

THE PHANTOM

Summer 2023



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Chair Report: Libby Fletcher

Welcome to the Summer Phantom.

December already, where has this year gone! It has been a challenging year for all, I am sure everyone will be looking forward to great summer break.

Tarawera Reticulated Sewerage Scheme

By now you should have received the update from the Council, if not, the letter is on our website: www.tarawera.org.nz It is pleasing to note that the current programme and expenditure to date is on track.

The contractors will be taking a break over the Christmas New Year holiday, the team will be off site from 23 December and returning on January 8. Most of the road cones will be removed but please obey any signage as it has been left in place to protect you from a hazard.

On Sunday 28 January (the Sunday of Auckland Anniversary Weekend), there will be a public meeting at the Community Hall at 10.00 am for the Tarawera Sewerage Scheme and members of the Council Infrastructure team will be there. Everyone is welcome.

(Continued from page 1)

Spring Fair

A very successful Spring Fair was held on the Sunday of Labour Weekend, a clear but windy day, once again very well attended. It was great to see the Mayor at the Fair again this year.

The Spring Fair committee raised \$1,315.00 and this money has been donated to the Community Garden, Tarawera FM and Tarawera Landcare. A thank you must go to the Infrastructure Team at Rotorua Lakes Council as they provided extra rubbish bins and four portaloos, without that help, there would have been little or no profit. Thank you also to the Parks and Reserve Team for smoothing out the parking area at Stoney Point and putting in two sets of steps from the parking area onto the reserve.

Thank you to the Spring Fair committee, they are a small committee and work extremely hard to put on this successful event each year.

LTRA AGM:

The AGM will be held on Sunday 14 January 2024 at the Tarawera Community Hall at 10.00 am and we do hope that you are able to attend.

Anyone who wishes to nominate a person for the position of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, or committee member must fill out a nomination form, have it seconded and signed by the nominee. They must be a financial member of the LTRA.

Please send the nomination form to the Secretary at ltra@xtra.co.nz The Agenda for the meeting and Nomination Form are included in the Phantom.

New Year's Eve Fireworks Display:

This will be Peter Johnston (PJ's) final fireworks display. It is reverting to the old time of midnight. There is more information included in the Phantom on page 22.

Security:

Please ensure that your boats, kayaks, and all equipment is secure as there are opportunists out there looking for free goods.

LTRA Subscriptions:

Thank you to everyone who has paid their annual subscription to the LTRA, we appreciate your support.

We hope to see you at the AGM on Sunday 14 January 2024.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2024. For those of you travelling for the holidays, safe travels.

Kindest regards,

Libby

LTRA AGM 2024:PROXY VOTE

I (name) _____

Of (Tarawera address) _____

Being a financial member of the LTRA Inc. as at 31 December, 2023 hereby appoint:

Name: _____

To be my proxy at the AGM of the above association to be held on Sunday, 14 January 2024 at 10.00 am

LTRA COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM AGM 2024

I (name of nominator)

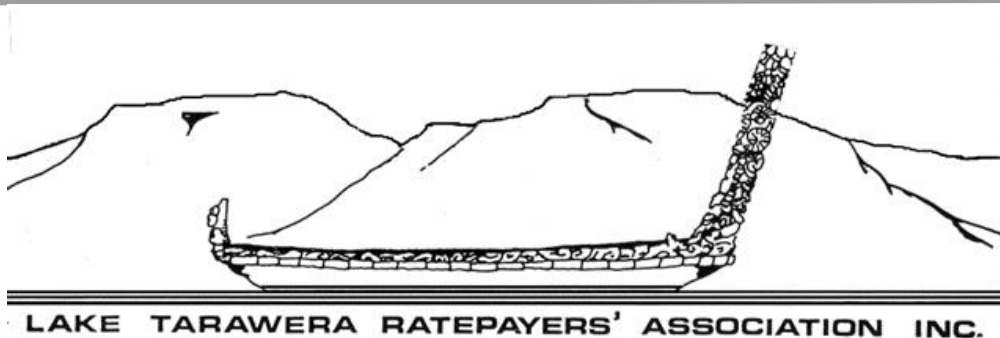
Of (Tarawera address of nominator) _____

Being a financial member of the LTRA Inc. as at 31 December 2023 hereby nominate (name):

For the position of: Committee Member/Chair/Secretary/Treasurer, of the Lake Tarawera Ratepayers' Assn. Inc. (Please circle the position)

Nominator's signature: _____

Nominee's signature _____



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, 14 JANUARY 2024 COMMENCING AT 10.00 AM

At the Lake Tarawera Community Hall, Corner Spencer, and Alexander Roads.

