



LAKE ROTOITI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2017

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT DECEMBER 2017

RATING EQUITY

It is recommended that the article by the Lakes Communities Rating Review Committee be studied carefully. Proposed changes to our rating system are likely to have substantial implications for all of us. A study of the detail contained in this article may well come as an unwelcome surprise to many of our members and the comments in the final paragraph suggesting community backlash could be very necessary

RENEWAL OF EXPIRING RESOURCE CONSENTS FOR EXISTING LAKE STRUCTURES IN LAKE ROTOITI

There are very comprehensive details included in this Newsletter with regard to the renewal of expiring Resource Consents for Existing Lake Structures in Lake Rotoiti. I wish to acknowledge the enormous amount of work put in by Derek Nolan, QC and Roy Duffy to ensure that this process is fully aligned with the permitted activity status Lake Rotoiti has under the Rotorua Lakes Council District Plan.

EASTERN ROTOITI AND ROTOMA SEWERAGE SCHEME

Initial contracts for components have been let and the treatment plant and land disposal field tenders closed on 21 November 2017. The Biolytix trial is due for completion on 31 March 2018. It has been agreed that STEP tanks rather than grinder pumps will be used if Biolytix units are not used.

OHAU DIVERSION WALL

The Resource Consent for the Diversion Wall has been renewed. There was some concern with regard to fish passage and BOPRC has addressed these concerns and included areas through which fish can pass.

OKERE FALLS TRANSFER STATION

The new arrangements at the Transfer Station have been well received. It has been necessary to chain the bins to the walls as contractors were rolling them out of the enclosed area and filling them with building materials, old carpets, etc. rather than paying the fee to dispose of such items correctly.

MEMBERSHIP OF LRCA

Could I again reiterate that it would be most appreciated if you would take a moment over the holiday period to discuss with your neighbours the benefit of their joining LRCA and directing them to our membership application form on our website www.rotaiti.co.nz. We appreciate all the support that we can get.

OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please see the reminder below. Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 2nd January at 2018 at 10 am at the Clubrooms Pikiaro Lakeside Sports & Community Assn. Inc. (formerly Pikiaro Rugby League Club), Takinga Road, Mourea. We would be delighted to see you there and have you raise any issues that affect you

HILARY PRIOR | (CHAIRPERSON) LRCA@XTRA.CO.NZ

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE LAKE ROTOITI
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

To be held at 10 am on Tuesday 2nd January 2018 at the Clubrooms of the Pikiaro Lakeside Sports & Community Association Inc. (formerly known as the Pikiaro Rugby League Club), Takinga Road, Mourea.

All are welcome. Tea and coffee will be served.

The Agenda is on the LRCA website: www.rotaiti.co.nz

LRCA WEBSITE: www.rotaiti.co.nz

RENEWAL OF EXPIRING RESOURCE CONSENTS FOR EXISTING LAKE STRUCTURES IN LAKE ROTOITI

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<div>1. LRCA appointed a sub committee to review this matter following a motion to that effect at 2017 AGM.</div> <div>2. LRCA and Derek Nolan QC have worked extensively with BoP Regional Council (BoPRC) striving to simplify the renewal process for Resource Consents (RC) for Existing Lake Structures (ELS – existed prior to Te Arawa Lakes settlement). RC are still required for the ‘in water’ part.</div> <div>3. BoPRC now acknowledge that a RC is not required for the ‘above water’ part, due to Rotorua Lakes Council’s (RLC) permitted activity status under their District Plan.</div> <div>4. Owners of ELS with RC’s due to expire imminently will shortly receive ‘Packs’ from BoPRC explaining the process, and enclosing</div>	<div>Application form. Owners with later expiry dates will be sent packs nearer that time.</div> <div>5. RC can be issued for 35 years, but BoPRC indicate 30 year term will apply, which is very pleasing, but owners should ask for 35 years anyway.</div> <div>6. Owners just renewing RC for an unchanged ELS should ignore any reference to the new structure or extension process, a lease with Te Arawa Lakes Trust (TALT) , and Engineering report requirement, as that only applies for new structures or for proposed changes to ELS.</div> <div>7. Completed renewal forms and \$774 deposit fee should be sent to BoPRC within 6 weeks of receipt of pack. Existing RC will remain in force if sent within that time if you agree to extend the time for issuing the consent. We recommend you do agree.</div>	<div>8. Total fees should not exceed \$1500. We hope that is conservative estimate.</div> <div>9. BoPRC has initiated a Cultural Assessment review by TALT and their Hapu. LRCA recommends members pay the \$50 fee to contribute to this report rather than obtain their own report.</div> <div>10. BoPRC will be including a Lease document from Land Information NZ (LINZ) that needs to be signed and returned with the other documents. This replaces the current Right to Occupy licence for permission for your Lake Structure to occupy air column, water and lake bed strata. We hope LINZ does not charge a lease rental. LRCA has lobbied to extend their indicated term of 10 years to match the 30 or 35 term of RC</div>	<div>and are awaiting a response, but probably unlikely to succeed.</div> <div>11. Owners with ELS on DoC (Department of Conservation) land will be sent a Lease for signing (may be a joint lease Linz and DoC) and returning, we have requested a copy of their draft. They advise the lease will be for 10 year term, and will not consider longer period. No application or annual fee.</div> <div>12. Owners with ELS on Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) esplanade reserve will need to sign a new RTO (Right to Occupy) with RLC. They too are only providing a 10 year term, with no application fee, but will continue to charge \$100 + GST annual fee. The RTO will be included in the pack from BoPRC.</div>
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DETAILED UPDATE (FOR MEMBERS INTERESTED IN MORE INFORMATION)

