



# NGONGOTAHA NEWS

*The Sunny side of the Mountain -*  
FLUORIDE FREE NGONGOTAHA

*Old age is golden, or so I've heard it said,  
But sometimes I wonder, as I crawl into bed,  
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup,  
My glasses on the table until I get up.  
As sleep dims my vision, I say to myself:  
Is there anything else I should lay on the Shelf?  
The reason I know my youth is all spent?  
Is my get-up-an-go has got up and went!  
But, in spite of it all, I'm able to grin  
And think of the places my getup has been!*

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Next deadline May 8th 2015 11am

April 2015 issue



WALT DISNEY Studios Motion Pictures

**PRODUCTION ON “PETE’S DRAGON” BEGINS IN NEW ZEALAND, STARRING BRYCE DALLAS HOWARD, OAKES FEGLEY AS PETE AND ROBERT REDFORD BURBANK, Calif. (January 29, 2015)**

Principal photography on “Pete’s Dragon” commenced today in New Zealand. A re-imagining of the 1977 Disney classic, “Pete’s Dragon” will blend live action and CGI to tell the story of the special bond between an orphaned boy, Pete, his best friend, Elliott, who just happens to be a dragon. The film stars Bryce Dallas Howard (“The Help”) as Grace, a park ranger who discovers the existence of Elliott; 10-year-old Oakes Fegley as Pete; Wes Bentley (“The Hunger Games”) as Jack, a local mill owner; New Zealand native Karl Urban (“Star Trek Into Darkness”) as Jack’s brother, Gavin; Oona Laurence as Natalie, the young girl who befriends Pete; and Oscar winner Robert Redford (“Captain America: The Winter Soldier,” “All the President’s Men”) as Grace’s father. “Pete’s Dragon” is directed by David Lowery (“Ain’t Those Bodies Saints”) and produced by Jim Whitaker, with Barrie Osborne serving as executive producer. The screenplay is by Lowery and Toby Halbrooks. WETA Digital, the visual effects company founded by filmmaker Peter Jackson based in New Zealand, will utilize the latest in digital effects to bring the dragon, Elliott, to life. The film is scheduled to be released in U.S. theatres in August, 2016.

“This is a story about how magic can enter one’s life and change the way they see the world. And I think David Lowery is the perfect director to bring this project to life,” says Whitaker. The production begins shooting in and around Wellington before moving north to NGONGOTAHA, and will complete principal photography in the South Island communities of Tapanui and Invercargill. Film New Zealand, the country’s national film office and sister agency Film Wellington assisted the Walt Disney Studios in assessing and confirming New Zealand for the production. “New Zealand has long been a wonderful partner for film production. Wellington’s state-of-the-art facilities and filmmaker-friendly community, in particular, make it an ideal location to shoot and be based out of,” says Osborne.

***And that folks is what was happening in Western Road for about a week next door to the Gantry. Can't wait for the movie to come out now. Imagine Robert Redford in NGONGOTAHA!!!!!! Those 'TP' signs were directions on how to get here - Tindall Productions. There a few locals whom I spoke to who were a bit disappointed not to get the leading role - Never mind Kaki - Editor***

**FOR SALE - twin female goats 6months old - \$110 for two or \$70 each ph. 3322171**

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*Paddy was in the delivery room when the midwife handed him a black baby. "Is this yours ?" she asked "Probably" said Paddy "she burns everything !"*

*With all the new technology regarding fertility recently, a 65-year-old friend of mine was able to give birth. When she was discharged from the hospital and went home, I went to visit. 'May I see the new baby?' I asked. 'Not yet,' she said 'I'll make coffee and we can visit for a while first.' Thirty minutes had passed, and I asked, 'May I see the new baby now?' 'No, not yet,' She said. After another few minutes had elapsed, I asked again, 'May I see the baby now?' 'No, not yet,' replied my friend. Growing very impatient, I asked, 'Well, when can I see the baby?' 'WHEN HE CRIES!' she told me. 'WHEN HE CRIES?' I demanded. 'Why do I have to wait until he CRIES?' 'BECAUSE I FORGOT WHERE I PUT HIM, O.K.?!'*