AGENDA

- ♦ Welcome and Apologies
- ♦ Minutes of the 53rd AGM held on Sunday, 15 January 2023
- ♦ Matters Arising
- ♦ Chairman's Report
- ♦ Financial Report
- ♦ Election 2024 Committee
- ♦ Presentation on Water Quality, Deniz Ozkundakci – Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chair in Lake and Freshwater Science
- ♦ Update on Sewerage Reticulation from Stavros Michael, Rotorua Lakes Council
- ♦ General Business
- ♦ Other Business: Any other matter raised at the AGM will be recorded and referred to the incoming committee to action
- ♦ Guest Speakers



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236 Te Ngae Road, Rotorua

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WANTED

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



Please drop off to 214 Spencer Road,
Lake Tarawera



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

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Tarawera Sailing~ Race

Annual King of the Lake Race

Wednesday, 3rd January at 1:00 PM

Te Karamea Bay, Cliff Road Reserve

Bring your boat, a gold coin for the booby prize and race for the King of the Lake Old Gold Trophy. There is also a new trophy for the Wing Foilers.

This is a challenging race for experienced sailors.

The triangular course is to Twin Creeks –White Cliffs and back to Te Karamea Bay

Be ready to argue about handicaps at 1:00 pm

Any queries phone Pat Thorpe – 07 3628 341

Tarawera Sailing

Firstly a huge thank you to all that helped make our July fundraiser for a new coaching/safety boat so successful.

Jenny Donne and Bayleys organised a wonderful community event. Aaron Judd and Telfer Marine gave a great deal on the new boat and motor. R.L. Fabricators made a perfect trailer for the boat. The new boat will be a great addition to our sailing sessions this season.



Once again, a big thank you to all who supported us at the Lake Tarawera Spring Fair where we fundraised over \$2600 for the club. A great event to be part of.

The new season began with registration day on 19 November. Despite the weather it was great to see sailors from last season and interest from new sailors as they cleaned the boats ready for the next week.

Ray has achieved much maintenance over the winter and the boats are looking shipshape and ready to go. The systems he has implemented in the shed are also great to keep the sailing sessions running smoothly.

We have had a couple of adult evening sailing sessions already this season.

Our Sunday sessions have seen our “Learn to Sail” programme get away to a good start. We are very grateful for the crew of helpers on shore and on the water in safety boats. These volunteers provide safety supervision, coaching, managing boats leaving and returning to shore and also rigging and packing up.

We meet at Cliff Road at 2pm on Sundays, during the season. Our last session before Christmas will be Sunday 17 December and we resume on Sunday 7 January.

Any enquiries to Carol Gilchrist 07 362 8489.

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/.

Membership Fees

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

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



HELP STOP

Freshwater gold clam

The freshwater gold clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is a small shellfish that reproduces rapidly. It can clog water pipes and may overrun native species. First found in the Waikato River in May 2023, it is an unwanted organism under the Biosecurity Act.

To stop gold clam from spreading to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes we need you and any visitors that you have coming this summer - particularly from the Waikato - to do their bit and follow the rules.



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 ►



Protect the Rotorua Te Arawa lakes you love

The Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) 2020 – 2030 requires that all boat ramp users must certify that their vessel (boat, jet ski) and trailer are free from freshwater pests.

- Complete a self-certification form before launching. The self-certification form must either be submitted electronically or displayed in the vehicle and left at the boat ramp where the boat was launched.
- Self-certification stations are at boat ramps, with paper forms available to fill out or QR codes to complete the process online.

Throughout summer Biosecurity staff will be checking the boat ramps regularly for compliance.



