New Zealand. Waikato University is currently in the process of publishing this work.
- Collection of lake water adjacent to the settlement area for **potable water analysis** to measure the potential risk to human health is on-going.
- The LTRA has a long association with the **University of Waikato** and has assisted with funding the monitoring buoy in the centre of the lake, a land-based climate station and the cost of analysing the quarterly surface water samples (mentioned above) for many years.
- The continuing **collaboration with the University of Waikato** is providing a growing body of knowledge required to better inform lake water quality decisions.
- This ongoing research includes a **ground water monitoring** project to assess the Tarawera Reticulated Sewerage Scheme's impact.
- **Obtained a legal opinion** on the role of the Rotokakahi Board of Control regarding the sewerage pipeline on Council Road reserve.
- Karen Walmsley has been working diligently with iwi and mana whenua on the Rotokakahi issue.
- **Researched underground power** for Tarawera.
- The **security cameras** at Tarawera have been paid for by the LTRA along with a contribution from Tarawera Fire Unit for the camera at Stoney Point.
- Worked closely with the Connectivity Group for the **Cell Phone Tower**.
- **Quarterly newsletter** – The Phantom (now a cost-effective digital rather than expensive paper newsletter) and regular emails to members. Fiona McAllister is the editor of the Phantom, the work involved in each issue of the Phantom is extraordinary and deservedly she has received high praise for her work.
- Revamp of the LTRA website. <https://laketarawera.org.nz/>
- Support the **Spring Fair** committee.

(Continued from page 4)

Collaboration with the Councils:

The LTRA Committee's view is that dealing with bodies with statutory powers is quite different to negotiating and working in a commercial context. The Councils do not think and respond in that way.

Councils always prefer to take the community with them on reticulation or other matters of community significance. They are generally reluctant to use their statutory powers to achieve an outcome. However, any negotiations, collaboration and/or frank and transparent exchanges of views must always be considered against the backdrop that the Councils have the responsibility to make effective and efficient decisions for the whole of their communities and their regulatory powers can be used to implement agreed policies if necessary.

Furthermore, by virtue of their council statutory roles and powers, Councils and members of the community will always be in long-term enduring relationships.

The LTRA committee firmly believes that unconstructive confrontation with Councils will have limited or possible adverse effect. We are committed to ensuring both a sustainable long-term reticulation solution for the current and future residents of Tarawera, and the best outcome for our lake's long-term water quality.

Constitution:

Recently we sent to members the draft for the new Constitution for the LTRA. No changes to the draft rules have been proposed. The Committee regards the new Constitution as uncontroversial and expects that it will be approved and adopted at the AGM without controversy or too much debate so the LTRA may be registered under the new Incorporated Societies Act to ensure its longevity for the benefit of the community.,

Election of Committee Members:

We are looking for an early indication from the community as to who would be willing to stand for election as committee members. Reticulation is now a certainty; current Committee members may not offer themselves for re-election.

Over the last nine years, the total dedication the Committee has shown has been quite extraordinary, and the collective hours involved in meetings with all stakeholders has been enormous. I feel incredibly grateful for their dedication and continued support during some pretty difficult times. For me it is a great privilege to lead this team.

For those of you travelling to the lake for the long weekend, safe travels. Again, we will be at the Spring Fair and will look forward to catching up with you.

Kind regards,

Libby and the LTRA Committee.



500 DAYS*

NO DEPOSIT | NO INTEREST | NO PAYMENTS

OFFER VALID ON ANY FUJITSU AIR CONDITIONER

**Buy any Fujitsu Air Conditioner
now and pay nothing for 500 days.***

53 Fairy Springs Road | Phone: 07 346 2694
sales@hansonheating.co.nz | hansonheating.co.nz



*Purchase by 4:59pm NZDT 13/12/24. Install by 4:59pm NZDT 31/01/25. Domestic and residential purchases only. Exclusions apply, see full terms and conditions. Cool Finance Offer available from selected finance-accredited Fujitsu Installers only. Approved applicants only. Lending criteria, \$50 annual Account Fee, fees, terms and conditions apply. Minimum spend applies. Standard Interest Rate of 28.95% p.a. applies to outstanding balance at the end of LTF Interest Free Period. Credit by Q Card. Full terms and conditions available at www.fujitsugeneral.co.nz/promotions. The Promoter is Fujitsu General New Zealand Limited, 109 Port Road, Seaview, Wellington 5010.

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER from 10.00 AM

Stoney Point, Spencer Road, Lake Tarawera

Shop Early For Christmas!

