



Lake Rotoiti Ratepayers & Residents Association



Pipelaying for the Eastern Sewerage Scheme

Nga mihi o te wa - Season's Greetings

2005 sees the start of the Eastern Sewerage Scheme which is the first of several that are scheduled for most communities around Rotoiti over the next 5 years. We also hope to see the first visible steps towards improving the lakes' water quality. After the last few years of lake closures and the desperate need to address water quality issues there are signs of a revitalisation of our lake community and of an awareness and commitment by local bodies towards us. The Okere Falls store will be opening early in the year, and in the meantime the sun is shining and temperatures are warming up, the Pohutakawa are getting ready to flower, Rotoiti is looking beautiful and we are looking forward to a positive new year.

Normally you'd be looking at a serene picture of the lake at the head of this newsletter, but this photo of the start of work on the Eastern Sewerage Scheme seemed appropriate given issues in the area, the amount of work done by your committee and other watchdog groups this year, and the ongoing water quality problem. Sewerage as well as being a health issue also has an impact on lake nutrient levels, so we welcome action on this and the other schemes planned.

2004 has been a year of submissions, meetings, algal blooms, reviews, more submissions, more meetings and of course the local body elections. As well as the ongoing deterioration of the lakes, we have had a major Rates Review, the Long Term District Plan Review and the new On-site Effluent Treatment Plan as well as a raft of other reviews and plans. Our new chairperson Sally Brock has really had a baptism of fire this year, and both she and our secretary Richard Wilson have done a huge amount of work. Thanks must also be given to Jim Stanton, after stepping down as chair perhaps expected a break. Instead he worked long and hard on research for, and the presentation of, our case for the Rates Review.

Although we have had steep rates increases in spite of widespread opposition, the increases were less than those proposed, and RDC has been served notice that no longer can the Lakes regions be ignored. We also have a new Council and new Mayor, and it is encouraging that both council and staff have made themselves more available to work with the Lakes community recently. Our North Ward councillors and your committee are establishing a timetable for regular 'onsite' meetings to discuss concerns and issues as they arise during the year. We hope to be able to instigate a similar arrangement with Council staff as well.

All this bodes well for greater interaction between our local government bodies and Lakes residents. With the increase in rates, we have even more reason to demand our share of resources from Council. If you have any issues that you would like raised (from wanting potholes repaired or more rubbish tins provided in picnic areas to wanting a Community Hall built) please contact any of the Committee (of course you can contact the Council directly as well!) so that we can follow these issues up. Contact details for Committee members are on the back page of this newsletter. If you have strong feelings about lake issues and would like to be more involved, also please think about putting yourself forward for Committee at our AGM on the 9th of January. We are a diverse community and need strong representation from all areas, both permanent and 'holiday' residents.

We are all looking forward to a summer full of sunshine and relaxation, good company and food, and all those things that make up a New Zealand Christmas and Summer special. No algal bloom is most probably too much to hope for, but if there is one may it be not too disruptive!

Meri Kirihimete - Merry Christmas!

Chairpersons Report.

Tena koutou katoa

Nau mai haere mai ki tenai to tatau panui whakamutunga mo tenai tau.

Welcome to this our last newsletter of the year.

Well, what a year it has been. I can't believe we are facing another summer and festive season. Such a lot has happened this year, we have had the introduction of the Regional and Districts Long Term Council Community Plans (LTCCP) on which the committee and co opted members worked tirelessly on your behalf preparing and presenting submissions to both Councils. I am dismayed that despite our enormous efforts we did not achieve the results we were hoping for on the Rates Review, and as a result most of us are paying around 30 percent more in rates for in my opinion virtually no services. We are continuing to fight hard for more services such as better roads, lighting and an improvement in our general facilities and services

In addition to the submissions to both Councils LTCCP's, we have made submissions to the Draft Waste Strategy, the Review of Solid Waste Strategy, the Eastern Sewerage Scheme and the Reviewed On-Site Effluent Treatment Plan.

The launch of the Rotorua / Rotoiti Action Plan in January has kept a number of Committee members busy this year attending meetings and keeping abreast of progress made with regards to the restoration of Lake Rotoiti.

We are all aware that our Lake has deteriorated further this year, and even though there is more of a commitment to action from our Regional and District Councils we have still yet to see action on the ground. More research and assessments of environmental effects will ensure we get the best possible solution for our Lake, in the short, medium and long term. Yes it is exceedingly tedious and frustrating dealing with the requirements of the RMA, but comply we must. The restoration of Lake Rotoiti is going to be a very expensive undertaking. There must be certainties that whatever we do is going to work and have the desired effect.

Recently we saw the election of a new Mayor and Council, we endeavour to meet with the new Council regularly, the aim of which will be to discuss our Ratepayers and Residents concerns. We sincerely hope that the health of the Rotorua Lakes and developing our local economy will be high priorities for the new Council.

An auspicious start to the new Council was perhaps the start of our Eastern Sewerage Scheme. A celebration was held at the work site in Waana Street on the 18th of October where local Regional and District Council dignitaries came and supported the event. The completion date for this scheme is programmed for late 2005 / Jan 2006.

We congratulate those people involved in making this happen. We believe it to be the first physical step in long process of protecting our Lake.

By the time this goes to print we should have the final report outlining the options for providing sewerage reticulation for Okere Falls and Otaramarae. The Council is intending to present the various options to the community prior to receiving submissions on the preferred method.

The Okere Otaramarae scheme is scheduled for completion in February 2008. Hinehopu and Gisborne Point is scheduled for completion at the same time. Because of the importance of this issue, we urge you to attend the meetings and presentations Council has planned, in order to fully understand the implications of all options.

The lay-by adjacent to the Delta boat ramp is to undergo a re vamp before the end of the year. Transit have agreed that the lay-by is a particularly picturesque one and are committing funds to reseal the road and provide new furniture.

Council, together with Environment Bay of Plenty is planning to upgrade the end of Trout Pool Rd. This area is used intensively by locals and tourists and its present state certainly does not reflect the natural beauty of our area. This should be started in July-September 2005.

The application for consent for the Hinehopu Transfer Station is about to be lodged. We will be supporting the application, as the current "bin" method is both an eye sore and a source of littered rubbish that is plainly evident at the site.

The Emery Park upgrade is still planned for construction. It has been delayed due to the need to formalise continued access for the public. We are

hoping for a resolution to these discussions soon.

We are dismayed at the state of some of the DOC Reserves around Lake Rotoiti, especially at the lake margins. Some of these beaches have become so overgrown by gorse that it is impossible to access the beach. While native bush will regenerate through gorse, it does not tend to do so at the "margins" of infestation due to high light levels. We are continuing to communicate with DOC regarding this issue.

The committee has worked very hard on your behalf this year, and to be honest, it hasn't always been easy. We need more help! If you are committed to Lake

Rotoiti, please consider putting your name forward for committee at our AGM on January 9th.