To find out more on the latest rules and gold clam status go to
www.biosecurity.govt.nz/clam



**BAY OF PLENTY
REGIONAL COUNCIL
TOI MOANA**

Lake Tarawera Pest Control

Not much Christmas cheer in the Pest Control World I'm sorry!

Rats

Rats remain the No 1 pest I deal with or get contacted about. My rodent tracking tunnels show there remain plenty of rats around and apart from the easily caught ones the others are wily and are not easily trapped or poisoned. Certainly of late there has been an increase in the number of rats, more than normal for this time of year. Mild winter = increased breeding. Rats will keep punching out the baby rats until they run out of food or get poisoned/trapped.

I have said it so many times. We wouldn't have such prolific birdlife if we were not baiting for rats.

Rabbits

Rabbits, I even have a rabbit on my lawn taunting me. There are really only two ways to deal with rabbits and they are shooting and poisoning. Shooting is mildly efficient on small numbers but people get a bit paranoid when a man and a rifle are outside the window plus the issue of being in a built up area makes shooting hard.

Poisoning needs a bit of equipment plus the cost of the bait, there is no easy fix for rabbits and same formula as rats Mild winter = increased breeding.

Possums:

I caught four possums last month all in Timms traps with apple and cinnamon bait, there are plenty more as I can hear them at night. Possums are much easier to catch than any of the other evil doers but they have the ability to melt into the undergrowth during the day which makes eliminating them a challenge.

Feral Cats

I haven't seen or heard of any lately but if needed we have a live capture trap.

Wasps

If you see a wasp nest please 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'.

Mustelids

I have a new PODI trap which is supposed to be the go for mustelids. I will trial it over the New Year period and see if I can up my dismal tally (One killed stoat.) I have seen a couple out in the reserve over from me so will apply myself to catching one. They are at the apex of being hard to catch and I have wasted too many hours trying so perhaps these new traps are a silver bullet.

AGM

I tried to hold the AGM this month but the date clashed so we will look at a date in February which might be easier for people to attend. We will let you know the date.

(Continued from page 11)

I wish everyone a rodent-free festive period.

When you wake up in the morning and hear the lovely birdsong, remember it is a collective rodent prevention effort that allows this to happen.

Lots of people volunteer to fill bait stations, distribute bait, monitor bait usage and empty kill traps. We are lucky to have such a dedicated group of volunteers. If you would like to join us please let me know.



The Ratmeister

Phone: 029 575 0943

Email: rats@eol.co.nz

Lake Tarawera Security

Hello to all the community,

This past year has been a relatively quiet season. The combination of late night/early morning patrols, up till 3:00 am, and the new camera system, have to be credited to this. The license plate camera has been working wonders and I now have a collection of plates from suspicious vehicles which I have encountered. These are loaded onto the system and I am alerted as soon as they re-enter the community.

Throughout the season I have dealt with several suspicious cars/people at the various reserves at all hours of night. Most of these are from my own findings, but two came from calls of concerned residents. I am very happy to report there have been no break-ins over the winter period. Wild weather has been the main factor contributing to the damage of property. This has kept me busy; from clearing fallen trees and flooding drains, to finding a boat that got free from a jetty and ended up at Red beach. A handful of medical calls ranging from minor to life threatening has also kept me on my toes. I have made sure my presence and purpose is known, particularly with all of the extra people and workers who are supporting the current projects happening around the community.

With the warmer weather finally starting to kick in there will be a vast increase in traffic and public using our roads and reserves so I will be around all through the holidays and the silly season doing my usual patrols.

Looking ahead into the summer season,



(Continued from page 12)

This is a time for crime. Do not let you or your property become a target.

Some useful tips:

Buy a lock for your boat trailer – the type that go into the tow ball are cheap and very effective.

Let us know of your movements over this period and whether you would like me to keep an extra eye on your property. Tell your neighbours of your movements also.