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

**FOOD STALLS - INCLUDING BAKING, PRESERVES, REDWOOD
BUTCHERY, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, CREPES, COFFEE TRUCK ... and more**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

Variety Auction Commences 1.00 PM



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

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

Tarawera Landcare (2115)

Tarawera Landcare 2115 has been going now for nearly ten years!

Initially the task before us seemed nigh on impossible. Those of you who can recall what Kariri Point used to look like will agree that in some small way we have made a difference. Even those who haven't yet attended one of our regular working bees will have at the very least heard about our efforts.

Dave Townsend and his dedicated crew have made a huge difference around Otumutu Lagoon with their regular weekly working bees.

It's very satisfying to look back on our achievements and to recognise the commitment of some community members to the ongoing battle.

We have had significant encouragement and assistance from Regional Council over the years and this remains ongoing. Typically care groups start with plenty of enthusiasm but more often than not just fizzle out. The reason this hasn't happened to us is down to the tireless efforts and enthusiasm of our own Ratmeister—you know who I mean.

The LTRA has also been very generous when we have needed funding.

The major highlight for me has been the people and the ensuing friendships that have been made, but also the recognition of the work done by both Councils. Regional Council have shown their commitment by supplying us with advice and equipment as well as the chemicals necessary to carry out the pest

Your local craftsmen.



Bringing bespoke and intricate detail to life.
Whether you have an idea in your head, the plans drawn up, or you're the architect on the project,
we're here to help.



tailoredbuilds.co.nz



John Goad 022 524 5741
Steve Webb 027 300 9804

(Continued from page 8)

plant control work. We have had financial assistance from members in the community without whose help we might have struggled to get off the ground initially.

The first ten years has gone by in a flash. It will be interesting to review progress in another ten years.

In the meantime, Regional Council are encouraging property owners to get busy on their own properties and the focus currently is Climbing Spindle berry and Old Man's Beard. You should have received a notification and fact sheet recently regarding this pair of invaders. We have reprinted them below on the subsequent pages.

If you would like input, such as advice or chemicals from Regional Council to assist your own efforts on your property or your neighbours', feel free to contact me or the Ratmeister. We can arrange for Cam Wolting from Regional Council to get in touch.

1 August 2024



Dear Landowner/Occupier

You are receiving this letter because your property is located in an area known to have **Old man's beard and Climbing spindle berry**. Both pest plants are listed as Sustained Control pests in the Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030 in the Rotorua area, meaning they are landowner responsibility to control.

Council wants to support landowners with strategic and practical control advice to reduce these pest plants within the Lake Tarawera area. We are currently in discussions with Rotorua Lakes Council about controlling these species along roads and in reserves to ensure work carried out by private landowners and care groups within this area can be maximised.

If you have this species on your property and need advice or support on how to control them, please contact your local Regional Council Biosecurity officer at stop.pests@boprc.govt.nz.

Old man's beard and Climbing spindle berry are climbing pest weeds. They smother other plants and are not easy to control, once established. The fluffy seeds of Old man's beard are spread by wind, Climbing spindle berry is spread vegetatively (long runners) and by berries (eaten by birds).

Overleaf is information on Old man's beard and Climbing spindle berry. You can visit the Bay of Plenty Regional Council website for more information [Pest plants \(boprc.govt.nz\)](https://www.boprc.govt.nz/pest-plants).

Regards

Cameron Wolting
Biosecurity Officer Pest Plants Rotorua



Climbing spindle berry

Celastrus orbiculatus

Family

Celastraceae (spindle tree)

Also known as

Oriental bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens*

Where is it originally from?

Eastern Asia, Korea, China and Japan

What does it look like?

Deciduous, hairless climber (<12 m high) with suckering roots, round, woody layering, greyish brown stems and young green twigs that often have sharp spines (1-2 mm). Roundish, finely serrated leaves (5-10cm long) alternate on the stem and turn yellow before falling.

Pale green insignificant flowers are followed by round yellow to orange seed capsules (6-8 mm diameter) that expose fleshy scarlet seed coverings.

Why is it weedy?

Grows rapidly, has a scrambling habit, suckering roots, and stems that take root when they touch the ground. Well dispersed seeds are viable for 2-5 years.

Tolerates hot to very cold temperatures, shade (where seeds germinate best), and high to moderately low rainfall.

How does it spread?

Seeds are spread by birds, possibly possums and other mammals.

What damage does it do?

Stems strangle host and climb to the top of most canopies, causing them to collapse. Stems in contact with the ground take root, forming dense, forming impenetrable thickets.