<div>Members who attended the LRCA 2017 AGM will recall discussion about RC for ELS – jetties, boat ramps, moorings, retaining walls etc at Lake Rotoiti. Confusion existed about the BoPRC intended process and uncertainty of outcome for renewal of RC that expire between 2017 and early 2020’s for ELS (450 in total on Lake Rotoiti by counting on the BoPRC mapping site, of which well over a quarter expire from 31/5/17 and the next few months). Roy Duffy moved that a sub-committee research and review the matter. That exercise has been undertaken. We now have a comprehensive and accurate record of the historical documentation that followed the Te Arawa Lakes settlement relating to ELS.</div> <div>We have also reviewed the BoPRC website relating to renewal of RC for lake structures, and Derek Nolan QC has kindly provided clarity relating to the Resource Management Act (RMA).</div> <div>In parallel with this significant LRCA exercise, Derek has engaged with BoPRC, and made some significant recommendations on how they should correct and simplify their renewal process, and how to improve their documentation. We have also had discussions with LINZ, DoC and RLC.</div> <div>This engagement has resulted in significant improvement and simplification to the RC renewal process compared to the original version. In essence the following has been achieved.</div> <div>1. BoPRC now acknowledge that RC are no longer required under s9 of the RMA for the ‘above water’ parts of ELS as they are a permitted activity under the RLC District Plan. This is due to the success Derek achieved following his and LRCA members’ submissions to RLC in 2014. However under s13 of RMA, RC through BoPRC are still required for the ‘in water’ parts. Existing Use Rights do not apply for Regional Council planning.</div> <div>2. As a consequence we have supported the stated BoPRC goal of achieving a simple process, and our input has helped with that.</div> <div>3. A number of existing RCs expire on 31 May 2017 and on 20 and 30 June, and 30 September 2017, and progressively through to the early 2020’s. Some owners may have already initiated renewal.</div>	<div>4. BoPRC Process:</div> <div><div>■ BoPRC is the delegated authority for both District and Regional Council responsibilities, and is also acting on behalf of LINZ and DoC, and RLC in relation to their interests.</div><div>■ Owners need to complete documentation and return within 6 weeks of receipt of packs, with payment of deposit fee of \$774.00.</div><div>■ RC applications should be processed within 20 days, but BoPRC is planning to process applications in batches lake by lake, and you will be asked to agree to extend that period, subject to their commitment that your RC remains in force during that time. We recommend you agree to this. They intend this approach to also mitigate total fee cost. They estimate the total fee to be around \$1,500. We have expressed concern over that level of fee. Hopefully it is a conservative estimate. They have pointed out that fees will inevitably be higher for some structures that are non-compliant.</div><div>■ BoPRC have initiated Cultural Assessment with TALT and local Hapu if you agree to contribute \$50 towards that report, you will NOT have to arrange your own Cultural assessment report. LRCA RECOMMENDS that you pay the \$50 with your deposit fee.</div><div>■ RC can be issued for 35 years, but they intend to grant 30 year terms. This is a very good outcome, however we suggest owners specifically apply for 35 term.</div><div>■ BoPRC will include in the pack on behalf of LINZ the necessary licence (currently in the form of Right to Occupy - RTO), for the part of ELS that are in the air space stratum, water stratum, and lake bed. TALT were not granted these strata in the case of existing lake structures at the time of the Treaty Settlement.</div><div>■ LINZ now require a Lease contract not the current RTO. We are awaiting a response to submissions we made to LINZ in relation to some elements of the draft lease. For instance they show a 10 year term, which means two extension applications during the life of a 30 year RC. We have lobbied for a 35 year term. We are not sure</div></div>	<div>if LINZ will charge a rental for their lease, hopefully not, although they do charge a rent for New Lake Structures along with TALT</div> <div>5. DoC - If any Rotoiti owners have ELS on DoC land, they will require a new Lease not a RTO. DoC advise it will be for 10 years, and there will be no application fee or annual fee.</div> <div>6. RLC - There are some sections on the lake where ELS sit on RLC Esplanade reserve strips on the lake edge. Those owners currently have a RTO with RLC, and the terms require application for renewal prior to expiry of the RTO. We are writing to them saying owners with RTO’s expiring soon cannot meet that requirement, and seeking comfort there will be no penalty. They too are only providing a 10 year term, with no application fee, but will continue to charge \$100 + GST annual fee.</div>	<div>Search under “BoPRC Resource Consents lake structures” and this will take you to their new page. Various links take you to additional information.</div> <div>If you do not know when your consent/s expire, here is a way to find that information:</div> <div><div>• From the web page above, on Quick Links, click on ‘Resource Consent Process’</div><div>• on ‘Resource consent quick links’, click on ‘Consents Mapping’</div><div>• Click on ‘go to the Regional Mapping’ page</div><div>• Open ‘BoP maps’ site</div><div>• Scroll down to bottom Right corner, click on page 2</div><div>• Click on ‘Consents’ icon</div><div>• Map for whole region will open. Put cursor on Rotoiti and click multiple times to enlarge, or use + button.</div><div>• When zoomed right in showing your part of the lake, with section boundaries and street numbers, you will be able to find your section and click on the adjacent bubble that indicates current consent for Jetty/ramp/ mooring/wall/stairs etc.</div><div>• Click on ‘more information’ and the detail will expand to show various information about your consent, particularly expiry date, and whether in the correct name. Enjoy!!</div><div>• By our count, there are circa 450 RC’s around Rotoiti for lake structures (jetties, ramps, moorings, walls, steps, stairs).</div></div> <div>We wish to express our sincere gratitude once again to Derek Nolan QC. Our task would have been much more difficult without his expertise, and the work his professional planner undertook.</div> <div>This is once again a demonstration of the value LRCA delivers to its members. Please encourage non-members to join!</div> <div>HILARY PRIOR CHAIRPERSON, AND ROY DUFFY SUB COMMITTEE – 31/5/2017</div>
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OUR RATES