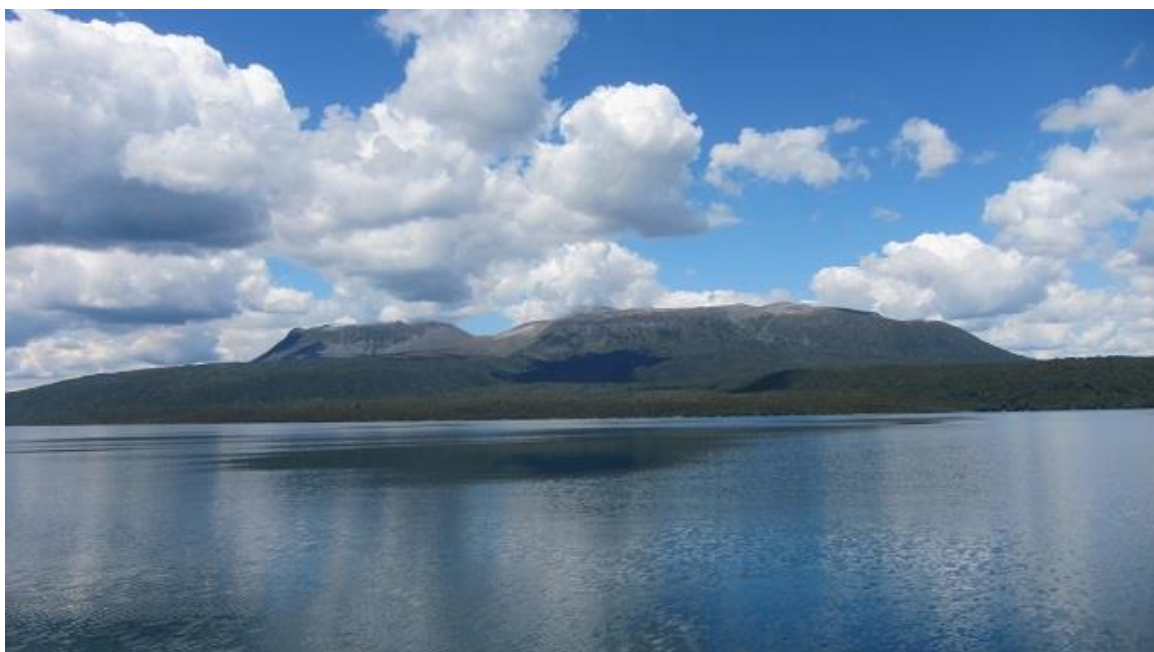
If you see suspicious behaviour, take a description of the individuals/vehicle. You are not wasting our time, as too often small occurrences lead to bigger, more serious situations.

This is also the time for clearing the section and burning off green waste. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please feel free to get in touch. If you plan on burning on your property please notify myself or someone else at the Tarawera Fire brigade.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to get in touch 24/7 on either of my numbers **027 282 9034 or 07 3628 378**. Alternatively you can email me on gilmour06@gmail.com or message and keep up to date on our Facebook page, Lake Security Ltd.

Thank you to the community for all the continued support, I am very privileged to be able to watch over our slice of paradise we have here!

Merry Christmas from George, Eden and the kids!



THE BLACK BARN LAKE TARAWERA



Wedding Open Day

Sunday 4 February 2024 : 12pm - 3pm

*'Merry Christmas Lake Tarawera!
We hope to see you at our open day. All welcome.
The Black Barn team*

Message from Rotorua Mayor Tania Tapsell

Tēnā koutou, I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy a well-deserved break over the summer.

Rotorua will be buzzing over summer with our stunning lakes and forests being a natural drawcard for holidaymakers, as well as a range of exciting events set to bring visitors to the district.

The quality of our lakes are precious to us, and freshwater gold clams pose a serious and irreversible biosecurity risk if they're spread. We are working collectively with the Ministry of Primary Industries, Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, and our Rotorua Lakes Community Board on efforts to prevent visitors bringing freshwater gold clams to our lakes. We currently have information on our website pointing people to relevant information about gold clams and how to help prevent them spreading from the Waikato.

To also help protect Rotorua's lakes, recent engagement with the Tarawera community regarding interest in self installation of the sewerage scheme showed 75% of respondents wish to be included in the Council-led installation of Stage 2 of the scheme and do not support self-installation or want to explore this. On 12 December our Infrastructure and Environment Committee voted in support of progressing towards finalising a contract with the preferred tenderer for Stage 2 of the scheme. It was also noted that setting the final targeted rate for the scheme will be deliberated by Council during the 2025/26 financial year and our Council would like to consider more flexible, longer-term repayment options at this time.