*A little girl asks her mum, 'Mum, can I take the dog for a walk around the block?' Her mum replies 'No, because she is on heat.' 'What does that mean?' asked the child. 'Go and ask your father. I think he's in the garage.' The little girl goes out to the garage and*

*says, 'Dad, can I take Lulu for a walk around the block? I asked Mum, but she said the dog was on the heat, and to come ask you.' He took a rag, soaked it in petrol, and scrubbed the dog's backside with it to disguise the scent, and said 'Ok, you can go now, but keep Lulu on the leash and only go one time around the block.' The little girl left and returned a few minutes later with no dog on the leash.. Surprised, Dad asked, 'Where's Lulu?' The little girl said, 'She ran out of petrol about halfway round the block, so another dog is pushing her home.'*

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## ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

### School Road, Ngongotaha

Sunday: 9.45am Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.  
Thursday: 9.45am Contemplative Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.  
Wednesday 1st & 3rd: 1.30pm Games afternoon (Scrabble, Rumikub, 500 etc)  
Friday: 9.30am during term time. Music and Movement for preschoolers.  
All Welcome, an hour of fun and fellowship  
10.00am. Walking Group – meet outside St. Barnabas for a 1 – 1 ½ hr gentle walk.  
4th Friday: 7.00pm Games Evening(Scrabble, Rumikub etc)

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### Autumn leaves

Poem Paige McLeary  
Leaves drift slowly to the ground.  
Their colours are painted, yellow, brown, orange and red.  
Possessing breathtaking patterns, that are sure to catch your eye.  
Making a crisp crunching sound beneath your shoes.  
Fragile beauties that are not afraid to fall, as leaves will always grow again.



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### Ralph's Comments

I seem to be always running out of time lately for writing stories and doing things I promise to do. However things get done eventually. Late last month some of the Members of the Lions Club of Ngongotaha went through to Hamilton to help with security at the Balloons over Waikato yearly event. The Hamilton Lions Clubs have been managing this project for the last 3 years and this was the first time for me. We only attended the Saturday Night function which started at 2.30pm and finished at 9.30pm for the out of town Marshalls It was a magnificent display with 12 hot air balloons participating in the performance. This was followed by fireworks to complete the night and the 3 day festival. Isn't it great what a lot of volunteers can do? The organiser was a Lions Club Member from Cambridge and he had to muster at least 100 volunteers from Lions Clubs. He also had the Police and Maori Wardens present but still a couple of low life's got away with 2 handbags while the owners were watching the balloons light up. The Reporoa Lions Club must be congratulated for their participation. They supplied 23 volunteers for the event. They stayed over night in Hamilton and helped clean up the next day. Then they made the most of the weekend by booking in at the velodrome in Cambridge for an hour of speed cycling. Volunteers also have a lot of fun

In the latest edition of the University of Otago magazine the Vice-chancellors' editorial was about orientation week in Dunedin and how the news media highlights the undesirable parts about students.

She says some students go overboard but the majority are well

behaved. So don't be afraid to send your sons and daughters to Dunedin and Otago University. In another magazine I read about advice for life written by a very successful entrepreneur – work hard but work smart – just because you work until 10.00pm at night it doesn't mean you are doing a good job; be nice; be fearless; never stop learning; stay positive; keep on reading; surround yourself with good people; be grateful – say thank you a lot; be open; have fun. Sounds like a pretty good recipe to me. Until next month then best wishes - Ralph

#### Peeves that Dogs Have About Humans

Blaming your farts on me... not funny... not funny at all !!!  
Yelling at me for barking. I'M A DOG

Taking me for a walk, then not letting me check stuff out.  
Exactly whose walk is this anyway?

Any haircut that involves bows or ribbons. Now you know why we chew your stuff up when you're not home.

The sleight of hand, fake fetch throw. You fooled a dog!  
Whooooo Hoooooo what a proud moment for the top of the food chain.

Taking me to the vet for "the big snip", then acting surprised when I freak out every time we go back!

Getting upset when I sniff the crotches of your guests. Sorry, but I haven't quite mastered that handshake thing yet.

How you act disgusted when I lick myself. Look, we both know the truth. You're just jealous.

Now lay off me on some of these things. We both know who's boss here! You don't see me picking up your poop do you?

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There's been a lot happening recently that is good news for Rotorua people. Changes we made in the Budget last year came into effect on 1 April that means more support for local families.