Lake Rotoiti faces some huge challenges, we need a strong committee to ensure Lake Rotoiti and its Residents are a major voice when it comes to the decision making.

I wish you a safe and happy festive season.

Ko te tumanako kia koa kia pai to koutou hararei mo te kirihimete.

No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou tena tatou katoa

Sally Brock

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the

LAKE ROTOITI RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

To be held at
Pikiao Rugby League Clubrooms, Takinga Street, Mourea
10.00AM SUNDAY 11 JANUARY 2005

**PAUL DELL OF ENVIRONMENT BAY OF PLENTY WILL BE MAKING A PRESENTATION
ON THE RESTORATION OF LAKE ROTOITI**

Light Refreshments available at conclusion of meeting

NAU MAI HAERE MAI - ALL WELCOME

All enquiries: Richard Wilson

Secretary

Ph 362-4308

OKERE FALLS ECOLOGICAL CARE GROUP REPORT

The Okere Falls Ecological Care Group has had a relatively quiet period over winter. Most of the preparation for the winter planting at Te Akau Rd was done last summer, which meant that the occasional weed control over the winter months was all that was required.

A major planting exercise was done at the Te Akau Rd site in July. The plants although initially damaged by rabbits are now doing well.

The Council has provided mulch which will provide some weed control over the summer months, what an amazing turn out we had for the spreading of the mulch. Than you everyone involved.

The Urupa side of Te Akau Rd has now been cleared of the gorse that was sprayed last summer. This was a major task as it was entangled in the fence and difficult to remove from the fence edges.

A weed control programme over the summer to stop gorse and blackberry re establishing will make this area ready for planting next autumn / winter.

The Kaituna stream edge has had one major weed kill with

good results, another weed kill is planned in autumn next year, with planting to occur immediately after that.

The Trailer Yacht Squadron Care Group who will be working at Te Arero Bay is progressing again after some initial delays.

Okawa Bay Care Group is in the process of clearing weeds and will be controlling weed growth over this summer ready for planting next autumn / winter.

It is amazing what a difference weed clearance and planting has made. Some of the plantings at Te Akau Road are in their second year and now require less maintenance.

Some of our local residents have taken up the initiative and started doing weed control at some of our lake edge beaches.

This is very encouraging, our lake and beaches are too beautiful to become infested with blackberry and gorse. If you are interested in becoming involved in a planting programme or restoration project, no matter how big or small please contact Sally Brock. 3624764. EBOP and RDC will assist with some labour and weed killer.

LAKE ROTOITI CHRISTMAS MENU

Christmas Day is a time for families to enjoy themselves, have fun and be stress free.

The traditional Christmas dinner is suited to the northern hemisphere where Christmas Day falls in the middle of winter with snow everywhere, and the huge feast of turkey, goose, barron of beef, plum pudding etc; often puts huge stress on the cook.

In New Zealand it is summer time with hot dry weather, with a bit of luck. So why not have easy and delicious Christmas meals?

Here is a suggested Christmas menu. I have not listed amounts, I'll leave that to you and your family's tastes, but have included a list of supplies, and I am very happy to help you if you give me a ring. (07) 3624308

Richard Wilson

Lake Rotoiti Christmas Menu

BREAKFAST

Bloody Mary's or Bubbly and Orange

Glazed Ham on the Bone served on Bavarian Rye Toast with Hot English Mustard
Cherries

LUNCH

Chicken Tenderloin Salad

Ingredients:

chicken tenderloins 4 to 5 per serving
rocket,
fresh asparagus,
orange segments,
sugar snaps,
cashew nuts.

mixed baby salad leaves,
red onion,
grapes,
mung bean sprouts,
spring onions,

Method:

Mix salad leaves, rocket and all salad ingredients except red onions and cashew nuts.
Sauté chicken tenderloins on medium heat, when pan is heated add olive oil then butter
this will ensure the butter doesn't burn, the chicken will only take a couple of minutes
on each side, allow to rest for 5 minutes.

Pile salad on individual plates, place tenderloins on top and garnish with red onion rings
and cashew nuts.

Serve with your favourite crusty bread.

Dessert:

Chilled watermelon with mint and Gin.

Method:

Cube or dice watermelon place in a suitable dish, sprinkle as much or as little gin as you
wish, put mint leaves over top, cover with cling film and freeze for at least 1 hour, serve
and enjoy.

Lake Rotoiti Christmas Menu

DINNER

B.B.Q. Marinated Leg of Lamb.

Ingredients:

Fresh rosemary,	hot English mustard,
extra virgin olive oil,	crushed garlic,
ground black pepper,	zest and juice of 2 lemons
Leg of Lamb -	ask your butcher to bone
	and butterfly it for you..

Method:

Place lamb in a dish and rub with mustard, garlic, freshly ground pepper, zest and juice of lemons, place 6 springs of rosemary on top and drizzle with at least 50mls of olive oil, seal dish with cling wrap, place in fridge and leave till Christmas Day.

Take lamb out of fridge at least 1 hour prior to B.B.Q. Light B.B.Q. heat up, put lamb on and turn down to low, turn lamb regularly to ensure it does not burn, cook for approximately 40-50 minutes. Before serving allow to rest 20 minutes loosely covered with foil.

Carve against the grain, serve with minted jersey bennet potatoes, marinated mushrooms, sliced tomatoes with red onions, basil, balsamic vinegar, extra virgin olive oil, salt and pepper to taste. Or serve with your favourite vegetables and salads.

Dessert:

Why not try a delicious old fashioned style plum duff, these puddings are made to a very old fashioned recipe and only require whipped cream and vanilla ice-cream.

SUGGESTED SUPPLIERS

Ham and Leg of Lamb	The Meat Shoppe
Bavarian Rye Bread	Brumbies
Chicken Tenderloins	New World
Kato's Dressing	New World
Jersey Bennet Potatoes	Any Supermarket
Cherries	Orchard Fresh 0800 665963
	Website: www.orchardfresh.co.nz

Gourmet Plum Duffs and Christmas Cakes are available from Richard Wilson
Phone (07) 362-4308

DO YOU HAVE A RAINWATER TANK?

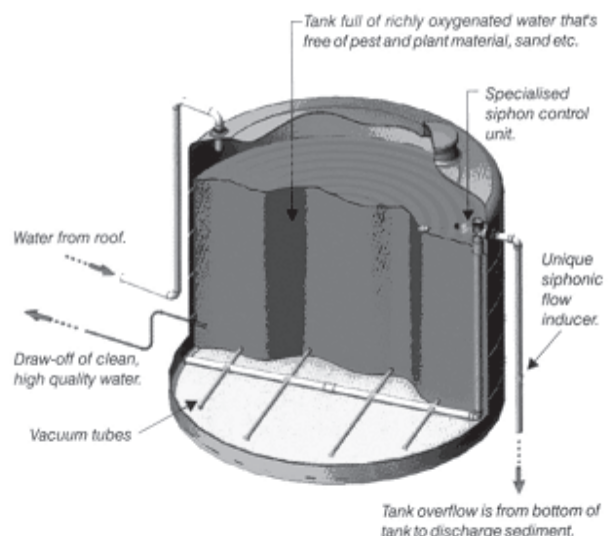
Did you know that most tanks require cleaning every 6 to 12 months as recommended by the Ministry of Health?