In the New Year, we are very excited to be establishing our brand new Rotorua Youth Council. This is for young people between the ages of 15 and 20 who are interested in personal development, leadership and community, and want to have their voices heard in Council decision-making. If this sounds like someone you know, applications are open until 8 January! Visit the RLC website to apply.

Our Council has also been developing our 10 year Long-term Plan proposals over the past couple of months. We're focusing on delivering critical infrastructure and essential services well. Because high inflation and interest rates have increased costs, we've also had to cut back on non-urgent projects to ensure we can keep rates as affordable as possible. Before any final decision is made, we'll be seeking community feedback on this plan and we look forward to engaging with you about this early next year.

We're in a time of change, and I'm excited to share that our Council is appointing a new Chief Executive who will start early in the New Year. I've included our full Council in this process and I'm confident our new CE will provide valuable support as we continue to deliver better outcomes for our Rotorua community through 2024 and beyond.

We've had a productive and positive first year on the job and I'm happy with the progress our Council has made. Earlier this month I enjoyed connecting with our business community at the final BA5 event for the year and it is heart-warming to see how business confidence is turning around and we are once again feeling optimistic about Rotorua's future.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.
Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing many of you out on Lake Tarawera.

**Kindest regards,
Tania**



Tarawera Landcare (2115): Pete Fahey

It's not easy writing a report on Landcare activities. Our main focus is and has always been eradicating pest plants and planting natives where they're needed. The main focus since 2015 has been Kariri Point. There's no further planting required as you will have noticed but there are always weeds, weeds and more weeds. Working bees on the point this year have been a bit sporadic due to some dodgy weather and the weeds currently need some work. The stretch between Rangiuru Bay Road and Boatshed Bay has had attention for the last couple of years and the native plantings have taken off. But guess what? The weeds need constant attention.

At the other end of the lake the Wednesday Weed Busting Group, headed up by Dave Townsend and Carol Gilchrist have done amazing work around Otumutu Lagoon. See Dave's comments below.

Wednesday Weed Busting Group

The group has been busting weeds since February 2022. We meet each Wednesday for about two hours. The general plan, which we discuss at regular intervals, is to attack weeds around the lakeside track from Bayview Road to Te Karamea Bay. There has been intensive work in certain areas (aided by the Landcare Group for some sessions.) There has also been a lot of planting done: by the stream near the fisherman's access and around the track in specific areas. We try to maintain the areas where weeds have been killed to manage regrowth, while also working on new areas. We have support from Richard Noke who provides expertise and resources. If you are interested in learning more, please ring Carol on 07 3628489.

Overall there is a very dedicated bunch of volunteers doing very rewarding work for the enjoyment of all, locals and visitors alike.

Looking ahead to 2024 we want to change tack slightly, not that the weeds no longer need busting, but there are other nasties hiding in plain sight threatening to take over if they're left unattended. I'm talking about old man's beard and those nasty flowering cherry trees. Sure the pigeons love the fruit but remember the pigeons were just fine before cherry trees arrived. There are numerous natives that can be planted that aren't the invasive pests that these guys are. The upside of getting rid of the cherries is that they make great firewood. As far as the old man's beard is concerned – it has nothing going for it.

So we will be making a plan early in 2024 to focus on these pests. If you're reading this and would like to get involved then we'd be pleased to see you.

Have a great Christmas and be sure to show your visitors Kariri Point and Otumutu Lagoon.

DOGS



If you're a dog walker or dog owner **PLEASE** pick up after your dog.

Carry a bag and deposit the deposits in a bin or at home.

No one wants to walk through your doggy's do!

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



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BOPRC Harbour Master Update Dec 2023

Kia ora koutou,

We've finally had some patches of fine weather and hopes are high for a much kinder summer than last year. The El Nino predictions usually see more wind from the westerly corner and when this occurs, we have noticed more coastal visitors coming inland to enjoy what are usually much better lake conditions. We are also expecting both Tarawera and Rotoiti will see more traffic due to displacement from the lakes that have high lake levels. *In short, we expect to be busy!*

The continuing high **lake levels** have had a significant impact on residents, infrastructure and boating safety. Rotorua Lakes Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council are working together to ensure that everyone looking to travel to the lakes over the summer is aware of potential issues and risks in place. For the most up-to-date information visit the Rotorua Lakes Council website Lakes Levels page (you can click through from the home page) where the main issues and impacts are outlined by lake.