The changes we made will benefit young people and families, allowing them to get ahead as a result of their hard work. The Government has extended the KiwiSaver home start package, increased paid parental leave and put the minimum wage up again.

A young couple buying their first home and who have contributed to KiwiSaver for 5 or more years could receive between \$35,000 and \$45,000 of savings and grants towards a deposit. We are doubling the HomeStart grant to \$20,000 for a couple purchasing a newly built home, and up to \$10,000 on an existing home.

Paid parental leave also increases by two weeks now, and by another two weeks in April next year. This will help new parents spend more time with their new children, before having to go back to work.

Free doctors' visits and prescriptions are being extended to children under 13 from 1 July too. This will benefit around 17,000 children and young people in the Rotorua district.

The minimum wage also increased on 1 April to \$14.75 an hour. This is a boost for our lowest paid workers, and will help ease the financial pressure in their households.

We've also seen that recently the crime rate fell for the fifth year in a row. The rate of reported crime fell

by 4.7 per cent in Rotorua. The local Police are working hard every year to reduce crime and make people feel safe at home. We know families are important. By providing safer communities and more financial support, Rotorua families will be better off.  
**Hon. Todd McClay MP - MP for Rotorua - Minister of Revenue - Minister for State Owned Enterprises - Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs - Associate Minister of Trade**

#### NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

Sorry, but I was one week out last month - hence no report. The opening night was a very enjoyable evening, and we now hope that you have all had an enjoyable Easter and it's back to business. The season has started with a good mixture of winners. Trophy night was won by Marguerite Gerrand and Christine Kingi, 2nd was Eddie Dibley, Murray Harris and Martin Burtling. Presidents Pairs - won by Mike Bryant, Richard 2nd and Otane 3rd. Graded Triples: 1st Bruce Wiggins, Syd Gimbly, and Yvonne Maru, 2nd Mike Bryant, Robin Campbell and Betty Whitton. Marguerite, Delwyn Hughes and Martin held the Buttons all evening. Last but not least the Graded Pairs: 1st Cheryl Wiggins and Delwyn Hughes, 2nd Robin Campbell and Christine Kingi. Congratulations to Christine Kingi who came 3rd equal in the Ladies Singles held in Rotorua. We would like to send our best wishes to Joanne Roe who has just given birth to a baby girl, and our thoughts are with Laurie McLellan who is not enjoying good health at the moment with regular visits to hospital. We are still looking for new members, so please ring Cheryl 3575332 or Kevin 3574 766.

*Bowlers' own language - how to translate* - "Good weight!" = lousy line "Good line" = lousy weight "Good back bowl" = you were lucky you didn't put it in the ditch "That's in their way" = that's in my way "That could be useful up there" = that bowl is closer to you than it is to the jack "Get it next time" = you sure didn't get it this time "He's surprisingly good" = you're surprised he ever makes a shot "I'd bowl with him any day" = he always buys the first round

# Todd McClay

## MP FOR ROTORUA



To make an appointment please contact me at:

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### Kaharoa School

The character value for the term is Responsibility. Our definition is the willingness to be answerable, to be trustworthy and accountable for your own conduct and behaviour. This means being trustworthy.

#### Key Competency: Friendly

A Kaharoa Kid is friendly. They can relate to a diverse range of people in a variety of contexts.

To achieve this, a Kaharoa Kid is inclusive; a team player who listens, is open to different points of view and is willing to negotiate and share ideas. They show empathy and are polite. They are aware of how their words and actions affect others and interact appropriately. They know when to compete and when to co-operate; how to respond when winning or losing.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make The Trolley Derby such a great success. It was a wonderful community day with lots of smiles and laughter and some good old fashioned rivalry. We have made approximately \$12,000 to support the school which makes it all even more worthwhile!

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent Teacher interviews at the end of last term. It's always lovely sharing and celebrating the successes of your children with you.

Room Tawa enjoyed an enjoyable camp at Lakes Ranch. There were many exciting challenges for the children to appreciate including archery, the waterslide, glow worm walk, raft building, horse riding, scavenger hunt, orienteering, Burma trail, hot pools, flying fox, a giant hammock and the Tough Guy Challenge. As always the parent support was amazing and the children all went home tired and happy.