WHY WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT CURRENT POLICY TRENDS

It is well known that LRCA has perpetually challenged Rotorua Lakes (District) Council over the effects of it's rating policies on rural lakes residents. The apparent indifference shown towards our continual requests to reinstate fairness and equity has been a source of increasing dissatisfaction within the lakes communities over many years. More recent changes to policy which include the gradual removal of differentials from General Rating (which contributes around 60% of RLC's total rates take) only serve to exacerbate the issue. This is viewed as unduly disadvantaging lakes residents as explained below.

In all of the several rating reviews carried out by RLC through the 1990s and early millenium it was reported inter alia that:-

- 'it became clear that Council could not find any fair and workable system that involved no differentials'
- 'all no-differential options imposed excessive and unfair burdens on at least one part of the community'
- 'a non-differentiated system would not achieve fairness and equity, and would be unworkable with the District's diverse demographics'

It is apparent that over the past 10 years or so, we have moved away from some of these principles around fairness and equity and social wellbeing (interpreted as ability/willingness to pay and rating/taxation principles), particularly in respect of our minority ratepayers in outlying lakes and rural areas. This started to take hold in 2006-07 and was obviously influenced by the recommendations of the Local Government Rating Inquiry commissioned by the prevailing Government and which became commonly known as the 'Shand' Report. Central to the outcomes of this report were proposals to rate all properties on capital rather than land value, abolish differentials and UAGCs (because they tend to be set arbitrarily without explicit justification in terms of the services to be funded – thus without sufficient transparency), reduce General Rates and increase the utilisation of user charges and targeted rates. Although these recommendations were not enshrined in legislation they have been given a good deal of credence within local government.

RLC has lately signalled its intent to take steps to reduce its reliance on rates as a source of revenue (currently 81% of revenue is derived from all rates) by reviewing fees and charges. Whilst this may decrease the overall rate take, it will not alter the proportions of the general rate to the residential sectors. There is the further option of greater 'targeting' of activities (e.g. roading, stormwater etc) towards those sectors that derive more benefit. However, regular exercises conducted by Council with the aim of identifying and allocating revenue sources within the various cost centres highlight the real difficulty in apportioning such costs and benefits in a fair and equitable manner. It invariably demonstrates that this can be just as arbitrary and subjective as applying a general differential, if not more so.

It is noted that general rates within the District were based on land values up until 2007 and since based on capital values. In past reviews, Council have reported 'that capital value better represents the allocation of costs. Since people and their activities are the primary cause of costs, or recipients of benefits, it can reasonably be argued that capital value reflects a user pays philosophy.' Maybe, but further to that, they suggest 'that capital value reduces the need for differentials or the extent of differential or that capital value will normally come closer to eliminating differentials. The differentials imposed on land value seemingly go some way, as a proxy, towards reflecting a capital value result.'

Most are supportive of capital value rating and acknowledge that rates are largely based on taxation principles. However it has not eliminated

the justification for differentials. The fact remains that on the one hand our District is described as a diverse community but when it comes to rating, Council have contrived to put forward some obscure reasons to support a premise that we are all seen as equal, that we all live in close proximity to the city and we all have similar opportunities to access and enjoy the amenities and activities which are available and primarily based there. This is evidenced e.g. by trying to match Okareka (the closest lakes community) with Nogongotaha which apart from distance to the city have no other similarities, one being a virtually self-contained satellite town and the other a rural community with relatively little in the way of commercial services or public facilities and amenities, less overall infrastructure, no public transport, and a need to travel to the city for most essential necessities (i.e. employment, education, health, shopping, organised recreation and other essential services) as is almost entirely the case with the rest of our lakes communities which are a round trip to the city of anywhere between 20-90km.

In addition, most lakes residents are/will be burdened with meeting significant targeted costs towards the capital repayment of existing and impending reticulated sewerage schemes implemented to help meet district-wide demands for improved lakes water quality.

