

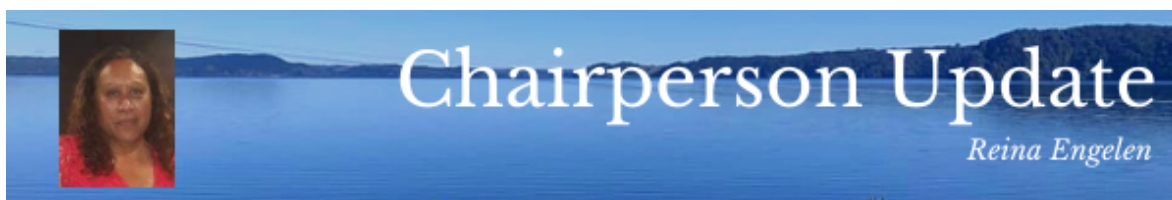
From: Lake Rotoiti Comm. Assn. lrca@rotoiti.co.nz
Subject: The latest Rotoiti news
Date: 5 March 2021 at 2:47 PM
To: temacky@gmail.com



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Tēnā tātou katoa



It's a beautiful Friday, the 5th of March, and I'm sitting at work waiting on further news about the Earthquake that occurred early hours this morning and a possible Tsunami along the East Coast. Our lives are certainly full of unexpected events.

With that in mind, LRCA have had discussion about Civil Defence Plans for our community. We are ready to assist Lakes Community Board, who also have this topic on their Agenda, and liase with Rotorua Lakes Council to ensure that our community is prepared should any disaster occur. Watch this space people.

Please stay safe and look after each other and yourselves.

Ngā mihi,

Reina

After feedback about multiple users on one membership, we now send emails to people even if they are not a financial member. This way we can capture a wider audience of whānau and friends who want to keep updated with our news. If this sounds like you or someone you know, please forward this email on and encourage them to sign up to our email database [HERE](#)





Annual General Meeting on 2 February 2021

It's been a couple of months now since our AGM and we're now nearing the end of our summer period on the lake! Where did the time go?

We want to once again thank everyone who attended our AGM for coming along to have their say and support us on a holiday weekend. We know it went on a little longer than we'd hoped at almost 2 and a half hours but a lot of great topics were covered including introducing the new Chairperson and committee, discussion around the cultural mapping

report and the potential impact on lake structures, the new Harbourmaster, lake levels, biodiversity, sewerage, the Tāheke wetlands project and much more. To view the minutes of our meeting, you can go to our website by clicking [HERE](#).

Lake Levels

With minimal rainfall during January and February, Rotoiti lake levels have again fallen below the normal operating range RL279.10 – 279.20. It is apparent that Levels continue to be managed judiciously to regulate lake inflows and outflows in accordance with the current Consent Conditions.

You can access data and information regarding Rotoiti lake levels [HERE](#). Click on 'Data Set' in the Dashboard, then use the dropdown from 'Location' and select 'FL289316 Lake Rotoiti at Okawa Bay'. Alternative date periods can be selected in the 'Date: Latest Data' menu.

Update from the Rotorua Lakes Council

Water Supplies

The current status of non-reticulated water supplies within Rotoiti rohe (Mourea, Ōkere Falls and Ōtaramarae) was raised with Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) in the light of recent revelations and debate around the health and safety of unsatisfactory domestic supplies and pending Government legislation aimed at reforming the standards and responsibilities for drinking water in NZ. The [Water Services Bill](#) looks to set up a new regulatory body which will likely have implications for both local Councils and **individual suppliers** of domestic water to multiple properties.

Following discussions with Lakes Community Board (LCB) and RLC, Council has now undertaken to include a commitment **'to review and provide a report on options for a public water supply in Mourea and other un-reticulated lakeside communities'** in the upcoming Long Term Plan for 2021-31.

Whilst the source and viability of funding is likely to remain critical to any future proposals, the intent is to urge Council, via indicative reference in Long Term Plans, to continually review the status of those communities within the District not yet served by a reticulated scheme. This should be accompanied by pursuit of alternative funding options/models and subsidies to ensure the needs of all within the community are met with adequate provision of potable water.

Council recently upgraded the water supply tanks at Gisborne Point and replaced the existing concrete tanks with new polyethylene tanks. The renewal improves the resilience

existing concrete tanks with new polyethylene tanks. The renewal improves the resiliency of the tanks and also increased storage for residents in Rotoiti from 198m³ to 270m³.

Refuse

Overfilled red and yellow bins are now being stickered in areas showing poor compliance, based on feedback from truck drivers. Cameras have been installed at Ōkere transfer station to increase awareness and improve compliance with Council's waste disposal guidelines. A recent update from RLC can be viewed [HERE](#)

Infrastructure

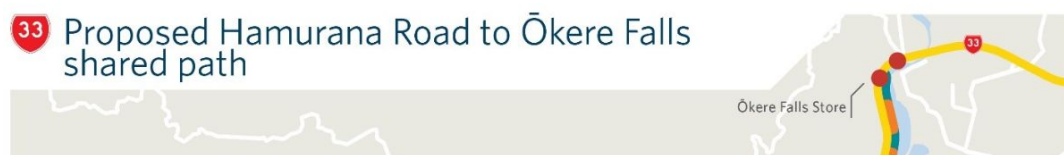
The design for the Tamatea Street playground has been finalised and supported by the land owners (Te Tahuna Trust). The equipment has been ordered and the renewal of the playground should occur in the autumn.