Due to the popularity of our great cross country course the Central BOP Cross country will be held at Kaharoa School on June 9th commencing at 10.00am. Training for our children will begin in the first week of school and children are encouraged to come prepared. Students who are in Year 4 and above will be running in the 'Interschool Cross Country' in the morning against other competing schools. A challenging and interesting course has been set up for this event.

The junior (Year 0-3) children will run in the afternoon against each other. We look forward to lots of support and encouragement for the runners from whanau and friends.

Those runners who achieve places at the Interschool day will then have the opportunity to compete in the BOP Cross Country on June 23rd.

Electives will commence on Friday April 24th. The exciting options this term include: Picasso Monster aArt; Kokako Track maintenance; Photography with iPads; Music; Captains Club; Folded Book Art; Tae Kwon Do; 3D Scanner creations; Horse Care and Riding; Alternative Cooking; Painting on Canvas; Debating/Public Speaking and Mosaics. An on-going photographic record is kept and can be viewed in the school library.

Also on **Friday 24th** we will be having a **short ANZAC commemoration ceremony** which will be taken by the house captains.

Winter Sports practises will form a big part of the sport programme next term with children representing the school in hockey, netball and basketball

contd overpage.....



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Kaharoa School contd.....

On May 1st a group of children will taking part in the Rotorua Mini Marathon. We wish them well in this challenge.

Australian Competitions commence next term with Writing on May 18th, followed by Spelling on May 19th.

The whole school will be enjoying a Matariki Show on May 25th.

We always look forward to our visiting artists and what they have to share with us.

As the cold weather sets in, we are encouraging children to regularly wash their hands in order to avoid catching and passing on nasty winter bugs. We appreciate parents supporting us in this message. **There will be no school on Monday and Tuesday April 27th & 28th.** We wish everyone a pleasant and relaxing Easter break and holiday period. Term 2 begins on Monday April 20th.

**COME PLAY GOLF AT.....  
Lakeview Golf and Country Club**

Lakeview Golf and Country Club has gone through extensive changes in recent months, and is intent on developing innovative as well as a challenging golf experience for both experienced and firsthand players of this very ancient sport. A lot has happened in golf to develop new tools, new methods and in the case of Lakeview Golf & Country Club a new course. This course is just 5km from Ngongotaha, which is just a short drive from Rotorua CBD and before you know it you have access to a pleasantly undulating course set amongst shrewdly positioned native and exotic trees and flowering shrubs. The course is 1000 feet above sea level and the clean fresh air is an added bonus to an already outstanding outing on a pristine course. This 18 Hole course provides a rare opportunity for the golfer who enjoys a challenging game while enjoying the most stunning views of beautiful Lake Rotorua and spectacular Mokoia Island. Just call into the Pro-Shop and they will provide all the help and equipment you may need to have an enjoyable game. Electric Carts, clubs and trolleys are available for hire, at a minimal cost, and full discussion on the course is provided free of charge... with a nearly 5.9 kilometer course to play a good discussion on the hazards and challenges is always a good idea. The narrow fairways lead to deviously placed, medium sized greens that are protected by well-placed bunkers and slopes, which challenges your short game and your accuracy and at many points on the course you will be impressed by the striking beauty of Lake Rotorua, in fact, that stunning views are liable to stop you for a moment in your tracks. Every hole is unique - so each will present its own distinctive challenge. This well-drained course is playable in most weather conditions - and we believe it will leave a positive and lasting impression on you, probably enough to bring you back to this course again and again. **SPECIAL FIRST TIME MEMBERSHIP \$400.00 \* conditions apply**

Catering is available on Veterans Days, Tuesdays, and club competition days on Saturdays, and Sundays. There's great food and a fully stocked bar, and some of the best company this side of Rotorua, and on a good day there's an in tune guitar for the discerning player! Large Groups by arrangement with plenty of parking for buses.

Lakeview also has one of the best Driving Ranges in Rotorua, so if you can only fit in a quick practice get on up there and hit away... The Club Professional is also on hand for advice and lessons if you want further development (or in some cases improvement.) and the Lakeview Golf Pro-Shop provides the latest equipment and news on golf and golfing! A Fast 9 Hole game is available to time stretched golfers, and again, all needs can be discussed at the Pro-Shop! ALL Visitors are Welcome.

