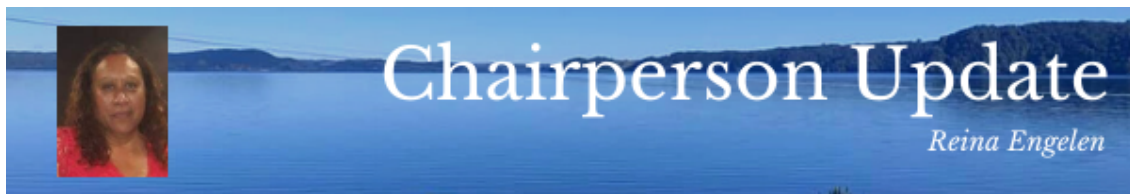


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Tēnā koutou katoa, greetings to our Rotoiti community



With all the restrictions around COVID-19 we haven't been able to meet in person as a committee for a few months. However, we're still going ahead with the projects that are important to our community and advocating for the needs of the Rotoiti residents and ratepayers. This email includes the topics we think are most interesting. We want to continue to engage with more people around the lake so please forward our email to anyone in your whānau or network who might be interested in hearing from us. We are also using our new website to update often about the important issues and we've included a new ['Latest News'](#) page so you can follow the important topical issues. Check it out and let us know what you think.

Stay safe,

Reina

We now have two committee positions available with the resignation of Robbie Trotman. We currently have no representation in the Ōkere Falls community. If you would like to get involved in what's going on in your community, please get in touch via email:

lrca@rotoiti.co.nz

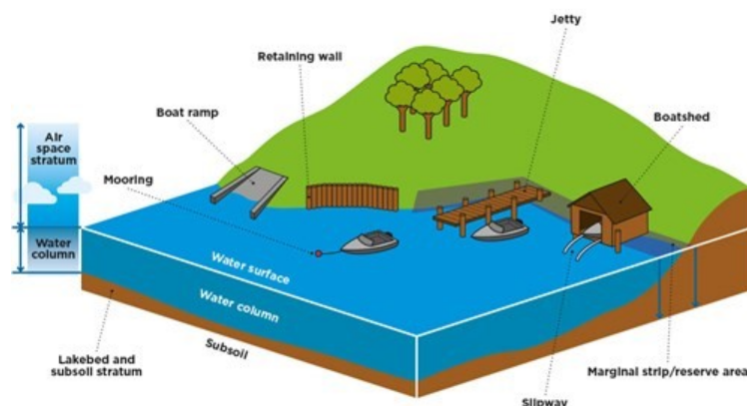


It's Time to Renew Your Membership

You can support our work in the community by a small membership fee of only \$15. Current memberships are coming up for renewal, and we'd really appreciate all current members to renew online by clicking [here](#).

If you've never become a member before, please consider signing up & helping us continue to advocate for and update the community about the important issues. You can sign up by clicking [here](#).

Lake Structure Consents

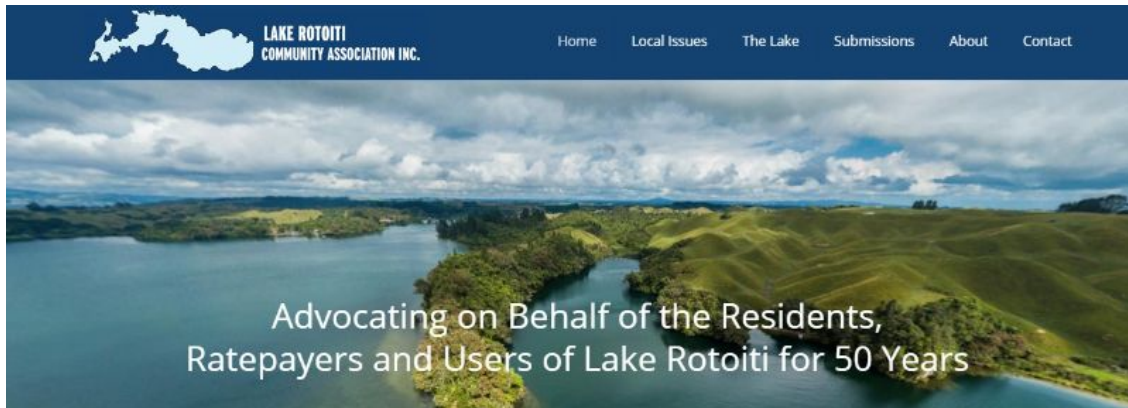


Are you a lake structure owner? Did you receive the latest email update from Bay of Plenty Regional Council?

Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT) have been coordinating a cultural mapping process on behalf dozens of hapū groups who understand the potential cultural effects of the existing lake structures. The reports look at the cultural values, interests and associations with an area or a resource held by those hapū groups and the impacts of activities (in this case lake structures) on these.

Through this process, TALT have been able to identify areas of historical significance including urupā, pā, papakāinga (villages), battle sites, ceremonial areas, māra kai (cultivation sites) like kūmara pits, tau kōura, traditional waka mooring and launching areas, bathing pools and puna (springs). These areas need to be recognised and potentially protected.

LRCA is investigating the impact of the cultural mapping reports with BoPRC and should have more information to update in the next email update. If you know of a lake structure owner who should be receiving this email, please forward this on to them and encourage them to sign onto our email list for future updates.



**For the regular updates visit our website:
rotoiti.co.nz**



Catfish Update

Our lake has of course been the area of great concern when it comes to the conservation efforts of the [Te Arawa Catfish Killas](#). As many are aware, these fish eat everything and are a contributing factor to the massive decline in kōura numbers in the lake - up to 99%!