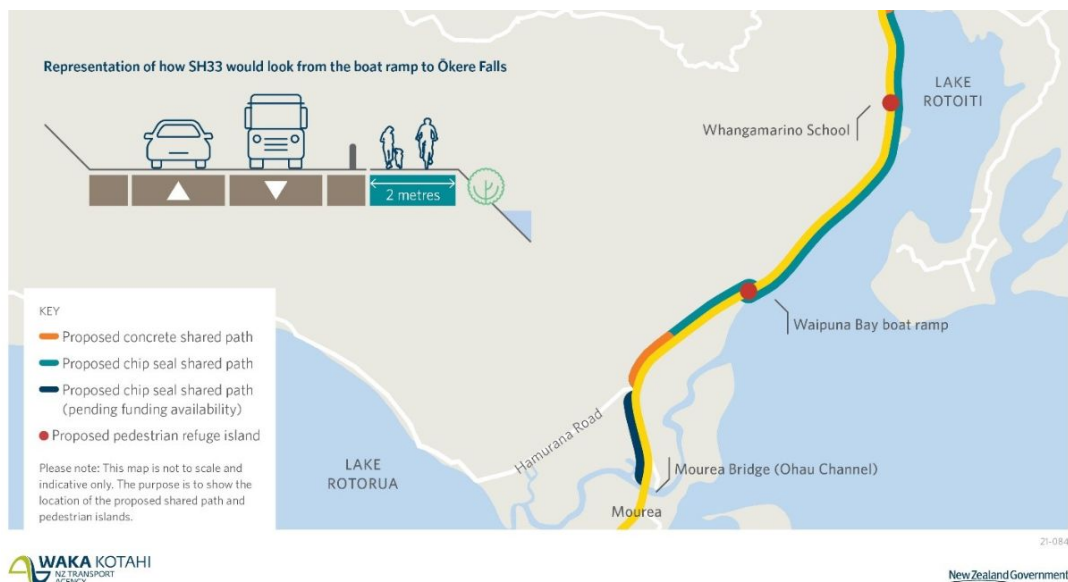
Revaluations

The 2020 General Revaluations have now been sent out to Rotorua property owners and no doubt make for interesting (but not unexpected) reading. These are now open to objection by 16 March 2021. LRCA will be seeking information from Council relating to overall percentage movements and effect on rates distribution for a future report.

Roadside Vegetation Control

LRCA has recently written and presented to the LCB with a request for confirmation of responsibilities and policy relating to general upkeep of roadside berm and amenities (footpaths) along our lakes residential areas contiguous with SH30 and SH33. There is an existing 'grey' area between NZTA and local Councils concerning responsibility for those stretches of State Highway embracing our local communities. We also sought early action to mitigate the overgrowth of trees and shrubs adjacent to the footpathing in the general area of SH30, particularly opposite Te Kura ō Rotoiti and in the vicinity of Wharetoroa Drive. Currently, expected responsibilities broadly lie with NZTA (road berms), RLC (footpath maintenance) and homeowners bordering roads to maintain the areas of berm fronting their residences. We will keep you posted.





Shared Pathway from Ōkere Falls to Mourea

Plans were received this week from Waka Kotahi/NZTA, which are now being considered for adoption. We understand that pleas to include the segment from Ōhau Channel bridge to Hamurana Road intersection may now be accommodated. However, at this stage, it is believed that some environmental and design aspects still need to be resolved.

Additional Shared Pathway to Maniatutu Rd?

As the roadworks are getting closer to completion and more people visited their holiday homes over the summer, some residents and home owners raised concerns directly with Waka Kotahi about the safety of getting from Ōtaramarae to Ōkere Falls on foot. Independent proposals were made from individuals which were supported by the LRCA. Waka Kotahi has now told us:

'I'd like to let you know that since having received your communications on behalf of the community, I have spoken with Waka Kotahi's Walking and Cycling Team, and we have submitted a request for funding for the next NLTP programme (2021-2024) for the construction of a path from Maniatutu Road into the Ōkere Falls township. This will be prioritised along with all other projects around Aotearoa and we will receive confirmation of its' status either towards the end of 2021, or early 2022.'

We'll continue to keep the community updated.





Membership

Thanks to all who have renewed or become new subscribers to the Association, along with your generous additional donations. The committee strives to achieve the best outcomes from both local and national decision makers, and increased membership allows us to derive greater strength towards our efforts in helping to promote issues of concern on your behalf. We encourage past members and other Rotoiti property owners to consider renewing their membership or joining as a new member which can be done easily via our website. The base fee remains at a very affordable \$15.