Which habitats is it likely to invade?

Disturbed and intact bush, shrubland, and bush margins.

What can I do to get rid of it?

1. Dig out: Dispose of as much as possible either at refuse transfer station or by burning.
2. Stump and stem swab (spring-summer): Cut and dispose of most stems. Slice and treat both ends of remaining stems: glyphosate (250ml/L) or a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (100ml/L).
3. Spray (spring-summer): overall spray with glyphosate (150ml/10L + penetrant) or metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (5g/10L + penetrant) or triclopyr 600 EC (20ml/10L + penetrant). For large stands, best to cut and dispose of stems in autumn, and spray regrowth in spring.

CAUTION: When using any herbicide or pesticide, PLEASE READ THE LABEL THOROUGHLY to ensure that all instructions and directions for the purchase, use and storage of the product, are followed and adhered to.

What can I do to stop it coming back?



Photo: Carolyn Lewis



Photo: Carolyn Lewis



Photo: Carolyn Lewis

Old man's beard

Clematis vitalba

Family

Ranunculaceae (buttercup)

Also known as

Travellers' joy, wild clematis

Where is it originally from?

Europe, South West Asia

What does it look like?

Deciduous, climbing, layering vine (<20 m tall) with very long, woody stems with six prominent ribs (appear as furrows in older vines) and pale, easily rubbed-off bark. Leaves are arranged in opposite pairs on the stems, and are made up of five (rarely three) widely spaced leaflets that fall in autumn.

Thin, papery leaflets are sparsely hairy and have bluntly toothed or smooth edges. Creamy white, fragrant flowers (2-3 cm diameter, Dec-May) are followed by grey, hairy seeds (2-3 mm long) with distinctive white plumes (3-4 cm long) in dense, fluffy clusters persisting over winter (hence the 'old man's beard').

Are there any similar species?

All native clematis species are evergreen, have 3 leaflets (except the leafless *C. afoliata*), unfurrowed stems, and flower from August to December. All exotic species that are found in the wild are deciduous (flowers Dec-May), except the occasionally weedy, pink-flowered *C. Montana* (flowers Oct-Dec).

Why is it weedy?

Grows rapidly, forming dense, heavy, masses that dominate canopy of any height. Stems layer profusely, and it produces many long-lived seeds if exposed to frost. Tolerant of cold, moderate shade, damp, wind, salt, most soil types, and damage.

How does it spread?

Seed is spread by water or wind, and both seed and stem fragments are spread in dumped vegetation. Common sources are forests, roadsides, hedgerows, vacant land, and willow swamps.

What damage does it do?

Smothers and kills all plants to the highest canopy, and prevents the establishment of native plant seedlings. Moves readily into established forest over canopy and by layering.

Which habitats is it likely to invade?

Disturbed and open forest and forest margins, shrublands, riverbeds, cliffs, bush tracks, fernland, and tussock land.

What can I do to get rid of it?

1. Introduce biological control agents wherever weed is common - contact your regional council for more information.
2. Slash thick stems (all year round) at 1m and ground level (to prevent stump resprouting and aerial roots attaching from hanging stems). Paint cut stumps with glyphosate (250ml/L) or metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (5g/L) or a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (100ml/L) or triclopyr 600 EC (100ml/L) or triclopyr 120g/L (500ml/L) or a product containing 200g 2,4-D+100g dicamba/L (200ml/L) or dicamba 50g/L (400ml/L) or picloram gel. Leave stems



Photo: Carolyn Lewis



Photo: Carolyn Lewis



Photo: Carolyn Lewis

Community Centre Update: Claire Stewart

Regular events

- * Tai Chi Weekly: **Thursdays at 2.00pm**
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

Regular catch ups planned. Join the Facebook group to find out more: www.facebook.com/groups/lakekids/.

If you know someone who is a member who is not receiving our emails please forward this email and ask them to [click this link to subscribe](#).

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

A Word from the Weather Meister

We are all pretty hopeless at weather prediction, me included, so I will fill in the blanks for the last four months from my Tarawera-based weather station in Spencer Rd. (It is set at 2.5 m above the ground so the minimum air temperature will be variable.)