It has been stated that lifestyle decisions are not Council's concern and that most people live where they can afford. A view held by some that lakes residents and others in rural locations have the 'ability to pay' regardless due to having greater affluence, is seriously misleading. Our lakes communities, Rotoma, Rotoehu and Rotoiti in particular, are inhabited by significant numbers of lower socio-economic families similar to parts of the city such as Fordlands and Western Heights. This probably also applies to Mamaku, Reporoa and other rural outposts. Amongst these are many tangata whenua and long-established families who have lived in the lakes areas through generations. It may be suggested that rural ratepayers should be prepared to accept compromises when it comes to services and amenities since they 'choose' to live in these locations. Most do but also expect a fair allocation of the rate to reflect the difference in the overall benefits received.

The recent 'mass-appraised' revaluation of properties within the district has resulted in average increased valuations of 46% for urban residents and 30% for rural residents which reverses the trend prior to 2014. Despite this, average rural residential values are still a significant 53% higher on average than those in the urban area (rural lakes average values are >70% higher). RLC consistently denies that higher average values for rural residential properties as against urban is a validation for a lower differential. In our view, the Local Government Rating Act 2002 Schedule 2 (Matters that may be used to define categories of rateable land) includes 'Where the land is situated' within which significant variations in values could well be taken into account as part of the case for considering the retention and extent of differentials.

A proposal by Council in 1991 to remove differentials was met with hostile resistance from lakes ratepayers who forced a change in direction resulting in what was deemed to be a fair revision. As with the 1991 experience, most amongst our rural lakes communities would be of the considered opinion that the current policy towards removal of differentials for this sector without compensatory mechanisms is seen as reducing fairness and equity within the District. A similar community backlash to that of 1991 would be justified and may be necessary to persuade a reversal of this policy.

LAKES COMMUNITIES RATING REVIEW COMMITTEE







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BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWS:

With summer upon us, the lakes are starting to get busier. For those with a jetty, boat ramp, boatshed or other lake structure it's a great time to check whether that structure is in good condition.

If you do notice the structure is in need of a tidy up, these maintenance works need to be delayed until after the Dabchick breeding season (1 September – 31 December). Remember any maintenance works must remain within the existing footprint of the structure (including height) and Regional Council must be notified prior to any works being carried out. Email notify@boprc.govt.nz to inform them about this.

If you are looking to carry out works outside of the existing footprint of the structure, then a resource consent would be required prior to any works being carried out. If your structure sits on or in a lake bed owned by the Te Arawa Lakes Trust, then approval from this group is needed prior to any work being done. Consent from Te Arawa Lakes Trust after modifications have taken place will not be approved. Contact details for the Te Arawa Lakes Trust can be found at <http://www.tearawa.iwi.nz>

For those with lake structure resource consents who are yet to receive their information pack, we are still working



our way through sending these out. Regional Council has acknowledged that some consents will expire before packs are received. Remember if you have any questions about lake structures, the rules and the reconsenting process you can go to www.boprc.govt.nz/lakestructure

Maintenance works on boat sheds or lake structures do require building consent where a component has failed to meet the durability of the requirements of the Building Code that are 50 years for structural components and 15 years for the likes of cladding systems. When you are undertaking maintenance works, you need to ensure that building code requirements are met. Building consent is also required where the footprint of any structure is altered.

OUT OF THE FOREST BY 2019



Rotorua Lakes Council and CNI are committed to identifying a viable alternative to replace the spraying of treated wastewater in the Whakarewarewa Forest by 2019.

Council's general manager of Infrastructure, Stavros Michael, says with input from the community, Council is proposing to upgrade the Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant and has identified a preferred wastewater release point.

"The Rotorua Project Steering Committee and its Cultural Assessment Subcommittee were tasked with finding a preferred option that met several objectives including achieving a high level of public health and environmental protection, restoring the mauri (life essence) of the water and meeting the National Policy Statement for Freshwater. A preferred option needed to improve the water quality and make it as clean as possible before release in to the environment," he says.

The proposed plant upgrade would be able to handle up to 70 million litres of wastewater a day, which is three times more than it processes today. The upgrade will utilise membrane bio-reactor technology along with phosphate treatment and a UV light disinfection system at the plant - the recovered water will then go through a Water Restoration Land Contact Bed and travel along a rivulet at Puarenga Bay before being released to Lake Rotorua.

In a video explaining the land contact bed, the chair of the Cultural Assessment Subcommittee, Gina Mohi, says its design is a world first and utilises indigenous knowledge.

"The process is underpinned by mātauranga Māori – Māori knowledge that is unique to Te Arawa, its people and its lands. The focus seeks to restore, cleanse and regenerate; spiritual cleansing restoration of mauri through emulating the processes of our mother, Papatūānuku (Mother Earth)," she says.

The land contact bed would complement the proposed treatment plant upgrade process.

After passing through the plant the treated water would well up from underground and enter the contact bed.

It passes through rock and vegetation bands, as well as different water pressures that filter, aerate, energise and reinvigorate the wai. (water)

Gabion baskets would hold rocks, stones, pumice, rhyolite and obsidian, which would be carefully selected by iwi and hapū of Te Arawa with markings of symbols and whakairo (carvings).

Interwoven between the gabion baskets are bands of vegetation such as flax and reed to emulate the natural wetlands along the lake's edge.