Just a note that someone attending our AGM in January gave one of our committee members \$20 but we do not seem to have collected any accompanying details. If that person is a recipient of this email or possibly someone known to you, please contact us via our email lrca@rotoiti.co.nz.



Buoys and Jetskis

At our recent AGM members raised concerns over jetskis and missing buoys directly with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. We were fortunate enough to have a few members of the BoPRC at our AGM and we thank them for their update on these issues. This is what we received:

Jet skis

The team is well aware of the issues with jet skis and are working hard to mitigate risks

and follow up on complaints. The use of infringements has been ramped up and the team is reviewing what other measures can be put in place to discourage bad behaviour. There are currently three craft which cover the eight main hotspot lakes. Patrols are currently running at the same number as last year and if a complaint is received the team attempts to get a patrol to the area. However, this can take an hour or more if the patrols are working on other lakes which means that the offending may have ceased, or the offenders have left the area.

Missing buoys

In the lead up to the holiday period the Lake Rotoiti buoys were all in place apart from one. Lake Rotoiti historically seems to be the only lake that has constant issues with the buoys moving and going missing and would like to remind the community that is an offence to move or damage a navigation aid. If a member of the community sees this happening the Maritime Team would appreciate it if it could be reported on the 0800 5KNOT (0800 55 66 87) duty phone number. This number can also be used to register any concerns/complaints, and will ensure a faster response.



Neighbour Day 20-31 March

Neighbours Day Aotearoa takes place from 20 – 30 March, 2021. This annual, nationwide event is designed to foster whanaungatanga (connection) and manaakitanga (support and kindness) to make our neighbourhoods safer, more resilient, and all-round happier places to be.

This year's theme - The Great Plant Swap - encourages neighbourhoods to connect, show kindness and grow stronger together. Previous years have seen people hold BBQs, community movie nights, street parties, street clean ups, and even small acts like sharing a cup of tea or running errands for neighbours. It would be great to see if any of our Rotoiti communities take part. If you want us to send out communications via our Facebook page of any events, let us know.

Mā te tupu mā te rito, ka tupu ake ai te rito o whanaungatanga... Through plants and shrubs friendships bloom.



Fibre is Coming to Some of our Lake Communities

Fibre is on the way to parts of Ōkere Falls and Gisborne Point.

What is fibre?

Put simply, fibre is the best technology for delivering high-speed, reliable internet. For more on the benefits of fibre and how you can order, check out the Chorus website here: <https://www.chorus.co.nz/getting-fibre>

Will my address be getting fibre?

At this stage only parts of Ōkere Falls and Gisborne Pt are part of the government funded roll-out, which aims to connect 85% of the country to fibre. There will still be many addresses around our lake who are ineligible. If you want to check if your address will be included, you can check online at www.chorus.co.nz.

I'm eligible, so when can I order?

The rollout of a fibre network in any area is quite complex and dictated by many factors such as civil / roadworks permissions, weather, environmental and cultural concerns. Therefore dates and locations can shift around a bit as work progresses. You will see signage indicating progress around the community, and will receive a letter drop confirming when you can order through your Internet Service Provider.

My address won't be getting fibre! What can I do?

Unfortunately not all parts of the Lake Rotoiti community is included in the current planned fibre roll out. It is sometimes possible for communities to band together and place a special request to extend the network (although this will normally come with cost to households).





East Rotoiti Sewerage Scheme Update

Prior to most recent Committee meeting on 1 March, [an update was requested](#) from RLC, and [a response was received](#).

RLC's concluding comments regarding the on-site sewerage system selection and funding are: "Please be assured that the process remains as you outlined. i.e. Conclude funding and contract matters, advice to the local communities, then report to Council with recommendations. We do hope that March/April would be the correct time frame".

Key additional points from the RLC response can be found in our latest update on our website [HERE](#)

Civil Defense Update

After the earthquakes in late January, and as we send this email, the tsunami warnings today, it has been a reminder that we need to be better prepared as a community in the event of a natural disaster. We are working together as a committee on how we can support our members. In the meantime, here is some useful information from the RLC [HERE](#)

Lake Structures Update

As previously advised, Rotoiti renewal applications will be considered after Tarawera, and after Ngāti Māhino feedback is received.

Consideration will be given to the best timing for LRCA arranging a meeting with Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT), (presumably along with Ngāti Pūkiao and Ngāti Māhino), to discuss the Rotoiti Cultural report. It will be useful to see how the Tarawera applications proceed now the submission deadline for the limited notification of structures assessed as "minor"& "more than minor" has passed.

We will advise members if we consider it advantageous for applicants to engage directly with RoDRC and ultimately Te Arawa in addition to through LRCA representatives

with DORIS, and ultimately IWM, in addition to through ERCA representatives.

For a more complete update you can refer to the article on our website [HERE](#)



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