	<u>Monthly rainfall</u>	<u>Max Temp</u>	<u>Min Temp</u>
June	138.6 mm	19 C	3.1 C
July	119.8 mm	16.7 C	8.1 c
August	113.6 mm	16.9 C	0.14 C
September	69.8 mm	20 C	2.9 C

In terms of rain events there were two big ones:

Sept 1st at 4 am: 16mm in an hour

Sept 14th between 8pm and 11 pm: there was 24mm of rain





**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

**Do you need something
to keep the good
stuff chilly?**



**Are you holding an event and need
additional refrigerated cool room
storage?**

**We have available for hire (from end
of January 2024) a portable trailer
coolroom.**



BOOK NOW
matt@hansonheating.co.nz
07 346 2694



Harbourmaster's Report: Roly Bagshaw

Bylaw Update The Bay of Plenty Navigation Safety Bylaws review is now in its final phase. The changes have been approved by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and we await Ministry of Transport approval. While this is likely to take six months, we do know the changes coming.

Key BOPRC Navigation Safety Bylaw changes coming into effect mid-2025:

- ⇒ Lifejackets will need to be worn at all times **on vessels 6m and under while underway.**
- ⇒ To help keep swimmers in the Kaituna River safe, the Speed Uplifting will be removed from a stretch of the river around the Waitangi settlement.
- ⇒ To help keep swimmers in the Tarawera River safe, the Speed Uplifting will be removed from a stretch of the river around the Kawerau township.

A decision on the Hunters Creek ski area has been reserved until further investigation and engagement with key stakeholders is complete.

Harbourmaster patrols will be using this summer to educate people about the upcoming changes.

The Lifejacket Rule Explained – Perhaps the most significant Bylaw change is the amended regional lifejacket rule which will affect most Rotorua boaties and watercraft users.

The incoming rule change will make Lifejackets/Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) compulsory to wear on vessels 6m and under while underway. This includes craft such as dinghy's, kayaks, paddleboards. Modern PFD designs mean they are more comfortable than ever before, so really there is no excuse for not wearing one.

Previously the Bylaw lifejacket rule allowed skippers aged 15 and older of a recreational boat under six metres to decide if passengers could take their lifejacket off while moving.

Nationally, of the 14 watercraft-related deaths this year, 13 had not worn lifejackets.

Not everyone appreciates that in freshwater you will struggle to stay afloat compared to being in salt water and because lakes are typically colder, your body temperature drops more quickly. Both factors combined mean people have less time to be rescued if they get into trouble and help is not always readily available on the Lakes.

Regularly we see lake users underestimating the dangers our lakes pose so our Rotorua Lakes team view the change in Lifejacket rule as a positive move.

Get Ready for Summer!

With the days getting warmer it's time to start turning your attention to your boating pre-season maintenance. Being safe on the water this summer is about having a reliable vessel and is usually based on ticking all off all the "jobs" prior to getting on the water.

Here are a few basic maintenance tips to consider:

- **Inspect the Hull:** Check for any cracks, chips, or signs of wear. Clean and wax the hull to protect it from the elements.
- **Test the Engine:** Run your engine as per manufacturers guidelines and listen for any unusual

(Continued from page 14)

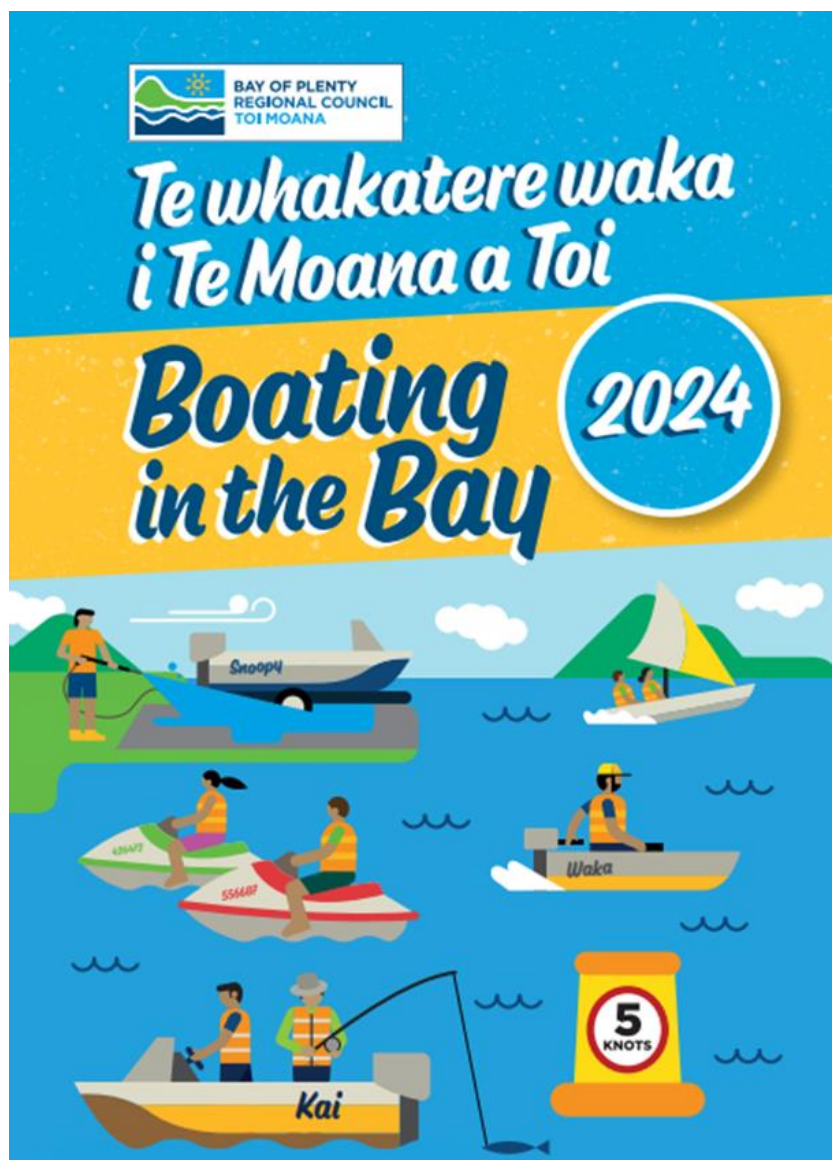
noises. Servicing should be done regularly on most boats (usually every 100 hours)