Native aquatic freshwater species to Te Arawa would also live in the land bed's calming pond indicating the water is cleansed and mauri has been restored before it passes through a waterfall and out to Lake Rotorua.

Council's Sustainable Economic Development Portfolio Lead, Councillor Dave Donaldson, says the alternative land contact bed option is a sign of mutual respect between Council and Te Arawa hapū and iwi as kaitiaki (guardians).

"The proposed option will significantly relieve pressure on the Whakarewarewa Forest, where spraying treated effluent has become unsustainable. The alternative solution shows a collective community response to implement a system that is respectful to tikanga and kawa (cultural values) and serves our growing community, while endeavouring to be environmentally sustainable," he says.

The last round of public engagement on the proposed land contact bed and release point, from July to October 2017, will help shape a resource consent application which will be filed with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council this December.

You can find out more about the proposed treatment plant upgrade at letstalk.rotorualakescouncil.nz



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HISTORY ON THE LAKE:

DID YOU KNOW?

Hauparu Bay holds an annual Yacht Race, in memory of the Williams Family parents, who were lost in the Mt Erebus air disaster. The race had been held for some years before the crash, and the Williams family decided to continue the annual race, donating a silver trophy in memory. More recently, a junior trophy has been added by another local family, in an effort to offer encouragement to the younger sailors.

The race has always been held around New Year's Day, and is open to any sort of sailboat. Racing is "Mark Foy" with the slower boats leaving first, and the faster ones handicapped to leave last. Many youngsters who have competed over the years have gone on to become top sailors and many who are past or present top sailors regularly enter. This year was no exception. Polly Powrie (from a 4th generation Hauparu Bay family) won

the race in a close finish with some of the other local laser sailors. Polly is noted for having represented NZ in the 470 class for some years. She and Jo Aleh won Gold in the London Olympics, and were world champions in their class in 2013. They also won the silver medal at the 2016 Rio Olympics. All in all, the senior trophy bears the names of many Rotoiti families, along with at least four recognised sailors who have at times represented NZ internationally.

The race will again be held off Hauparu Bay on Monday 01 January at 2pm. All sailors are welcome to register, and with luck there will be a barbeque afterwards (bring your own food and drinks). If the weather is unsuitable it will be delayed 24 hours. Information hotline is the Glenie's landline, 07 362 7873, or Laird's landline 07 362 7834.

ROTORUA LAKES COMMUNITY BOARD

UPDATE

WHO ARE WE, AND WHAT DO WE DO?

Your Community Board consists of 4 elected representatives - Jim Stanton (deputy Chair), Nick Chater, Fred Stevens and Phill Thomass (Chair) - and 1 Councillor appointed by the Mayor - Cr Tania Tapsell. The role of the board has dramatically changed this term, with increased responsibilities, and rights. We have a much closer engagement with Council, with a representative sitting on each of Council's two main sub-committees, and all the Board are included in Council's internal workshops which help shape policies and statutory documents such as Annual and Long Term plans. We also have some discretionary funding for community projects outside of what Council would normally do.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS YEAR?

The stronger relationship with Council has meant that the Board has had much more ability to initiate and progress projects around all the Lakes. Some of the things we've been involved with around Rotoiti include:

BOAT RAMPS - We've been working with Council on public engagement on the 2nd boat ramp at Gisborne Point. We had all hoped to see this completed for summer but delays in consenting mean it should be built in the first half of 2018. At Otaramarae we've been working to address congestion. Council has enlarged the trailer parking area. We've also made a separate area for kayaks to be launched away from the ramp. We're now working with Council and iwi on some possible long term solutions around the ramp itself.

SH33 - OKERE FALLS AND MOUREA - We've been helping the team from Safe Roads in their public consultation and lending support to improve safety along SH33 from Okere to the SH30 intersection. Considerable work has gone into improving safety around the rafting area and for people crossing the road, and we're also expecting to see the speed limit through Okere and Mourea lowered. Work on the safety improvements will start in Autumn.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING - As Stage One of an ongoing Community Board project we have developed a management plan with Council to address concerns raised last summer around camping at Lower Trout Pool. We're going to be limiting numbers and length of stay, with suggestions for other places that campers can stay overnight once Lower Trout Pool is full. While this can only be a voluntary scheme, we think most people will want to do the right thing if it's made easy for them. If we're successful here we'll expand this model around the rest of Rotoiti and the other LCB lakes.

PUBLIC TOILETS - working with Council we've had the levels of service increased in our high usage areas. We also have a

Community Board project under way to refurbish our public toilets around all our lakes. We hope to have a trial refurbishment done by June 2018.

EAST ROTOITI - ROTOMA SEWERAGE SCHEME - We continue to be a member of the Steering Committee for the scheme and to support and advocate strongly for the scheme (and the inclusion of Lake Rotoehu in it). We're excited to see the initial contracts let, and the Treatment Plant itself going out to tender.

SPONSORSHIP - The Community Board is proud to have been a sponsor of LakesWater Quality Society's 2017 Symposium on Catfish, Lakeweeds and Nutrients. We see these issues as being core to the protection and improvement of our Lakes, and support the Society's goal of eradication, not management, of pests.