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*A man was addressing the ball when an announcement came over the loud-speaker: "Will the gentleman on hole number one please not hit from the Ladies' tee box." The man backs away, a little distracted, then approaches his ball again. As he does, the same announcement comes over the loud-speaker: "Will the gentleman on hole number one please not hit from the Ladies' tee box." The man is getting irritated now, and after backing away from his shot, approaches his ball one more time. This time the announcement came: "We really need the gentleman on hole number one to move off of the Ladies' tee box!" To which the man turns around and yells: "And I really need the announcer to shut up and let me play my second shot!"*



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All Proceeds go to further developments

### IN MY VIEW

I find a recent interview with Mr Macpherson of the Pro-Democracy group in my view gives me a great sense of where his agenda is born and not in my view out of fairness and representation of minority voices. His mis-apprehension is that he thought by electing Te Arawa people onto council they would reflect Maori views. I and, I'm sure the people of Rotorua have never voted on racial grounds, gender, Rural or Urban, but the best people for the JOB. This current council is very reflective of our Community and I think Ann Garratt's letter to the daily post editor on 7th April 2015 sums up the Rotorua I want to live in. Not one divided by representing ones colonial past, colonial prejudices and lack of knowledge of the local Te Arawa people and their motives and aspirations. New Zealand and Rotorua has changed and we have our own form of democracy and its called inclusion. I must remind his ilk that we have had a Te Arawa Standing Committee for 20 years who had the right to recommend matters direct to the full council table and not one, I repeat NOT ONE went unsupported. They enhanced certain aspect of Rotorua and have made a huge contribution to our Place. But hey, with an open mind I will listen to the pros and cons of the debate, ignore orchestrated campaigns, but get a feel from New Zealanders and Rotorua folk who know what it is to co-exist in harmony and integrity and respect. No one should be a second class citizen because of their gender, race, income, size or where they live. All views are valuable and while I respect his right to a view, I disagree with most of what he projects and the tactics used which is driving a wedge into a people who are peaceful who do not protest, do not march in the street (except against the eastern arterial route which was represented by most across the whole community and I supported them too). They have never been power hungry and have been major supporters of the Crown Central and local government alike for more than 150 years at their own cost. I must applaud the leadership of Te Arawa people as a Hapu and Iwi in Rotorua who have acted with dignity under severe provocation, with sincerity, haven't put up placards or held meetings to explain their views. Council staff have done that as they should along with all four options. It's for the pro-democracy group to explain to council what are the benefits of their model when submissions are heard and I look forward to that. The main issue I'm sensing is the voting right and have asked staff to provide why the Waipa and Marlborough district council models involving their Iwi on all council committees is working. Also those areas aren't the heartland of Social Liberalism. So we will gather all the info and see what comes out. I am looking forward to it and have had about 30 calls from non-Maori and Maori on the issue and they are mixed but well considered.

**Ratepayers and Residents** - here is an excerpt from your Councils submission to BOP Regional Council which indicates huge rate increases over the next three years.

**"Overall rates increases for the region and rate increases for the Rotorua Lakes area**

*In was not evident in the CD what the Rotorua district or sub-areas might expect in terms of rates rises during the next few years. It is important BOPRC consider "cutting its cloth" and focusing on its core functions and activities.*

*RLC has been through this difficult process itself. RLC reduced more than \$8m out of the total expenditure in an effort to address increasingly large gaps that had occurred in revenue during the last five years. RLC has also set the aim of gradually reducing overall debt levels during the next contd overpage.....*

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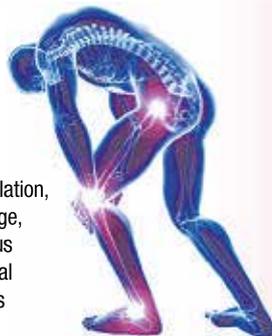


Katharine Bone  
BApps (Human Biology)  
MSt, MOCNZ



Vaughan Hedley  
BSc (Hons), DO.

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Then we are able to help you. We use a combination of articulation, manipulation, massage, stretches, ligamentous techniques and cranial treatment which suits babies and adults.

10 years. As a consequence, RLC may need to put in place a one off rate rise in order of 5-10%. Beyond this point however, RLC expects rate rises in the order of 3%. We expect significant feedback from our community on this issue when our consultation document is released.