- **Check the Battery:** Ensure your battery is fully charged and terminals are clean. Consider replacing old batteries to avoid breakdowns.
- **Examine Safety Equipment:** Confirm that all safety gear, including life jackets, EPIRB, flares, and fire extinguishers, are in good condition (look at all expiry dates). Ideally you have a VHF turn this on and test.
- **Inspect the Electrical System:** Check all lights and electronics to ensure they are functioning properly. Check the trailer lights at the same time!
- **Clean the Interior:** Remove any debris, clean surfaces, and ensure that all equipment is stowed securely. Consider how and where all your items on board can best stowed.
- **Test the Bilge Pump:** Make sure your bilge pump is working correctly to prevent water accumulation in the hull.
- **Review Navigation Tools:** Ensure you have charts and compass and if you have an electronic plotter sounder it is working as intended.
- **Trailer:** Check wheel bearings and check the fittings securing the boat to the trailer! By getting a WOF any minor issues will get picked up

By taking these basic steps now, you can ensure a safer and more enjoyable boating experience throughout the summer.

Finally, please freshen up on your **responsibilities as SKIPPER!** Know the rules before you head out. The best single place for finding this information is reading through our **BOATING IN THE BAY.**

Copies can be found at most boating stores or from any Bay of Plenty Regional Council Office, otherwise google can find an online version for you on our website!



Lake Tarawera Sailing 2024/25 Season

Registration Day: Sunday, 24 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.


BAYLEYS



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

SUCCESS FEELTLY LVL, BAYLEYS, LICENSED & MEMB THE REAL ACT 2008

Proud sponsor of the Lake Tarawera Sailing School



IT'S TIME FOR SUMMER SERVICES & MAINTENANCE

Heat pump services & chimney sweeps

Heat Pump Service \$145
Spring is the time to service your heat pump before switching to cooling.

Wood Fire Chimney Sweep \$90
Now is the perfect time to clean your woodburner as it removes the build up of creosote and soot whilst not in use. Sweep includes a visual inspection of the woodburner and flue for peace of mind.

* Standard Chimney Sweep - Single Storey. Double Storey/Open Fires and Cookers incur extra charge. Price for Lake Tarawera.

HANSON
HEATING+COOLING
www.hansonheating.co.nz

BOOK NOW!
admin@hansonheating.co.nz
07 346 2694

WANTED

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



Please drop off to 214 Spencer Road,
Lake Tarawera

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 Rangioru Bay Rd**

(No phone needed)

This is the farthest house on the right of Rangioru Bay as you look out to the lake

Access across Rangioru Bay Reserve or down Rangioru Bay Road

Private Property—Please Respect



Fish & Game Update 2024: Matt Osborne

Tarawera Trout Season Spectacular Over Opening!

Lake Tarawera's trout have been absolutely amazing this opening reflecting the upsurge in recent growth conditions in the lake. Fish & Game staff have measured the best two-year-old fish we have seen in the past two decades. This is on the back of several very wet seasons and high lake levels that have boosted productivity.