The sludge at the bottom of your tank is a breeding ground for a range of protozoan nasties and *E. coli* bacteria.....hardly surprising when you think of the rotting organic matter, bird, rat, mice and possum droppings washed off the average roof and out of the guttering into the tank.

TankVac is a system that removes the sludge and stale water from the bottom of your rain-water tank. TankVac does this every time your rain-water tank overflows. TankVac uses a special valve arrangement that starts a powerful siphon. This siphon creates a suction at the base of your rain-water tank that vacuums the sludge, stale water and debris from the bottom of your rain-water tank and removes them to waste.

Some benefits of TankVac include:

- No more tedious tank cleaning
- Increases life of expensive filters
- Removes nutrients available for algal and bacterial growth
- Provides cleaner, healthier oxygenated water



TankVac requires no electricity and can be installed without draining your precious supply of tank water. TankVac can be installed in plastic, concrete or fibreglass tanks of most shapes and sizes. To have a TankVac installed costs approximately \$950 (inc. GST).

For any enquiries or general questions, contact Iain Charity, at:



30 Taheke Road, Okere Falls
07) 362 4411 or 027 202 7727
email: charity@pcconnect.co.nz

SHATTERED PEACE GETS A CHEER FROM LOCALS

It was devastation on a scale never before seen in normally tranquil Mourea. Roads ripped to pieces, sand dunes replacing neatly clipped lawns, trees torn out by their roots, and all the while, day and night, the noise of huge generators and pumps labouring to control the water. And yet, after another sleepless night, the residents turned out on a wet October morning and clapped and cheered the men who had laid waste to their community.

Joined by Rotorua Mayor elect Kevin Winters and a number of his councillors, Environment Bay of Plenty chair John Cronin with some of his councillors, the residents of the area welcomed contractor Fulton Hogan's workers with a morning tea "shout" at the start of work on the Mourea/Okawa Bay sewerage reticulation. Fulton Hogan's general manager for the mid north zone, John McKay, said it was the first time they had ever been welcomed into an area with an event such as this.

The health problems associated with septic tanks and a high water table in Mourea has been evident for many years, as has the decline in water quality in neighbouring Okawa Bay due to the septic nutrients, nitrogen and phosphorus, leaching into the lake and causing the potentially toxic cyanobacterial algal blooms that have led to regular health warnings against drinking or contact with the water.

The Lake Rotoiti Ratepayers & Residents Association's [LRRRA] then chair, Jim Stanton, first raised the issues with Rotorua District Council in 1988 and in 1990 RDC undertook an investigation into the feasibility of sewerage the area. Since that time, the LRRRA has continued to press RDC for action and in 1998, RDC budgeted funds for the scheme to proceed. Subsequent engineering design work revealed that the capital cost of the scheme would be approximately three times the original estimate and the scheme was aban-

doned while cheaper alternatives were investigated.

In 2001, a number of frustrated residents formed the Mourea/Okawa Bay Action Group [MOB] and joined with the Ratepayers in pressing RDC to get on with the job.

After considering various disposal options, and in spite of the hoped for cheaper alternatives not eventuating, RDC accepted a tender from Fulton Hogan for the reticulation of Mourea and Okawa Bay at their Council meeting on the 14th September and work commenced on the 11th October 2004. Tenders for the ancillary areas of Brunswick and Rotokawa, and for the trunk main from Mourea to Rotorua's newly upgraded Waste Water Treatment Plant, are expected to be let in the near future and it is expected that the system will be fully operational by early 2006. The cost of the scheme is being subsidised by the Ministry of Health and by Environment Bay of Plenty.

The morning tea for the Fulton Hogan workers, which was organised by the Mourea/Okawa Bay Action Group and supported by the Lake Rotoiti Ratepayers & Residents Association, commenced with a Karakia from Arch Deacon George Bennett and was followed with short speeches from Brentleigh Bond (MOB), John McKay (Fulton Hogan) and Kevin Winters (RDC). It was noted that the sewerage scheme was the first major step towards fixing the problems in Mourea and Okawa Bay and stopping the degradation of Lake Rotoiti, and that the day marked a turning point in Rotorua's history. With other work being planned by EBOP and RDC, Rotorua was now on track for clean lakes and a return to the growth that was needed and desired. The sewerage scheme was described as "Good News" for the whole of Rotorua.



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ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL MAYOR'S REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I present my first Mayor's report to be tabled 9th November 2004.

My goal is simple "To make Rotorua the best district in New Zealand to live in, play in and to do business in". To achieve that goal I need to make sure that the Rotorua District Council is the best council in New Zealand.

Every day for the past three years, I have been absolutely privileged to be a south ward councillor on the Rotorua District Council. Now, as your mayor it is about listening to the residents. It is about applying solid business principles to an organization that delivers measurable social services.

I will demand that Rotorua District Council delivers services essential to the private and public sector. It is about delivering quantifiable results and a top performance into the Rotorua District Council. I will demand that we become a more customer-friendly and customer-focused council.

Rotorua District Council is going to communicate with you, the resident a lot better than we have done in the past. By Christmas we will have identified a new communication strategy for Rotorua District Council to implement. Rotorua District Council has already met with key media personnel to find out how we can do the job better. I have already commenced my Friday forums, whereby residents and ratepayers can meet with me for 15 minutes to discuss their concerns.

I am going to deliver on Community safety, Prosperity and Vitality.

- (a) Safety means properly resourcing voluntary community groups that have safety as their priority. Safety means empowering all residents to feel safe in their homes and on our streets.
- (b) Prosperity means working with all our major industries. As a district we have many strings to our bow, be it farming, manufacturing, retail, the visitor industry or forestry. I will ensure that Rotorua continues to attract new investment, while at the same time promoting Rotorua for increased job opportunities and skills development for all sectors.

We have already identified that the committee structure is up for a review. We will continue with the present structure until August 2005. Discussion and consensus will take place between now and then with all sectors of our community, to engage them to find a "best fit" committee structure.

- (c) Vitality includes achieving environmental goals through restoration of our lakes, preserving access to the lakes, promoting recycling to achieve minimum waste, making refuse stations more accessible, and researching new waste strategies. We will see the airport develop to trans-Tasman capability and our new events centre become a real focus for Rotorua. I will work to attract major events into Rotorua on a weekly basis. Our district plan is also up for review. If we want farmers in the catchments of the lakes to change their farming practices, then we must provide profitable solutions to land use changes.

I want to listen. I want to help people help themselves. But I will not dodge the responsibility of leadership. We can build the best district council in New Zealand and in turn be the best district in New Zealand to do business in and to bring up a family.