COMMUNITY FUNDING - The Board has some discretionary funding to be used on projects normally outside of the scope, or level of service, provided by Council. This year at Rotoiti we have used this fund to replace and add picnic tables at reserves, to paint a toilet block at Hinehopu (as part of our refurbishment trial), and have funded the replacement of car tyres on our public boat ramp jetties with proper bolsters. We're currently assessing projects for our 2018 budget, so we welcome your suggestions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This term the Board has been keen to increase our level of engagement with our communities. We continue to hold every second Board Meeting at each of our lakes in turn, but this year we also have been out to our communities to discuss other issues - such as Council's Spatial Plan.

We want to continue with this and hope to hold community meetings in the new year to get feedback from you on things like the proposed changes to the District Plan around short term rentals, and the upcoming Long Term Plan. We'll advertise these meetings through LRCA, in the paper, and on our facebook page.

We're hoping Facebook will become an important way of engaging with you, especially if you're a holiday home owner and not here year round, so please visit and like our page (@LakesCommunityBoard).

We also hope you'll be able to attend meetings we hold at Rotoiti (or for Eastern Rotoiti residents, if it's easier, our meetings at Rotoma). By talking through issues with you we will be able to much more effectively represent you at Council, so please do come along to our community meetings!

PHILL THOMASS

CHAIR, ROTORUA LAKES COMMUNITY BOARD
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LAKE ROTOITI CLASSIC BOATS & WOODEN BOATS ASSOCIATION

We have had another eventful year. We kicked off the year with our AGM on Queen's birthday Saturday; it was in the afternoon, for a change, at the Pikiao clubrooms.

Our Mid Winter get -together in July was a Roast Pork Dinner at the Pikiao Clubrooms, enjoyed by those who attended.

Fishing weekend was held over Labour Weekend, with the final weigh-in at Fraser's. Thanks again to Fraser for providing the venue, and manning the BBQ.

The next event on our calendar was the dinghy day. This year the event was well attended thanks to Warwick Jamieson who works hard to make this a great event.

For the Classic Boat 20th Parade on Waitangi weekend, we were able to celebrate with three of the instigators of the parade, Lindsay Brighthouse, Morrin Cooper and Gill Marks. We celebrated with the sounds of Bay Dixie. Our numbers were not quite as high as we had anticipated, and I feel that this was because of the lake weed issues we experienced the previous year at Wairau Bay. The day was excellent and everyone enjoyed it greatly. The party on the Friday night was at the Pikiao clubrooms. In the past we have been very much indebted to Fraser and his friends from Australia who have manned the BBQ's, but as our numbers have increased the task has been getting bigger and bigger, and we had to start looking for alternatives.

The Sunday after the Parade we had "The Float down the Ohau Channel". This was really popular with people in dinghies, canoes, paddle boards, even floating in their lifejackets and was a really successful event.

At the end of February we had a "Long Lazy Lunch". This year was at Moose Lodge; we had over 100 attending. Vice Commodore Grant and Helen Wallace did a great job organizing this event and participants were able to view the refurbished lodge and look at the Moose.

At Easter we had the Light Parade. The number attending was disappointing and the committee will have to review this event for the

coming year.

I have been very lucky to have had a really active committee during my two years of Commodoreship. We have re-branded the association thanks to Rod Prosser, one of our committee. Grant Wallace has worked hard in organizing a new burgee for the association plus has also worked hard in liaising with Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the LakesWater Quality Association regarding the weed, which is still the most serious problem we need to keep on top of.

A special thank you to Eric and Robin Cameron. Eric has been a committee member of the association since its inception and prior to that was a member of Lindsay Brighthouse's Wooden Boat Parade committee.

Special thanks should go to Life Members Marcus Wilkins, who has supplied the mower and mowed the grass at Wairau Bay over the summer, and Allan Clark who provided the tractor.

Thanks to Buzz Rathbone who was involved in organizing our annual Calendar.

Thanks to all the committee and members that went over to Wairau Bay and raked weed and tided the area before the picnic.

Finally a really special thanks should go to Rachel Jamieson, our hard working secretary; she has been busy organizing all the events, tee shirts, caps, tea towels etc etc! She does a fabulous job and we would struggle to be as successful without her tireless work.

I come to the end of my term as Commodore, and I must say it has been harder than I had anticipated, as I have been involved as an owner/builder on a large extension to our home. Apologies for not attending the AGM, but I will be on holiday with my grandchildren in the South Island.

Looking to the future we need to consider events that will be tailored more towards the younger people - they are our future and we need to encourage them into safe and responsible boating on the lake.

GRANT COSSEY | COMMODORE 2016-2017

The 2017 AGM was held during Queen's Birthday weekend. It was well attended and was a good indication of the enthusiasm for the LRCWBA initiatives.

Brentleigh Bond, the Treasurer pointed out that we had savings in the accounts that could well be spent on a suitable project. This resulted in useful discussion and settled on a jetty at Wairau Bay being arguably the most worthwhile project for the new Committee to investigate. Some work has been done but it is not straight forward and patience is the order of the day.