Anglers turned out in droves to celebrate the kick-off of the 2024-25 trout fishing season at Lake Tarawera on the 1st of 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 providing an enviable and unbroken set of data. The major ramp locations are manned by our staff 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 258 anglers and measured 336 rainbow trout. The harvest rate on the day was 1.45 fish per angler (excluding boat surveys as they provide incomplete angling trips). This harvest rate was much higher than the long-term average for fish brought home to the table (1.2 fish/angler) and a high return of fish also released to grow bigger points to the overall strike rate being increased.

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 enormous compared to the fish from the previous opening. Those released in autumn 2023 (at 170mm length) came in at 583mm and 2.45kg. These were 38mm longer, and a whopping 593g heavier on average than the same aged fish from the 2023 opening. The 2-year-old spring released fish (March – May 2023, at 180mm length) averaged 540mm and 2.01kg. As with the autumn releases, they were significantly longer (16mm) and 345g heavier.

The biggest Tarawera fish we measured over the opening was a 635mm, 3.4kg (7.5 pounds old money) three-year-old hatchery spring released rainbow caught by Greg Desmond from Auckland (pictured right). There will be bigger fish lurking!

What we have witnessed at opening indicates a continuation of tremendous productivity within the lake during the past season. Putting this growth into perspective, the two-year-olds from 2023 were the best seen since 2012, and now the 2024 opening two-year-olds are the best we have seen from the lake since 2002. Given the larger size this season's fish have gained up to the opening period – we can only expect terrific improvement through the summer as the smelt population builds. The smelt (small silvery fish) are the breakfast, lunch and dinner of the rainbow



(Continued from page 18)

trout and spawn in the springtime. With the boom growth period ahead, we are highly optimistic and excited that we could see some really big fish in the autumn and winter period ahead.

As to fishing methods early in the 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 and soft baiting will become the go to method for many.

On our other 'trophy' lakes that opened after a winter closure, Rotoiti produced larger autumn two-year-olds (564mm and 2.35kg) and slightly shorter yet heavier spring two-year-olds (519mm, 1.74kg), and the largest fish seen was a 640mm, 4kg hatchery released autumn three-year-old. Rotoiti's harvest rate was also better than average for the opening day at 1.31 fish per angler.

Lake Okataina produced autumn two-year-olds that were 27mm longer and 350g heavier than at the last opening recorded in 2022. The spring released two-year-olds were also longer (20mm) and slightly heavier (54g) than the 2022 opening fish. Largest fish was similar to Tarawera's at 635mm and 3.43kg. Harvest rate was 1.72 fish per angler. Just a reminder for anglers looking to launch vessels at Okataina, a CAN order (Controlled Area Notice) still exists requiring all vessels to be cleaned at the Wash Place, Te Ngae Rd and QR code scanned before heading to Okataina.

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. Great work 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 is 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. Our rangers will be on the water this summer and 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

Lake Tarawera Pest Control

Rats

Rats definitely cause me trouble. As you may remember I said we are trialling a system of 'Pulse Baiting', baiting based on food requirement rather than having constantly available bait. This was the first season we have used this system and for me it has been a success. Why ?

- We have used a lot less bait, this is important because we haven't got much money to buy bait.
- It is taking a lot less time to bait in the winter.

From my tracking tunnel information I can see the level of rat activity is the same or less than previous years where I have had bait on demand. It is too early to claim ultimate success because it could be weather related or some other factor but so far I am happy.

An interesting rat fact. Rats have a collapsible rib cage, not collapse to bits but more the two sides of the cage can slide into each other so that they can crawl along narrow gaps. People often look at small spaces and say "How in the hell did a rat get through that!"

Possums:

I think we have the same number of possums as ever before, I am catching a constant number of them, every time I think I am on top of them they come back in number.

They are pretty simple to catch, it is more that some are more savvy than others and take a bit longer to succumb.

Wasps:

I am coming to realise the best way to deal with wasps is to kill their nests, the wasp killing paste Vespex is good but there is no substitute for nest eradication. In 2024 I killed 23 nests and it is interesting to note the nests developed later in the season. What that means I'm not sure. Plus over time the wasps have become more aggressive.

If you find a nest, tell me and I will come and deal to it, I have a 100% solution to wasps if someone can tell me *where* the nest is!

Mice:

Some people have contacted me re an infestation of mice. Mice are not just small rats, they are a genetically different species.

My experience is they can get to problematic levels very fast, way faster than rats, our Ditrac Rat bait will kill mice if they are inclined to eat it. My advice is try and not get them in the first place.