We now have a fresh start with a new team. I am privileged to lead this new, fresh, exciting team.

Kevin A. Winters
Mayor

SAMUEL HOROUTA EMERY - A PIONEERING BUSINESS MAN

Sam Emery was born at Te Awamutu in 1885. He was raised by an uncle and never allowed to attend school. At the age of 12, he and a cousin Tom Emery ran away to seek their fortunes. Determined to make something of his life, he started working in the gumfields in Thames Coromandel. At the time Sam could only speak Maori, but working with Dalmations on the gumfields, he learnt their language, and many of their customs and songs.

From the Coromandel, Sam moved to Lake Rotoiti, where he met and married Kataraina Te Urumahue Katene. Together they built their home at Lake Rotoiti- they cleared the bush and developed a farm. Sam saw potential in the land that everyone else thought was useless. He tirelessly cut down scrub and turned the land into productive pasture.

Emerys Store, began as a small hut selling groceries, but soon expanded to include a post office, and Sam, was Postmaster of the district. The Store was a base for Emery Transport, a local bus service, and the ferry service that he ran for tourists and locals around Lake Rotoiti, and to Lake Rotorua. Another store was opened in Mourea. The meat sold in his stores were processed from his own farms, and Sam could always get his hands on mutton birds and Maori kai. From humble beginnings, and despite being illiterate, Sam expanded his farming and business interests. He got involved in Real Estate and Property development, Kataraina doing all of his paper work.

Never afraid of hard work, Sam got a contract for planting pine seedlings, and rather than give the cartage contract to someone else, he bought a horse and cart and did it himself. He also undertook the construction of all the roads in the vicinity of Lakes Rotoiti and Rotoma. There were times when his lack of education made life difficult. Sam had to get a Skippers license to run the Ferry Service from the store. To qualify as a Skipper Sam had to memorise all the exam questions and their answers to be able to pass the exam.

Throughout his life he had notable achievements. He was on the Rotorua County Council for 12 years. He was also Chairman of the Maori War Effort Organization, a member of the Te Arawa Trust Board for 25 years where he chaired their Farming Operations. Sam also helped several Ngati Pikiao Farm Trusts.

He owned and bred racehorses; his greatest wish was to win the Melbourne Cup. A great sportsman, he was a senior rep for Bay of Plenty and a member of the Rugby Sub Union.

Because Sam was not born here, his wife Kataraina wished him to build a marae for the family. Sam agreed, even though at first he would preferred to have built a hotel at Gisborne Point! Sam and his family built Tauria Marae, which stands above Emerys Store today. Kataraina, saw the marae being built, but sadly died in 1959, a year before it opened.

Today Sams family still control many of the enterprises that he set up as family trusts. A Man of great Mana, Sam Emery was a challenge to education, a hard worker and a man of great reputation.

Sam died in 1967 and is buried overlooking Lake Rotoiti.

Acknowledgements:
Poutu Te Rangi March 1995
Don Stafford Collection
Maori Heroes Alan Duff 2000

Lake area properties continue to sell

Again I'm left with genuine clients looking to purchase in the lake areas. The market continues to show strength. Considering selling, or want sold on your property, then contact me.

Steve Howard



Living on the lake allows Pam and I to indulge our passion of cruising and fishing with our friends and the "Canine fish finder" My pastime adds to my knowledge and understanding of the lakes and surrounding properties.



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MESSAGE FROM THE HARBOUR MASTER

It is at this point in the year that we are preparing for the large influxes of summer holiday vessels and day visitors alike.

Increased numbers means that the potential for 'close quarters' situations is increased. Add to this the number of different types of vessels, some powered, others not, the varying degrees of knowledge and preparation and the odd uncourtious boatie (there's always one!) and we are left with a recipe for disaster.

Throw in some inclement weather, along with the general mindset that Lake Waters are safe, and the potential for disaster gets worse.

Material pertaining to the 'rules of the road' is available in many formats. The Rotorua District Council has booklets available called 'Safe Boating: an essential guide'.

These are free and contain a host of information relating to general boating, safety, responsibility, equipment, weather, planning, setting out, etc., to name but a few.

This booklet also has excellent diagrams of the 'rules of the road'. The section begins with the statement, "90% of fatal accidents involve the Skipper not having enough boating knowledge and experience".

This is of course true, so it is imperative that those Skippers, i.e. the person responsible for the safety of the crew and vessel, are aware of the 'rules of the road'.

Every boat has a Skipper or Person in Charge. The Maritime Transport Act 1994 places certain responsibilities on the Skipper of every vessel. The Skipper is responsible for:

- The Safety of the Vessel
- The Safety of all persons aboard
- Complying with all Maritime Rules and any other regulations.

With this level of responsibility falling on the shoulders of the Skipper or Person in Charge, it is imperative that if you fall into this category you familiarise yourself with at least the basics, that of the 'rules of the road'.

Remember also that Rotorua Lakes can become very crowded. Vigilance is required to avoid collisions or accidents.

The following is some safety information to remember

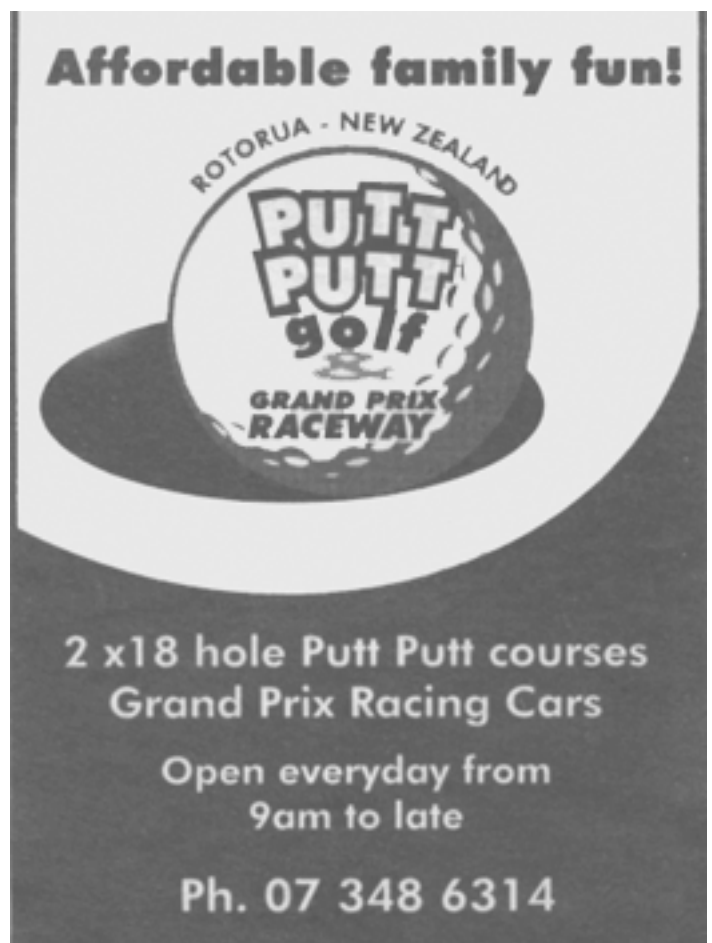
and pass on to your families, visitors, friends and neighbours.