BOPRC has no highlighted debt or revenue issues because of its shareholding in Quayside Holding Ltd. However, this does not remove the necessity to operate in a way that is both efficient and effective.

BOPRC rates have increased from \$2,035,519 in 2001/02 through to \$8,503,742 proposed for the 2015/2016 financial year. The average annual increase during this period is more than 14%.

The Rotorua community now face proposed total rate increases of 10%, 9.5% and 20% (detailed in table 1.) These rates are neither reasonable or sustainable for this community."

Until next month - Cr Charles Sturt

## TOUCH MASSAGE

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1317 ERUERA STREET

**LIBRARY NEWS** - from Library Newsletter

*Discover (history in) the Great Outdoors*

Our display on the 2nd Floor this month focuses on outdoor places in the Rotorua District with a link to World War 1. A great way to learn about history for people of all ages is to visit sites of significance in the Great Outdoors. Places we walk, bike, drive and cruise past in Rotorua and throughout New Zealand have many stories to tell. If you are seeking inspiration on historical sites to see locally and nationally while getting fresh air at the same time, check out these suggestions: Andrews, P. (2005).

The Government Gardens: a walk through history. Rotorua:

Bibliophil.Barnett, S. (2012). Shelter from the storm: the story of New Zealand's backcountry huts. Nelson: Craig Potton Publishing.

Biggar, K. (2013). First crossings: historic NZ adventure brought to life. Auckland: Random House.

Gavalas, M. (2003). Day walks of the Bay of Plenty and Rotorua. Auckland: Reed.

Janssen, P. (2012). Exploring Aotearoa: short walks to reveal the Māori landscape. Auckland: New Holland.

Stafford, D.M. (1994-1996). Landmarks of Te Arawa. Auckland: Reed Books.

Discover (history in) the Great Outdoors

Mr Smith, who received an Apple i-Pad Mini for his troubles courtesy of the Friends of the Library, was delighted with his win. The purpose of the competition was to gather new material for Kete Rotorua (our online community archive) and to promote its use. Anyone can load their historic images to Kete from their own homes or talk to library staff about having their photographs scanned by trained staff to Kete. To learn more about Kete Rotorua, contact Digital Information Librarian Alison Leigh at Alison.leigh@rdc.govt.nz or on 351 7025.

### 'A Passion For Books' Launch

The first of a three part documentary, 'A Passion For Books' by local film maker Kerry Fowler was screened for an invited audience at the library last week. The film which explores the rich 125 year history of the Rotorua district and its library was made over the course of a year and includes interviews with many of the important figures associated with the library's development. The screening marked the end of the library's 125th celebrations and was an opportunity for some of the film's stars to get a sneak peek of this entertaining landmark documentary. There are copies of the film available on DVD for purchase for \$20 from the Services Desk of the library.

### Book Review:

Tramping: A New Zealand history by Shaun Barnett & Chris MacLean. Craig Potton Publishing, 2014.

While carrying this weighty tome in your backpack next time you head for the hills is not recommended, it is definitely worth reading, especially for those with a love of tramping in New Zealand's great outdoors. Diverse images, personal stories and well-researched text tell the story of the people, clubs, events and places that have contributed to the legacy and the development of tramping in New Zealand from pre-European times to today. Tramping: A New Zealand history is available for lending from the NZ History & Travel collection on the 2nd Floor.



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## Community, be aware!!!

This story is just to make people aware of dodgy trades people operating in our region.

We have had an issue with a company that painted our roof two years ago that was given a 10 year guarantee on paint, five year guarantee on workmanship, preparation to the highest standard, three day call-back and free replacement on labour, material.

About a year ago, the roof was getting dull and the paint started flaking off which exposed the original colour. Now the roof needs to be done again. We've made numerous attempts to communicate and get it fixed; were fobbed off every time and got no results whatsoever. Nothing but bad workmanship, lies, false promises and steer manure.

### The facts.

Two years ago, the roof was originally a kind of orange and we wanted to change the colour to match another colour scheme. We engaged with a company, who's advert in the a local community paper caught our attention. (Not the Ngongotaha News)

After discussion and his sales spiel (like cost and source of the paint, guarantees, he'll look after us, how it is going to be done etc.) we agreed for him to go ahead.