The 2017/18 Committee Members are Grant Wallace (Commodore), Grant Cossey (Rear Commodore), Rachel Jamieson (Secretary), Brentleigh Bond (Treasurer) and Committee Members Tracey MacKay, Dave Wilson, Rod Prosser, Noel Nicholson, Hannah and Paul Prior, Aaron Martin, Fraser Wilson, Brian Stamp and Warwick Jamieson.

The midwinter social at the Pikiao Club was very well attended and the new caterer found by Rachel did an excellent job.

The new season started with a fishing event over Labour Weekend. Only a few fished because the weather was very windy on the Saturday but Brian and Fay Stamp weighed in five fish before the Sunday BBQ.

Tracey and Dave have sprayed the weeds at Wairau Bay after a few Association Members picked up all the fallen branches from the trees and Marcus cut the grass with the tractor mower while Grant W mowed the front row with a good old Masport 4 stroke. The Bay is looking good and should be perfect for the Parade event on February 3rd. that is assuming the Bay stays clear of weed and the weather is kind. If the

Parade does not go ahead on the Saturday, it will be held on the Sunday. The website is up to date thanks to the work of Hannah and Paul Prior.

This year's calendar is a real beauty - contact Rachel Jamieson (details below) to place an order -- \$15.00 each or three for \$40.00.

The events, all on the website, for the 2018 summer are as follows:

- 6th January Have a go Day (new event)
- 13th January Dinghy Day
- 2nd February Parade Weekend BBQ and Captains Briefing
- 3rd February Boat Parade & Picnic
- 4th February Ohau Channel Drift
- 24th February Long Lazy Lunch
- 17th March Poker Rally
- 31st March Light Parade
- 2nd June AGM
- 21st July Winters Night Social
- 20th October Fishing Weekend
- 21st October Fishing and BBQ Social

For more details, contact Grant Wallace (gwallace@outlook.co.nz) or mobile 021 912 985 and Rachel Jamieson (zea.rachel@gmail.com) or mobile 027 281 2101

All the LRCWBA events are huge fun so feel free to join in on the beautiful Lake Rotoiti.

GRANT WALLACE | COMMODORE 2017-18

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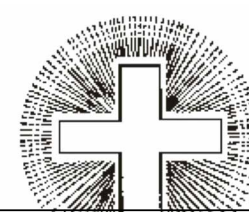
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Lakes **WATER** QUALITY Society

2017 has been a very busy year for LWQS. The "Troublemakers" Symposium took place at the end of August and was a great success and acknowledged widely by attendees.

The focus was catfish, lakeweeds and the Tarawera lakes complex. We brought out Lindsay Chadderton from Nature Conservatory Great Lakes Project, he is Chicago based and involved in preventing pest fish entering the Great Lakes from the Upper Mississippi. His experience gave confidence that processes in place were appropriate and modifications were worked through at a special one-day workshop facilitated by BOPRC.

Catfish are continuing to be caught, so far this season a further 52 have been caught in Te Weta Bay and 9 outside the cordon. A tagged trial is proceeding and LWQS continues to monitor the work being done and are hopeful that these fish can be eradicated, this is likely to take some time and persistence will be essential.

New aquatic weed plans are currently being prepared for the lakes. Following the Symposium, LWQS is now calling for eradication of all invasive lake weeds rather than a significant reduction. We have tools that have been successful on small lakes and now need to be proofed for large lake use and then programmes implemented. LINZ has the principal responsibility, BOPRC are the consenting authority and there are a number of interested agencies. We are requesting they provide adequate funding in their budgets. We will not address the deteriorating state of our lake flora unless the programme is properly funded. Over the last half a dozen decades we have watched our lakes being invaded and not acted decisively to restore

them, containment over recent years has put a line in the sand but now we must move to eradication.

Endothall is still tied up in a bureaucratic consenting process, we understand that all critical parties are supportive. Last year we thought the consent was imminent and we now find that we are still waiting, it is proving to be a long drawn out process.

We are concerned that our lake remains stubbornly above our targeted TLI of 3.5 and our oxygen in our subliminal waters low. At present there is no understanding of why and David Hamilton in his address at the symposium was calling for further research in this area.

Our AGM is on Auckland Anniversary Weekend – Monday 29th January at 10am at the Pikiaro Rugby League Clubs rooms. Our key note speaker will be Professor Troy Baisden, BOPRC Chair in Lake and Freshwater Science, who has replaced Professor David Hamilton at Waikato University. In addition, we will provide the key highlights of the Symposium and conclude with our traditional hot pork luncheon. We urge you to attend as this will be an important opportunity for the new chair of Lakes and Fresh Water Science to gauge community support and interest.

Enjoy the lakes and take care over the holiday season.

It takes a village to raise a child and it takes a community to restore our lakes.

DON ATKINSON CHAIR, LWQS

the Club since the late 70's.

We are now officially called Pikiaro Lakeside Sports & Community Assn. Incorporated.

There are plans to renovate the Club, modernise inside the main building, the function rooms upstairs and renovate and upgrade the kitchen.

So join the Club and become part of the new direction! – your support is crucial to the success of this transition

Nga mihi

SELWYN RIKITI | CHAIRMAN

The 2017 season for Pikiaro Rugby League Club started strong with the club having teams in the under 6's, 7's, 8's, 9's, 10's, 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's, 17's and two senior men's teams. We found ourselves to be the strongest club in the Bay of Plenty.