- There is a 200metre strip around all of our Lakes which is restricted to 5 knots: Do not exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of shore
- Skiing from shore may only be done from a ski access lane: You must use a ski lane when skiing from shore
- Skiing is a 3 person sport: You must carry an observer
- Life Jackets save lives: Wear them at all times
- Watch and know the weather: Rotorua Lakes can change very quickly and become dangerous places to be
- Don't be complacent: It is foolish to believe Lake waters are safer than the sea
- No person under the age of 15 years may propel or navigate a powered vessel that is capable of a proper speed exceeding 10 knots

Education and preparedness are the keys to being safe out on the water. Do all you can to avert tragedy.

Yours in Boating

Andrew Lang
Harbour Master



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Grand Prix Racing Cars

Open everyday from 9am to late

Ph. 07 348 6314

THE ROTORUA/ ROTOITI WORKING PARTY REPORT - Paul Dell, EBOP

The Rotorua/ Rotoiti working party met on Wednesday 20th October and received a presentation from Professor David Hamilton on the Modelling work that he and Scott Stevens had been doing.

The hydrodynamic model that will be used to assess the diversion wall design options is very complex and is still being refined. The work to date allows the lake dynamics to be assessed at 2m depth intervals which is necessary to fully understand the complex flows of water from Lake Rotorua through the Ohau Channel into lake Rotoiti.

About 60% of the flow goes into the eastern basin while the remaining flow goes down the Kaituna. Four different wall scenario's will be tested once the model is complete. Scott estimates it will take 2-4 weeks to finalise the model.

Professor Hamilton has been developing a water quality model to assess the impact of any wall diversions on lake Rotoiti water quality. It will assist in determining whether oxygenation may be required once the wall is built. David has managed to calibrate the model against the measured field data but is still to finalise the model. David also considers that a further 2-4 weeks is required to finalise this work.

At the same time EBOP/RDC have employed Beca Consultants to be the lead consultant for preparing the design and AEE for the diversion. It is proposed that the AEE and consent will be

available for lodging in late March/ early April 2005. This is a demanding timeline and will require the support of all concerned.

The AEE will need to outline what impact the diversion will have on the Kaituna River and Maketu Estuary. As soon as the model is available to test the wall alignment geotechnical investigations on the lake sediments will be undertaken as part of the design detail.

While it is still early in the process the diversion wall does appear to be a realistic option, having regard to the fact that 75% of the nitrogen and phosphorus that flows into lake Rotoiti comes through the Ohau Channel. Government has already indicated \$4million dollars being available as a contribution to the diversion. Further aspects of the funding are still being worked through.

Algal monitoring will be undertaken this summer every week and the results will be available on EBOP's website and on 0800 368 267.

A wide range of options to reduce the nutrient load in Lake Rotorua are also being investigated. These include upgrading City Sewage Plant, new sewage reticulation around both lakes, Diversion of stream flows and treatment of stream inflows.

P M (Paul) DELL
Environment Bay Of Plenty

LAKES REAL ESTATE

MREINZ

694 State Highway 33 Okere Falls, Lake Rotoiti



Introducing a team with proven success and experience to the real estate market. Ray Gosling has been in the industry for over 30 years and is the principal of Lakes Real Estate. He is a resident of Lake Rotoiti and is passionate about our lakes and even more so with trout fishing.

**THINKING OF SELLING? CALL ME FIRST FOR AN OBLIGATION FREE APPRAISAL
I KNOW THE VALUE OF THE LAKES**

Properties for sale,

Main Road Hinehopu. Intalok home , 3 btrs	\$ 430,000.00.
Lake Front Waiti Lockwood. 3 btrs	\$ 800,000.00.
Gisborne Pt. 4 btrs lake access	\$ 265,000.00.
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Lake Rotorua Rotoiti Catchment Management Action Plan

The Lake Rotorua Rotoiti Catchment Management Action Plan was launched at the Pikiaro Rugby Clubrooms on Monday the 26th January this year.

The Catchment Management Plan that will be developed over the next 3 years since the January launch will provide a blueprint of how the water quality in Lakes Rotorua and Rotorua can be improved. A number of methods are now being considered by the Working Party.

The Working Party, who will be making the decisions about what needs to be done to save our Lakes is made up of Community Representatives or "stakeholders", who represent different sectors of the Community.

The Lake Rotoiti Ratepayers and Residents Association is represented by myself. Other groups represented on the Working Party are from Fish and Game, Department of Conservation, Lakes Water Quality Society, Recreational Users, Tourism, Forestry, Iwi, Farmers, Urban Representatives, EBOP, and RDC.

The actions required to save both lakes, and to significantly improve their water qualities are different. Lake Rotoiti receives most of the nutrients via the Ohau Channel and will be most improved by engineering options such as the Ohau Channel diversion, and oxygenation.

Lake Rotorua receives most of the nutrients from the catchment, urban and rural, and will be most improved by land use change and management, and urban sewerage improvements.

Therefore, the ACTIONS required to save both lakes will be entirely different. The diversion of the Ohau Channel away from Lake Rotoiti, and subsequent oxygenation could be done quite quickly, once the assessment of environmental effects and Resource Consent requirements are satisfied. These actions will have immediate effect, and the recovery

of Lake Rotoiti could be in the short to medium term.

Lake Rotorua on the other hand will require land management and use change, which will take longer, and the effects of the change longer still. There are some short term proposals that may reduce the nutrients flowing into Lake Rotorua, such as diverting the Hamurana and Tikitere streams, these are being discussed at present.

The Working Party has met regularly during the year to discuss progress on the science and research. There have also been many meetings of focus groups which concentrate on the different management options.

We have had Focus Groups set up to look at and assess the effects of stormwater, the city sewerage plant, land use, Hamurana, Tikitere, and Ohau Channel diversion, lake levels and Lake Rotorua groynes have on the lakes..

I have to admit to being very frustrated by the lack of ACTION on the ground, but I am reassured by the progress on the science and research to date. The fact is we cannot jump in and do something that we are not sure is going to work, or god forbid make things worse.

With regards to Lake Rotoiti, it certainly appears that the Ohau Channel diversion will be the life saver for Lake Rotoiti. The science is looking positive, and consultants have been appointed to design a structure to divert the flow of the Ohau Channel down the Kaituna. An Assessment of Environmental Effects will be prepared and it is hoped consents for the work will be lodged by March 2005. All going well, the physical work on the diversion could be started before summer 2005.

LRRRA is fully involved at the Working Party and Focus Group level. Be assured that we are pushing for action as soon as the science and bureaucratic procedures allow.