Patrol Teams – The past six weeks has been a busy time as our new skippers and crews undertake training for the summer season. Our patrol team are now operating full time seven days a week, so your community can expect to see us regularly on the water. Remember any “bad boatie” behaviour or navigational hazards or concerns you can call **0800 5KNOTS**. Our call centre will answer your call and we always have a Duty Harbour Master on call so we can usually direct patrols to these problem areas.

Again, this year a hard line will be taken on Lifejacket compliance, three people to ski, and vessels breaching the 5 knot rules. These rules are at the heart of keeping people safer on our lakes and infringements for these breaches are \$200.

Our “**Boating in the Bay**” booklet is a great way of getting yourself, friends and family educated with the Navigation Safety Bylaws. These rules are in place to keep our communities safer on the water. Boating in the Bay booklets are available online from our regional council website, get a hard copy from our office in Rotorua, or if you see our patrol teams, they will be happy to give you one.



(Continued from page 18)

New Maritime Vessel – It was a case of out with the old and in with the new at the start of December as we celebrated 23 years of service for *Ra* our 6.5m Ramco. Kingi Biddle (below) delivered a moving blessing for the new vessel, fittingly named *Rua* in a lakefront gathering.



Ra was a multiple purpose vessel responsible for moving other work teams around the lakes region, undertaking patrols and servicing almost 400 navigation buoys around our lakes. *Rua* our new vessel has been built with this versatility front of mind. A 6.7m Kingfisher Powercat, she offers more workspace, stability, and greater capability for carrying passengers and payloads. Its hoped *Rua* will be in operation by the end of January and a regular feature on Lake Rotoiti and Lake Tarawera.

Navigation Safety Bylaw Review Update - Every five years we review our bylaw to assess and improve its effectiveness in response to actual and potential safety issues as well as looking ahead to the future for any emerging risks. **Formal submissions are open from 18 December 2023 - 29 February 2024** and you can find out more at [Navigation Safety Bylaws | Participate BOPRC](#).

On a lighter note we would like to wish everyone in the Tarawera Community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe on the water this summer season and we look forward to seeing you out there.

Roly Bagshaw

Senior Maritime Officer – Maritime Team, Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Tarawera Sewerage Scheme - Stage 2

Community Feedback and Actions

Doc No: 20093255

14 Dec 2023

Tēnā koutou,

Since our last update (7 December), the Infrastructure and Environment Committee met (12 December) and we'd like to share the outcomes and decisions from that meeting.

At the 6 September meeting, the Committee noted some community concerns before fully endorsing the scheme's Stage 2 implementation and paused finalising and awarding the openly tendered for contract until a community update was undertaken and further feedback was sought on key aspects of Stage 2. That community feedback has since been received and reported to the Committee – thank you for your response.

Elected members were updated on the results of the October 2023 feedback which, according to a rounded summary of general position, showed 75% of respondents wish to be included in the Council-led installation of Stage 2 of the scheme and do not support self-installation or want to explore this.

The Committee also received a Tarawera Sewerage Scheme petition requesting that Stage 2 of the Scheme is put on hold pending a final and fixed setting of the targeted rate for the whole scheme (Stage 1 and 2), being agreed with Tarawera property owners.

A letter from the Lake Tarawera Ratepayers Association was also received and tabled which noted their support of the Rotorua Lakes Council's led installation of the scheme (publicly owned) on property systems for Stage 2 of the reticulation scheme and their concerns that a delay to the implementation of the scheme would likely drive more costs when the community is seeking certainty. The Association's letter also sought Council support for equitable funding balance once the scheme nears practical completion.

Actions:

Committee agreed to give effect to its resolution (6 September 2023) to proceed towards a contract with the preferred Stage 2 tenderer.

Contractor mobilisation mid-2024, aligning with the operational need for Stage 1 to be completed before on-property systems are installed, tested, connected and commissioned.