Food, food and warmth - that is what they have come to you for. Think like a mouse or rat and see

(Continued from page 20)

what foods are available, someone had a Japanese Walnut tree (*Juglans ailantifolia*) in their garden, a nice shade tree but a prolific seeder. Rats and mice came for the nuts in autumn and Hey Ho a nice place to hole up next door. The tree was removed and the problem went. Same too for figs and walnuts . Look for overhanging tree branches that could allow a rodent access to your gutters then the eaves and the ceiling of your house .

Rodents need water, lots of it, for their body weight they need more water than humans. Check water sources.

Use chicken wire to block potential points of entry to basements and under houses.

If all else fails ask me and I will supply a tracking tunnel so that you can see what it is that is there causing trouble and we can cook up a plan.

Remember all of these evil doers are resourceful and didn't get to where they are in the food chain by being stupid and inviting death. Think smart!

Ratmeister

Email: rats@eol.co.nz

Phone: 029 575 0943



TELFER MARINE

ROTORUA

BOATING & OUTDOORS

≈ Supplies for the Kiwi lifestyle ≈



ROTORUA'S ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL THINGS BOATING!

- Yamaha Authorised Dealership & Service Department
- Huge range of water sports gear
- Life Jackets
- New and used boat sales
- Electronics & Sounders
- Oil & Maintenance Supplies
- Fishing gear
- Minn Kota Pro Store & Authorised Service Centre

WE SERVICE ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF OUTBOARDS AND INBOARDS











236 Te Ngae Road, Rotorua

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

THE BLACK BARN

LAKE TARAWERA



Escape the everyday for your next event..

Weddings - Private gatherings - Corporate Events



theblackbarnlaketarawera



The Black Barn, Lake Tarawera

www.theblackbarn.co.nz

info@theblackbarn.co.nz

027 631 1970

Image by Grace Jones Photography

BOPRC Freshwater Biosecurity Update



The discovery of the invasive freshwater clams (*Corbicula*) just down the road in the Waikato last year is a constant reminder for lake users and residents to be vigilant in following the correct check, clean, dry guidance, and self-certification rule. It's the best line of defence we have in ensuring that the clams don't spread to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes.

For people coming from the Waikato to the region, the specific rules put in place by Biosecurity New Zealand last summer remain (as at 7 October). For the latest details please check on the Biosecurity New Zealand website. The additional requirements for people heading to Lake Ōkātina are also on the Biosecurity New Zealand website, while current access hours to the lake can be found on the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme website.

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. The installation of signs containing QR codes last summer has helped to bump up compliance rates, but people still need to do better to ensure that every time they use the boat ramp that they complete the form regardless of when they were last out on the water or where they are coming from. As residents we ask that you encourage any friends or family coming to use the lake follow the rules and complete the self-certification.



Advice on how to check clean and dry boats and gear has been further refined to include gold clams. Because the juvenile clams have a sticky mucous thread which can attach to boats and gear, people need to be extra thorough and take extra care and the use of detergent to clean gear is no longer recommended.

(Continued from page 23)

Biosecurity officers from Te Arawa Lakes Trust working in collaboration with Bay of Plenty Regional Council were out for the start of the trout fishing season on the 1 October checking for rule 7 compliance. They will be building up to daily boat ramp checks throughout the peak summer period and will continue to educate boat ramp users on why the rules are in place, how to comply with them and ensure self-certification compliance is being completed.

Check, clean and dry advice

Before moving between waterways, you must do the following for all gear that comes into contact with water:

Check

Remove any plant matter and leave it at the site (the river or lake bank), or put it in the rubbish. Don't wash it down any drain.

Clean

Dishwashing detergent is not effective against gold clams, but hot water is.

For absorbent material, such as lifejackets or clothing, wash with hot water above 60°C for at least one minute; between 50-54°C (hot household tap water) for at least five minutes; or above 45°C for at least 20 minutes. Alternatively, soak items in a 10% bleach solution.

Dry

Ensure gear is completely dry to touch, inside and out, then leave to dry for at least another 48 hours before using it.



Gold Clams in the Waikato River

Source: mpi.govt.nz

Biosecurity Officer Te Wakaunua Te Kurapa

Got guests coming from the Waikato?

There are specific rules that apply to users of the Waikato River in the 'controlled area' which covers from the Whakamaru Dam to the river mouth at Port Waikato, including Lake Karapiro.