- Sally Brock

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FROM YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CONSTABLE BRETT COOPER

Hello to everyone in the Lake Rotoiti Area. I've been in this job for just under a year now and am slowly getting a handle on what's going on around the place.

I've had the pleasure of meeting a few people around and about and am pleased to report a good sense of Community wellbeing evident in the lakes area. A number of people have passed on information, which has proved helpful in assisting the Police in their work.

With summer fast approaching its time to check security of properties as well as items around the place. In my travels I have noticed a number of boats and kayaks just pulled up on the shore or left around houses and bachs. Unfortunately we no longer live in a crime free society and these valuable items become targets for thieves and the like. Also there have been instances where rough weather has dislodged kayaks, floating them out onto the lakes which creates navigational hazards for other boats.

We have had a couple of successes identifying some offenders who were causing havoc in the western lake area. This group of people was responsible for a number of burglaries in the area over a long period of time and were targeting empty properties taking large amounts of goods.

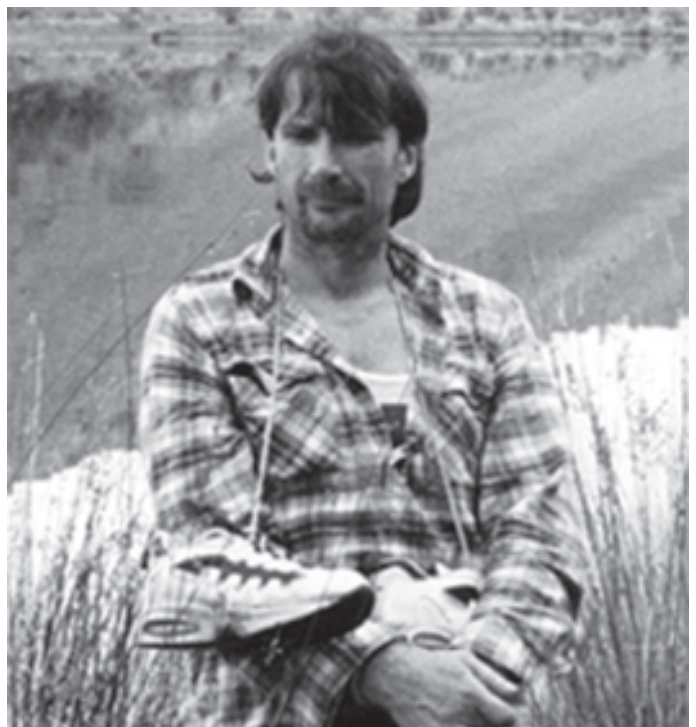
Good spotting by a local woman who noticed a car acting suspiciously in her street and reported it to Police led to the offenders being identified and caught a short time later. They have admitted a number of offences and one has been sentenced to a prison term with another currently before the Courts but in custody. It goes to show that especially in a rural type area such as the lakes unusual behaviour gets noticed and can lead to good results.

Other good work includes boats and kayaks washed up

being reported to Police, which is assisting in the locating of a prolific offender operating in the lakes area which I will cover shortly. This same person has reported a suspicious car which I have just been informed was located yesterday with the person being interviewed to why they were in a particular place at the time they were seen.

More often than not people have legitimate reasons for being in a particular place but it doesn't hurt to enquire why they are there and I am happy to follow up on any information that is passed on. Sometimes this is not done straight away but it does get done.

Update on Dean VINCENT



In the last newsletter it was mentioned that Dean VINCENT was active in the area again. From information received and the current state of burglaries occurring in the area I believe he is still moving in and out of the lakes on a regular basis. At the time of writing things have gone a bit quiet which indicates he may have moved on for now but rest assured he may be back. Vincent lives rough in the bush and may have several camps in the bush through to Rotoma. He generally breaks into empty bachs and targets food, blankets, batteries and has been known to take boats, kayaks and the like.

Chances are he will return so keep an eye out for him and report any sightings to the Police, taking special note of time, place and where he appears to be heading.

I have attached a photo, which is a few years old but is a good likeness except he apparently has a beard.



Grant & Shona Telfer

236 Te Ngae Road, Rotorua, New Zealand.

Phone: (07) 345 9854, Fax: (07) 345 9857

Email: shona@telfermarine.co.nz



West Rotoiti Volunteer Fire Unit

The West Rotoiti Volunteer Fire Unit is now a well equipped, well housed, and well trained unit ready for any emergencies. Call-outs this year have been few and far between, but we still have to be prepared for the "big one"

The AGM last month saw the retirement after many years of dedicated service as Chairman and Secretary of John James and Keith Smith respectively. In their place Kevin Jensen was elected as Chairman and Lucy-Ann Watson as Secretary. Carol Goodman remains our Treasurer.

Dan Arrowsmith, who has been the main driving force behind the fire unit for many years, sprang a surprise during the year by selling his home and moving to greener pastures. His roles as Deputy Rural Fire Officer and Training Officer have been taken over by Kevin Jensen and Aaron Martin respectively. Dan set high standards and has left big shoes to fill.

Our Christmas BBQ this year will also incorporate the 21st anniversary of the official formation of the fire unit. A reunion of fire fighters from past years will make for a great night out.

New fire fighters are always welcome to the unit. If you know of someone who may be interested, please contact one of the below.

Kevin Jensen - 362 4244

Lucy-Ann Watson - 362 4879

Aaron Martin - 362 4752

P.S. We ask you all to be aware as landowners of your responsibilities regarding lighting of fires during the restricted fire season this summer.

Kevin Jensen
Chairman

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Manupirua Springs, 1901

Manupirua Springs

Legend has it that this spring was one of those left by the sisters Kuiwai and Haungaroa while on their way to save their brother Ngatoroirangi. He was perishing with cold on Tongariro Mountain and they were bringing him warmth from Hawaiki. Whenever they paused they left part of the fire they were carrying.

These pauses were frequent and explain the chain of thermal activity stretching from Whakaari (White Island) to Tongariro Mountain. Manupirua was one of the intermediate stops, and since that time has provided the people of Rotoiti with one of the most beautiful natural baths in the district.

The waters of Manupirua have always been regarded as giving relief for rheumatic conditions (which were well known to Maori), and the owners of the spring and surrounding lands (Ngati Hineura and Ngati Rongomai) were hosts to many seeking help. Such help extended to Pakeha, especially to one of the district's earliest resident magistrates, Thomas Henry Smith. Suffering a knee problem, Smith found relief by bathing in Rotorua's thermal waters. There was much affection for Smith, and in 1849 the owners of Manupirua set aside a piece of land near the bath and assisted with the construction of a cottage so that he could spend extended periods there.

Smith was actually carried on a stretcher while the boundaries of his piece of land were pointed out. Two who helped carry the stretcher were Rewiri Manuariki and Te Haimona. Smith's knee improved, and for some years he was able to carry out his duties in the district.