We have a lot of players who will be representing the Bay of Plenty. We have some of the biggest and best supporters in Rotorua and along with the backing of the Club it is turning out to be a very successful season both on and off the field.

We finished the season with great success for the Club with Grand Final wins to our under 14's under 17's and our Premier team.

With so many of our other teams just missing out, we feel that 2017 has been an awesome year for all involved (supporters, players, whanau, management and committee) and hopefully this will continue for many years to come and the positive nature which we displayed this year both on and off the field will attract even more people to get involved with our great Club.

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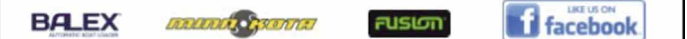
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WHATS ON AT THE **PIKIAO LEAGUE CLUB**

Kia ora to you all

For some it will be a sad time, for some it will be a positive step forward.

In 2014, it was passed at our AGM, that we change our name; the reason being to attract the wider Community to join the Club, and give it a proper Community atmosphere.

All the people residing in the area could use it for different purposes e.g. indoor bowls, darts, gym work outs and conferences/meetings.

Rugby League was the founding purpose in 1977 and still is a very dominant part of our DNA.

Netball, the fishing club and eight-ball, have been associated with

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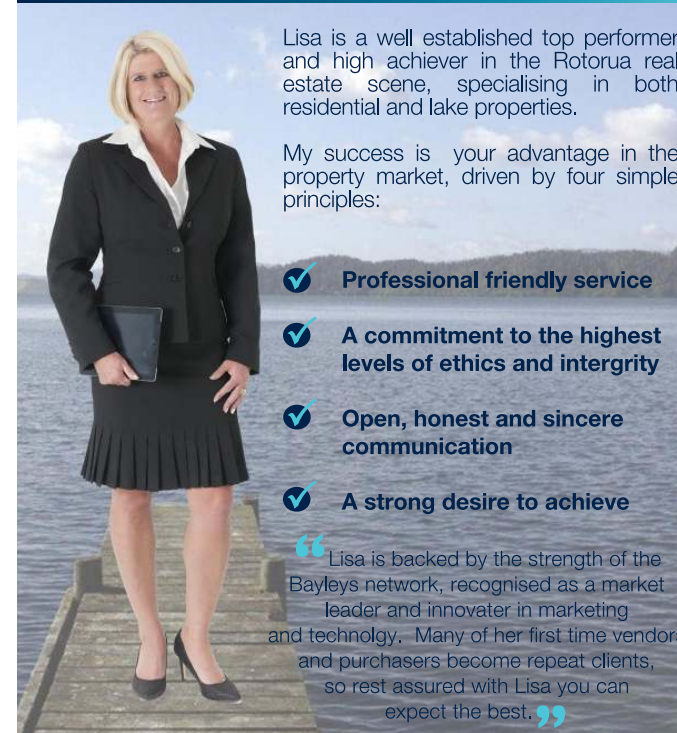
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FISH & GAME NEWS

Christmas is upon us and summer appears to finally be here. We had a rough autumn, winter and spring so deserve some fine weather to enjoy what the lakes have to offer.

Lake Rotoiti produced the best opening day 2-year old trout out of the three lakes surveyed (Okataina and Tarawera being the other two). This bodes well for the summer to those that wish to enjoy a smoked trout for the holidays. With rapidly warming lake temperatures trout will be found deeper nearer the thermocline where temperatures are favorable, and their prey species will be found. The depth band for anglers to target will be 19-25m deep. Because of this jigging and deep trolling will be the preferred methods over the holiday break.

If you catch a trout with a tag by its dorsal fin, please report the information to Fish & Game. We tag 500 trout from every liberation to the main lakes, and information from these fish tells us how well the trout are growing from year to year. We would be really keen to get the tag returned along with information about the fish you caught back from you. For your trouble, we will put your name in the draw for one of twenty whole season adult fishing licenses drawn in August each year. There will be one entry for each tag returned accompanied by the relevant data. The most important information we require are the tag (code), the date you caught the fish, the length of the fish along with your name and postal address. Tagged trout forms can be downloaded off the Eastern website or

contact the Rotorua office.

As many will know, catfish are now present within lake Rotoiti. We all want to ensure that these fish do not spread further to other water bodies and nearby lakes. Keep an eye out for anything out of the ordinary and report unusual fish sightings to the biosecurity team at Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC). Either freeze a specimen or take a photo and record date and place of capture. Remember to check your boats, water sport and fishing gear for weed fragments and clean thoroughly.

Everybody fishing for trout must have a current Fish & Game Sports fishing licence. Trout fishing licenses can be purchased from sports shops or from the Fish & Game website www.fishandgame.org.nz

Once again, Fish & Game staff will be out and about over the summer period undertaking fishery creel surveys and checking licences so please remember to carry these with you. It's always great to catch up with you all out on the water and see how things are going so we look forward to bumping into you. Surveys provide us with highly valuable information for managing the fishery and we are also able to pass on some tips to assist you in finding what's working and where the fish are being caught.

We hope you enjoy a great summer out on the lake, from all the Fish & Game team. Remember your sunscreen, lifejackets and boat responsibly.



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