Setting the final targeted rate for the scheme will be deliberated by Council at the appropriate time and at Council's Funding Policy discretion under their statutory authority.

Council will not strike an actual capital targeted rate at least until the year 2025/26 when the scheme is expected to be substantially completed with the capital targeted rate not starting until Scheme is complete.

You can view the full public meeting agenda and presentation at this link on Council's website: www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/meetings. The meeting was livestreamed and can be watched on

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Council's YouTube channel: ***Infrastructure and Environment Committee - 12 December 2023.***

Lastly, I want to acknowledge iwi and the community for the continued support in progressing the works of Tarawera. Keep safe and keep well and we'll be in touch in the New Year.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Stavros Michael

GM Infrastructure & Environment

Rotorua Lakes Council

The Tarawera transfer station

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



Disposing of household rubbish

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

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

Household recycling

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

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



Glass recycling

Glass recycling is sorted by colour.

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

Items for landfill

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

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



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



**ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL**
Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

New Year's Eve Fireworks: Midnight

PJ's Grand Finale

PJ, after 25 years, has decided to put away his matches.

Sadly, this year will be his last show. **The show this year is reverting back to a midnight start.**

The reasons for his decision are due to the rising costs, the number of consents and the huge amount of work required to put the show on. In addition, PJ's Pyrotechnics Licence expires in November 2024.

Here is a list of some of the consents required:

- * **Civil Aviation**
- * **Fire & Emergency New Zealand**
- * **Work Safe**
- * **Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Rotorua Lakes Council**
- * **Iwi**
- * **Event signed off by a Pyrotechnics Approved Event Test Certifier**

The cost to put on this display is approximately \$10,000. If you would like to make donation to this event it would be most welcome. Bank account details are:

P.K Johnston 03 1395 0590109 00 (*N.B. - PK Johnston is correct*)

If someone else would like to continue this New Year's Eve tradition, PJ says he would be happy to help them with obtaining the consents.

- ◆ **Please note that all boats must keep well away from the firing zone and be behind the 200-metre yellow buoy for safety reasons.**
- ◆ **Please make sure that your pets and children are safe if you are close to the vicinity of the fireworks display. Please observe the taped off areas and do not cross these.**

A HUGE thank you to PJ (Peter Johnston) for all the amazing fireworks displays, over the past years. We have loved them! They have long been a Tarawera New Year's Eve highlight.



Fish and Game Update: Matt Osborne

Tagged Trout Reporting

Fish & Game currently release 10,000 rainbow trout per annum into Lake Tarawera. This is undertaken within three liberations: Summer—1500 fish, Autumn—3000 fish and Spring—5500 fish. Autumn and Spring liberations are carried out over five months in total. Every fish that leaves the Ngongotaha Hatchery is marked (fin clipped) to identify them as hatchery-generated and additionally, within each of our seasonal releases, we liberate 500 tagged fish which assist us in monitoring growth rates of trout from year to year. If you should happen to catch a trout with a tag (which will be positioned near the dorsal on the left hand side), please let us know either through our tag return boxes at Stoney Point and Boat Shed Bay ramps, contact our office or use the QR code below. All returns go in the draw for a number of free season licences for the following season. The draw is conducted in June each year.



Boat Fishing Tuition for Beginners

On **Saturday 6 January 2024 (10 am-12:30 pm)** – We are again holding our ever popular “Boat Fishing How-To” for beginners at the Fish & Game Office/Hatchery at 1130 Paradise Valley Rd, Ngongotaha. We cover a range of methods and aim to help anglers catch more fish.

Summer Angling Update

Lake temperatures have been a little suppressed leading into the summer period given the stable weather we have had since opening. Tarawera is currently sitting at 18.55°C at the surface but should start to warm rapidly if we get nice hot days through the Christmas period. Presently trout are to be found throughout the water column from surface to 30m, targetable by all methods. The condition of the younger fish (<2.5yrs) is very good and will provide a thrill on the line and fine flesh for smoking. Keep an eye out for smelting trout on the surface and sign at depth on your fish finders. Don't be afraid to change things up if you are having difficulty catching and ask others how they're doing and what they are using.