- **No wake boats** from the controlled area can be used on Bay of Plenty waterways or other waterways in New Zealand.
- **All river users that have been in the controlled Waikato area must follow Check-Clean-Dry requirements** for any craft, gear (such as fishing and other equipment used to gather kai) and equipment (including water skis, wakeboards, and inflatable pool toys).
- **Any boat that has been in the controlled area in the last 30 days** must be cleaned at the designated wash station.

DESIGNATED STATION: The Wash Place, 38 Te Ngae Road, Rotorua ►



Message from Rotorua Mayor Tania Tapsell

Greetings Tarawera residents,

You know more than anyone how special Lake Tarawera is and the need to protect our environment. One way Council is helping to do this is through the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme to ensure we protect our waters and our people.

I also know for many of you the delays along Tarawera Road due to paused work on the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme are becoming increasingly frustrating.

We acknowledge the disappointment some of you may be feeling and how disruptive this is. The intention was always to get this final section of Stage 1 work completed as quickly as possible to minimise disruption to traffic flow. However the pause in work has been necessary to ensure work can continue safely. The safety of all people has to be our priority.

Our Chief Executive called for the pause on 30 August because the work was causing concern for some and protests at the worksite were creating unacceptable safety risks. The pause has allowed time for council to further understand mana whenua views and concerns, which have been focused around protecting Lake Rotokākahi and ensuring appropriate cultural practices for any archeological sites.

I want to be upfront that the current option of going along the existing road reserve is the best option financially, culturally and environmentally. Council will not be drilling through burial grounds, and is not diverting sewerage into another lake. We've shared further information to help address these concerns.

Discussions with mana whenua have also allowed us to ask what other practical actions council could take to help people feel more comfortable about this stage of the project. Daily conversations between council staff and iwi have been ongoing since work was paused.

This is a vital project to protect the health of Lake Tarawera, our natural environment, and our people, so Council is very supportive of it continuing.

Work will restart as soon as possible. Once this happens, work in this area should be complete within about 4 weeks. Council and contractors will also do everything we can to complete work as quickly as possible.

While the pause has been necessary, it has unfortunately come at a cost and I know this is causing additional concern for the Tarawera community. All costs associated with the pause are being ring-fenced and our Council will consider and decide how these are dealt with at an appropriate time.

Throughout the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme project, the council project team has worked hard to keep costs as low as possible, recognising that while it's a necessary project, it comes as a financial burden to the Tarawera community.

Through our Long-Term Plan, Council agreed to increase the Rotorua Lakes Council subsidy towards the scheme from \$1500 to \$2700 per household and to continue working with central government and Bay of Plenty Regional Council to try to find additional funding. More recently our Council also voted to reallocate \$2.05 million of funding from Stage 3 of the Rotorua Aquatic Centre to the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme. We've asked our Chief Executive to consider and propose options for how this can be best used to support the Scheme.

We'll continue to look for ways to reduce costs for the Tarawera community and hope to have this important project back on track soon. To ensure no further delays or costs are incurred for the project, we encourage you to please keep working with council staff on the necessary building consents for on-property locality plans to support progress of Stage 2 of the project.

Kindest regards,
Tania



Recycling changes from 1 Feb 2024



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RECYCLING GO
TO OUR WEBSITE

WWW.ROTORUALAKESCOUNCIL.NZ/RECYCLING

Can I recycle this?



Most Kiwis can now
recycle the same things from
home. Here's how you can
recycle right.

Recycling



Here's what you can
put out for recycling.



Plastic bottles, trays
and containers numbered
1, 2 and 5 only



Food and drink tins
and cans



Paper
and cardboard



Glass bottles
and jars

Take off the lids, rinse out your dirty items,
and put them out for recycling.



Yes



Here's what you can't
put out for recycling.



Compostable
packaging and
containers



Nappies
and sanitary
products



Lids from
bottles, jars
and containers



Fabric and clothing



Soft plastics



Polystyrene



E-waste



Coffee cups and lids



Aerosols



No

TIP: Before you put an item
in your rubbish bin, consider
whether it can be reused or
recycled elsewhere.

From Feb 1 2024 what you can recycle in NZ has changed. To avoid contamination of materials to be recycled, please familiarise yourself with **what can be recycled**. Our Tarawera Transfer station is a valuable community resource – let's not jeopardise it! Please do your part. If you host guests perhaps print this off for them.

Can I recycle these?



Plastic bottles, trays
and containers numbered
1, 2 and 5 only



Food and drink
tins and cans



Paper and
cardboard



Glass bottles
and jars



Yes

Take off the lids, rinse out your dirty items,
and put them out for recycling.

Get up to date on recycling right at
www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/recycling

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)