*Reproduced with kind permission of D.M.Stafford from his book
Landmarks of Te Arawa Volume 2: Rotoiti, Rotohehu, Rotoma*

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THE LAKE ROTOITI CLASSIC AND WOODEN BOAT ASSOCIATION



This association has grown out of the Wooden Boat Parade that has been held successfully on the lake for the last 7 years. The Original organizers of this parade Lindsay Brighthouse, Brentleigh Bond, Eric Cameron, and Phil Cunningham did a great job organizing the Parade. At last years parade they indicated that they wished to have a break from this.

A meeting was held in April of those interested, and it was decided that a more formal structure be formed to foster the boats of the lake. The objects of this association is to recognise and foster classic boats on the lake, and to enhance facilities on Lake Rotoiti

A Committee of Buzz Rathbone, Nigel Brock, Eric Cameron, Allan Clarke, Bill Fowler, Brentleigh Bond, Lindsay Brighthouse, Grant Cossey and Guss Gardner was formed. It was decided that we should recognize the classic boats of other construction as well as the wooden ones, as there are a number of these classic boats on the lake.

The Parade is to continue to be held at Waitangi weekend. It was decided to hold this summer's parade on Saturday the 5th February. In the past with the parade held on the Sunday, it has meant that the picnic has finished early as some of the participants left to travel home.

Prior to this event we are planning a cocktail party on the Friday night of the 4th on the lawns of the Duxton, with a display of some of the classic dinghies from the lake, and perhaps some early outboard motors, a guest speaker, speaking on early Rotoiti, and we may look at having a twilight parade of some of the boats.

As well as the Parade on Waitangi day other events for the year have been organized. We contacted all former

participants of the parade and held a fishing contest over the Saturday and Sunday of Labour weekend. We had over 30 entries and it concluded with a prize giving at Bill Fowler's boat shed in Kakaho bay, and a great barbecue by Richard Wilson.

We are looking at organizing an informal parade on New Years day traveling around some of the bays of the lake picking up boats as we go along. We are planning information cards about the association, so don't be surprised if one is left on your boat at the hot pools or elsewhere, giving you details of the association.

Our website(www.woodenboatparade.co.nz) is worth a look as it is full of information & is continually being updated by Eric Cameron, so stay in touch, or even better if you would like to join this association send \$10 to; Nigel Brock, Secretary, 76 Te Akau Rd, Okere Falls, Rotorua RD4. Ph 021 780456

Grant Cossey
Chairman





The view from the outside seating at the soon to open Okere Falls Store

Okere Falls Store to Open Again Soon

The Okere Falls Store, recently moved about 100 yards from its original location to a new site slightly back from the road, will be opening for business early in 2005 as a combined General Store / Deli with a strong community focus.

The new owner Sarah Uhl, who started off Rotorua's Fat Dog Café and ran it until 1998, is the driving force behind the revitalisation of the store, and has been working on the project for about 2 years. Sarah intends to acknowledge the diverse population of Okere Falls and to create a pleasant and friendly indoor/outdoor environment.

The building is getting a complete refit. Once finished it will house a General Store to supply everyday needs, and also a "deli" section which will be supplying such delicacies as bratwurst (both hot and ready to eat in a bun and also to take away), cheeses and salamis, fresh brezels and European breads, muffins and most importantly, espresso!

There will also be a selection of prepared meals including take-home pasta, soups and salads. The General Store side will have newspapers, fresh bread, milk, ice creams, canned goods and a range of beers and wine as well as fruit, vegetables and organics.

Sarah sees the new store has having a strong community focus, opening from 7am to 7pm (yes, you'll be able to stop for a life-saving espresso on the way to work!). There will be seating outside where you can look over the lazy waters of the Okere Falls Arm, feast on coffee and muffins or perhaps a bratwurst bun, and chat with friends. My dog is very pleased to hear that there will be a water bowl for dogs, and she thought it only fair that a play area for children will be provided. No doubt water-logged white water rafters will also be very pleased to find coffee and hot food close by to the Kaituna.

With the deli supplying gourmet-style prepared meals and having a alcohol licence, locals feeling like a break from cooking will be able to call in. Likewise holiday residents will be able to concentrate on their fishing and trips to the hot pools instead of having to spend the weekend driving into town for supplies.

The store will also function as a local Art Gallery, and the community focus is reinforced by a Community Noticeboard and hopefully a public telephone. In these times of rural facilities disappearing around the country it is great to see a local store around the lake reopening.

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LAKE ROTOITI RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LAKE ROTOITI RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE PIKIAO RUGBY LEAGUE CLUBROOMS ON SUNDAY 11 JANUARY 2004

PRESENT: Jim Stanton (Chairman), Richard Wilson (Secretary), Tai Eru, Bill Kingi, Nick Millar, Peter Carr-Smith (Committee), Grahame and Sandy Hall (Mayor and Mayoress), John Cronin (Chairman EBOP), Cr. Rosemary Michie (EBOP), Cr. Robin Ford (EBOP), Cr. Bill Cleghorn (EBOP), Cr. Charles Sturt (RDC), Paul Dell (EBOP) and 75 Ratepayers and residents.

APPOLOGIES: Received and accepted from Harete and Daniel Phillips, Theo and Marjorie De Lange, Brentleigh Bond, Laurence Tamati, Mike and Lynn Luke, Anne Procter, Rear Admiral Ted Thorne, Brian and Faye Stamp, Bill and Cherry Fowler, Andrew Lang (Rotorua Harbourmaster), Ivan Thomson, Jeanette and Doug Robertson, Ted and Gael Boucher, Anee and Robin Sinclair, Owen Firth, Roly Earp.

Keith Smith / Bob Armstrong
Carried

- 1) OPENING: The Chairman welcomed those present and thanked the invited guests for their attendance. The meeting opened with a karakia by Tai.
- 2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM: Held at the Pikiaro Rugby League Clubrooms on Sunday 12 January 2003 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Cynthia Armstrong / Mary Stanton
Carried

- 3) MATTERS ARISING: None.
- 4) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Presented by Jim Stanton and adopted by the meeting

Jim Stanton / Richard Wilson
Carried

Bob Armstrong moved that a vote of thanks be given to Jim Stanton for his 13 years of service to the LRRRA. The motion was supported by Cr. Rosemary Michie, Cr. Charles Sturt and Lindsay Bighouse.

Bob Armstrong / Cr. Charles Sturt
Carried

- 5) FINANCIAL REPORT: The Financial Report and Audited Accounts were presented by the treasurer Jim Stanton and accepted accordingly.

Jim Stanton / John Green
Carried

- a) Cr. Rosemary Michie spoke in support of the Committee using Association funds to subsidize a Christmas function.
- b) Bob Armstrong asked if subscriptions and donations could be identified in the financial Report
- c) ELECTION OF AUDITOR: Ivan Thomson has agreed to be the Association's Honorary Auditor for the 2003/2004 audit.