Kōura are not the only thing the catfish is gobbling down. Kōaro, smelt, bullies and trout eggs are all a tasty meal to these pesky ika!

Rotoiti is also the home of 4 of our most undesirable weeds which we have learned have had a massive impact of the ability to harvest kai such as kōura and continue to utilise traditional methods of harvesting such as tau.

across the midline in the back of a trailer or another vehicle. They can live for up to 7 days out of water in the right conditions.

Lets protect our taonga species by continuing the CHECK, CLEAN DRY efforts and also...PLEASE REPORT any suspicious animals or fish that you may be concerned about.



East Rotoiti / Rotoma Sewerage Scheme Update

LRCA have been concerned at the lack of communication from Rotorua Lakes Council on progress with on-site installation of septic tanks for east Rotoiti. Council has previously advised it was about to invite tenders but that has still not occurred.

We have updated our website [here](#) with the latest information, including our correspondence with the General Manager, Stavros Michael.

Also published is the report recently presented by Stavros to the Rotorua and Te Arawa Lakes Strategy group, seeking additional funding to meet some of the cost escalation between the 2017 estimate of \$34m, and the final project costs. This amount will not be known until the project is completed. The meeting approved the exploration of this funding from the residual settlement deed funds. It can be found on the same page.

A short update on Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) activity that relates to lake water quality to the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group is also available.

LRCA will continue to interact with RLC to obtain regular updates, and to meet with Council at the appropriate time to ensure we ascertain the factors that will influence the selection of

to understand the cost implications of options.



Waste Water Update

Following the Hearing of Submissions, RLC have now approved a contract with Australian-based Trility Group (a consortium comprising Trility, Fulton Hogan and Stantec) for the provision of wastewater services across the district. The Report to Council can be viewed [here](#). Extracts of subsequent media reports including an interview with Mayor Steve Chadwick and Infrastructure Manager Stavros Michael along with coverage of a complaint to the Overseas Investment Office (OIO) and government ministers can be read [here](#).

Also of interest is a recent partnership deal between RLC, CNI Iwi Holdings and Te Arawa Lakes Trust relating to the upgrade of the central Treatment Plant details of which can be read [here](#).



Lake Levels

Rotoiti lake levels have fluctuated over the past 2 months dependent on levels of rainfall and

winter drawdown of the lake level was able to be achieved at the beginning of July over a period of 4 days without any apparent drama. The 2019-20 BoPRC Annual Report on Rotorua and Rotoiti lake levels can be viewed [here](#). Major refurbishment of the Ōkere gates has now been completed.

Boat Ramps



The new boat ramp at Kohumumu, Gisborne Pt

Komuhumu, Gisborne Point

This ramp is intended for small boats, and to remove some of the pressure on the original deeper water ramp at Komuhumu, Gisborne Pt.

These pictures show firstly, the new turn-around area that's been created to prep boats for launch and do a pest inspection on leaving the water. It's all ready to to be sealed now. The ramp and jetty are completed, as is retaining around the edge of the reserve to the beach (not in shot). There is still further work to do on landscaping the reserve and signage, but the ramp will be open for use by the start of the new fishing season in October.

You can also see the bollards that have gone in to stop vehicles driving over the whole reserve (meaning it can still be used by families and children for play and picnicking) while

the Gisborne Point community, thank you to everyone who has worked so hard on it!

Ōtaramarae

RLC have recently carried out maintenance on the road surface adjoining the Ōtaramarae boatramp. There have been ongoing negotiations with adjacent landowners in attempting to increase the footprint of the parking area at this location which has been under pressure for many years. The toilet block is also awaiting upgrade. Unfortunately, there remain some obstacles in this process which, if resolved, could then be targeted in a request to the Tourism Infrastructure Fund.



The construction on the Ōtaramarae boat ramp (now completed)



For regular updates about what's going on in the Rotoiti community, follow our Facebook page by clicking on this picture



Neighbourhood Support have established groups in the following areas: Gisborne Point, Tamatea St, Ōkere Falls, Te Akau Peninsula, Mourea and Ōkawa Bay.

The area around Lake Rotoiti falls within the coverage of Rotorua Police and as such falls within the area covered by Neighbourhood Support Rotorua. Our aim is to encourage neighbours to look out for each other and be a helping hand in times of trouble, in addition to ensuring crimes are reported to the Police immediately, also report any suspicious behaviour, as this may stop a crime occurring.

In the present climate with the cloud of COVID-19 upon us, it is even more important to have a neighbourhood support network established and working. This is a great advantage especially when anyone lives alone or has no family to keep an eye out for their welfare. It has been of note that during lockdown most Neighbourhood Support Groups checked on those living in their coverage area and offered support if and when needed.

As there are a great number of holiday homes in this area permanent residents can be a watchful eye over uninhabited properties. In some areas there are established Neighbourhood Support email communication networks with all household owners, permanent and holiday homes. This ensures that any noticeable damage to a property is passed on to the Group members as soon as possible by the Group Contact person.

Of concern in recent time, not only around Lake Rotoiti but everywhere in the area is theft from vehicles. It is an unfortunate truth that criminals operate in all areas so please, at any time, do not leave unattended vehicles unlocked with valuables left in them. These valuables include mobile phones, computers, paywave cards, credit/debit cards, money and sporting gear. In addition to those items sometimes theft of vehicle fuel does occur, so before you leave in your car check your fuel level. Remember if a crime occurs with you or your property reporting it to the Police immediately is essential. If not reported, police consider the event as 'never happened'.

If you wish to join or establish a Neighbourhood Support Group in your area please contact the Neighbourhood Support Rotorua office at the Rotorua Police Station. It is not manned all the time so please call 07-349-9470 or email nsrotorua@gmail.com.

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