Remember to CCD (Check, Clean, Dry) to protect our lakes.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at the Fish & Game team. Remember to carry your fishing licences with you and we hope to see you on the water, catch up with how you've done and provide some fishing tips.

Thank You Spring Fair Volunteers!

The organising committee thanks all the volunteers at the 2023 Spring Fair. Thank you for the gift of your time; whether small or great it makes the fair the wonderful community event that it is.

Volunteers helped with traffic control, parking, putting out equipment for the fair, erecting banners, looking after stall-holders, directing them to sites, being MC, and many other tasks. Without the volunteers the fair would not happen.

Huge thanks, also, to the people who donate equipment to the fair. The organising committee also thanks all the people who spent their money to support this great local event.

Please, if you can give any time during the 2024 event (Labour Day Sunday,) email

laketarawerafair@gmail.com now and we will put you on a helpers list.



Rotorua Festival of Gardens 2023

Gardeners rate three-day festival a blooming success!



An outstanding success. That was the general consensus from visitors to the 2023 Rotorua Festival of Gardens held over three days around Rotorua city and district last month, November 10-12.

The festival committee were delighted to get highly favourable feedback from the vast majority of visitors. The recurring themes were first and foremost the inspiring gardens as well as the variety offered, along with the wonderful gardener hosts, the informative visitor guide, and how well-run the event was. Of course, perfect weather was the cherry on top.

Two people amongst this happy group of festival-goers and exhibitor gardeners had an additional reason to be pleased. Attendee Wendy Statham and exhibitor Desley Henderson both won lucky draw prizes.



Hamurana festival passholder Wendy Statham was the winner of the draw for the battery-powered Stihl leaf blower worth \$457 donated by Stihl Shop Lakelands. Entry in the prize draw was open to all festival passholders.

Rotorua Festival of Gardens president Carol Bannister drew the winning name witnessed by two committee members and Chrissy Leaf of Stihl Shop Lakelands. A bit of fun ensued when Chrissy used the leaf blower to create the whirlwind of name tags for a photo op afterwards.

A self-proclaimed newbie gardener, Wendy's reaction on learning she was the lucky winner was "Wow! What wonderful news. I have lots of established trees, so the leaf blower will be most useful."

Attending the festival with her keen gardener mother, Wendy said she loved the festival and they visited as many gardens as possible to get ideas for her garden.

The exhibitor prize, a battery-powered Stihl pruner kit worth \$345, went to Desley Henderson. It was drawn by David Jones of David Jones Creative, a longtime friend and supporter of the event that launched back in 1993.

Desley and Trevor Henderson have been supporters of the Festival of Gardens for many years, so it was nice to see the exhibitor gardeners' lucky prize draw go to one of the festival favourites. The couple's extensive Kaharoa garden features lots of different "rooms" interspersed by ponds, streams, bridges and waterfalls.

The well-received lucky draw prizes (generously donated by Chrissy Leaf) were a first for the festival. Chrissy has already shown interest in supporting the next biennial event being held in 2025 as has this year's key sponsor Sandy Cleland from Palmers.



Once all outstanding festival costs have been paid and surplus funds calculated, the festival committee will be able to announce the size of the donations going to the two charitable recipients chosen at the Incorporated Society's 2022 AGM - Ngongotaha's Trinity Community Garden and Pantry as well as the Rotorua Hospice Garden.

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Some of the positive feedback received by the Festival Committee

"It was the best garden festival I have been to. Well run, and lovely gardeners."

"As a first-time visitor from Auckland, I thought it was a great festival and I will be back."



"I thought the festival was amazing and thanked all the homeowners for their generosity in opening up their gardens as I left."

"We enjoyed it very much and were able to visit 20 gardens, taking lots of photos of plants, good design and landscaping ideas."

"Best flower festival I have been to. Really enjoyed the gardens and people running them."

"Really well organised this year. Thought it was a great idea to have three-day one

price admission fee. All hosts very friendly and gardens well worth visiting. Huge effort by all participants and well worth the visits."

"Fabulous! Learned so much! Met lovely people and enjoyed myself immensely. A huge thank you to everybody. Haven't encountered so much positivity, laughter and goodwill in ages."



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