6) ELECTION OF COMMITTEE: The following were elected to the 2004 Committee:

Sally Brock	Okere Falls
Nigel Brock	Okere Falls
Nick Miller	Okere Falls
Geoff Turner	Waititi
Mike McVickar	Mourea
Steve Howard	Okere Falls
Bill Kingi	Parcliffe
Willie Emery	Gisborne Point
Laurence Tamiti	Lynmore
Marion Smith	Hinehopu
Richard Wilson	Otaramarae

Jim Stanton / Lindsay Brighthouse
Carried

7) GUEST SPEAKERS: John Cronin, Chairman of EBOP, and Mayor Grahame Hall accepted invitations to speak at the meeting

John spoke about:

- The lakes are a major issue
- EBOP will get it right but it will take time.
- EBOP can do a lot more under new government legislation.
- Two Maori constitution representatives in the next election. Rotorua and Eastern Bay will lose a representative each to accommodate this and this is being appealed.
- EBOP major issues for 2004 are:
- Lakes
- Congestion
- Storm Water issues
- John said dividends from the EBOP shareholding from the Port of Tauranga are used for the reduction of rates.

Grahame spoke about:

- RDC has achieved a lot and had so far spent \$157 million on the Rotorua lakes
- \$36 million will be needed to sewer the Lakes area
- Implications of the Local Government Act
- Tourism
- The Rotorua economy is starting to take off with \$30 million of work going on.
- Rates review.

Richard Wilson asked Grahame for a full written breakdown of where RDC has spent the \$157 million.
David Firth asked what can be done about the swan nuisance.

GENERAL BUSINESS

8) HARBOUR MASTER'S REPORT: This was presented by Richard Wilson on Andrew Lang's behalf.
The main problems on Lake Rotoiti so far this summer season have been:

- Non compliance with laws
- Jet skis
- Lack of understanding of laws relating to the Okere Falls Arm.

Numbers on the lake have been well down on past years.

New navigation lights are being installed at:

- The Delta – Amber 1 second flash
- Gisborne Point – Amber 1 second flash

- Otaramarae port entrance – Red flash one every 2 seconds
- Okere Arm, starboard side – Green flash

9) FIRE REGULATIONS: Dan Arrowsmith spoke of a Restricted Fire Ban in rural areas from 1 October to 30 April and the need to get a Fire Permit from RDC for incinerators, hangi, charcoal BBQs and for all fires of any kind. Dan also spoke of the local fire unit having trouble reaching properties because of overgrown driveways and the need to ensure bush is not too close to houses.

10) LAKE ROTOITI HEALTH WARNING SIGNS: Lindsay Brighthouse put the following motion to the meeting, seconded by Peter Carr-Smith:

“That the Rotorua District Council give urgent attention to the algal warning sign on SH33 (Ludgate Hill). This sign is giving serious misinformation to passing traffic. Since Dec 15 this sign has indicated an unsafe condition for the whole – repeat – whole of Lake Rotoiti, where it has only been Okawa Bay, and from Dec 25 Te Wheta Bay, that have been “deemed” unsafe. This sign is highly misleading to the public and should be (A) Removed to Okawa Bay Rd, (B) Corrected in such a way that it clearly indicates which specific areas of the lake are effected and thus gives accurate and fair information rather than a ‘condemnation’ of the whole of Lake Rotoiti as it does at present.”

Richard Wilson spoke against the motion saying the public needed to know if health warnings were in place so they could make their own choice of how they used the lake.

Sally Brock said the signs should be near the water.

Nick Miller spoke against the motion. He said there were wild fluctuations with the algal bloom count and the authorities needed to have more regular testing.

Amendment to motion moved by Richard Avery, seconded by John Green.

“That the signs be removed and placed near launching ramps and jetties.”

The motion and amendment were both passed. The LRRRA Committee to address these problems with RDC.

11) MOUREA WATER SUPPLY: Mary Stanton spoke about the urgent need for a water supply and she said she would fight for a water supply until the day she died. The LRRRA Committee is to pursue this matter.

12) GISBORNE POINT FOOTPATH: Bob Armstrong said the concrete footpath was good but the sealed footpath from the end of the houses to Emery’s Store was most unsatisfactory. Plants including blackberry, honeysuckle and punga fern are growing across the footpath and kikuyu grass and other weeds were growing across and in the tarseal over 60-70% of the area. He also said the contractor did not prepare the footpath properly and tarsealed over bracken. Horses are using the footpath and their hooves are cutting the tarseal. Committee is to address this with RDC.

13) TE AKAU ROAD: Jan Wilkens spoke about the poor condition of Te Atau Road. Her concerns were:

- a) Pavement is broken and cracking in a number of places.
- b) Weeds are growing through the seal on the bank retention
- c) Water retention in wet weather due to poor drainage and incorrect camber on bends.
- d) A lack of sealing chip due to wear and tear and bleeding.
- e) Potholes.

Keith Smith said he contacted Peter Dine at RDC on 6 October about the road but so far has not heard back from him. The Committee is to write to RDC regarding these problems.

14) WOODEN BOAT PARADE: This is to be held on Sunday 8 February 2004

15) CLOSURE: There being no further business the meeting closed at 12 noon with the Chairman thanking everyone for their attendance.

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Rotorua Police Station	348-0099
TrustPower Emergency	0800-878-787
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Environment Pollution Hotline	0800-738-393
S.P.C.A	349-2955
Dog Control (RDC)	348-4199
Rotorua Harbour Master – Andrew Long	348-4199
- After Hours 348-4195 - AH Pager	08-650-374-645
Rotorua Coastguard – Richard Packham	348-9490
Rotorua Marine Radio – Dave Hutchings	348-7429
Dept. of Conservation	346-1155
M.A.F.	07-578-2069
Fish and Game Eastern	357-5501
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Environment Bay of Plenty	0800-368-267
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Pump Maintenance – Hi Flo Pumps	348-7516
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Fri 9 - 1pm

2004 Lake Rotoiti Ratepayers and Residents Association Committee

Chair: Sally Brock Okere Falls ph (07) 362-4764 email: te-pohutukawa@paradise.net.nz

Secretary/

Treasurer Richard Wilson Otaramarae ph (07) 362-4308 fax (07) 362-4368

Committee: Nigel Brock Okere Falls ph (07) 362-4764 email: te-pohutukawa@paradise.net.nz

Willie Emery Gisborne pt ph (07) 362-7737 email: winnie.emery@clear.net.nz

Steve Howard Okere Falls ph (07) 362-4449 email: s.howard@clear.net.nz

Bill Kingi Parcliff ph (07) 345-7186 email: waking@xtra.co.nz

Mike McVicker Mourea ph (07) 362-4776 email: mcvicker@wave.co.nz

Marion Smith Hinehopu ph 025-75-16-65 email: perion@ihug.co.nz

Laurence Tamati Mourea ph (07) 345-6735 email: laurence@pikiaorunanga.org.nz

Phill Thomass Hinehopu ph 021-47-44-55 email: lrra@thomass.net

Geoff Turner Waiiti ph (07) 362-7611 email: gjt@fmlaw.co.nz

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