One day in January 2013 three guys arrived and started the work. I still have the quote that states the work to be done for the price we negotiated.

During that day my wife and I needed to point out spots that were badly covered, parts of guttering and roof nails missed, parts of the roof walked on just a short time after it was spray-painted. It was getting dark and damp, the work had to stop and "the guy" promised he would finish it off some days later. **Gullible as we were, we stupidly paid him the full amount and they sat down and had drinks and dinner.**

The next day at broad daylight we saw how poorly the work was done. Foot prints on certain parts, around nails completely missed etc.

The follow up (lack thereof!).

We rang "the guy" as soon as possible to tell him that it was quite bad and that he needs to come back to rectify all missed spots and other flaws to the roof.

A week later or so, he came back once to assess the situation and promised to come back with his crew and equipment to correct the defects.

Since then we've never seen him again!

We made numerous phone calls to him to get a commitment to come back, but every time he came up with another excuse. Even at some stage he claimed to have had a heart attack (could be true, but we doubt that now as well!). More than 10 phone calls were made to him at around two week intervals without any resolution. Winter 2013 passed and again we tried contacting him again without any luck. We suppose he knew our phone numbers by now and completely ignored us all together.

During spring/summer 2013/14 the bad workmanship showed ever more. The dark coloured paint comes off completely where there was bad preparation or cover. It just flakes off, exposing the original orange roof. In the autumn of 2014 we tried a couple of time more to get in touch without success. We were kind of despondent by that time about the whole affair; deeply suspicious of any trades person for doing any job. It was clear in our minds that we had/have been conned by a dodgy operator. Who knows how many people have been the victim of this sort of trick by this con artist.

Few months ago.

On 17 December last year we saw the same company advertise again in the Rotorua Review, which invigorated our resolve to expose this con as much as possible.

contd overpage.....

My wife has a different phone number and so we decided to give him a call. He thought it was new business and replied. My wife explained our situation to jog his memory and talked to him to awaken his sense of responsibility (at least tried to). We later came to the realisation that we were fobbed off once again with another lame excuse.

In January this year, we sent him a text how disappointed we were and that if we didn't hear from him within two weeks with a firm commitment that we would take it further.

The same day, "the guy" replied by text message of his intention to pay us back the amount we paid him. His text was "Ok, I will check the invoice and make refund to your bank account". We gave him our bank details and reminded him of the timeframe. His text was "it will be paid within 2 weeks". Famous last words!!

Current. Well, more than three weeks have gone past since that text from 26 January, but the refund is still forthcoming. We know that it will never happen. We know we were conned. We just want to warn the people in the greater Rotorua area that this conman is still operating in our area and be very weary of this sort of dodgy practices. Ask for reference site in the neighbourhood, only pay when a job is done to your satisfaction, don't believe the smooth sales pitch, find out from other sources about the workmanship and reliability of the trades person/company. This is not only true for roof painting.

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Hope this helps people with choosing the right trades people for doing work or chores on, in and/or around your property. Your hard earned cash could go down the drain (rinse off your roof!) due to unsavoury characters spunging off your trust through lies, deceit and pure malice. **A Reader from Hamurana**

### Discovery of a new Element

Oxford University researchers have discovered the heaviest element yet known to Science. The new Element, Governmentium (symbol=Gv), has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called pillocks.

Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A tiny amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second, to take from 4 days to 4 years to complete. Governmentium has a normal half life of 2 to 6 years. It does not decay but instead undergoes a reorganisation in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places. In fact Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganisation will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes.

The characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as a critical morass. When catalysed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium (symbol= Ad), an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium, since it has half as many pillocks but twice as many morons. Now that is a new "scientific definition" for what we mere mortals know already!!!!

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We at Jax Hair Studio would like to Welcome Ashleigh Herbert to our team. Ash has been with us for a year and a half now having done gateway though Western Heights High school. She has started as a first year Apprentice 3 weeks ago and is fulfilling her goal of becoming a Hairdresser.

If passing please pop in and say Hi to Ash.

### SPECIAL FOR MONTH OF APRIL 2015

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\$10 Deep conditioning treatments (10 min head massage) and finger dry with Ash

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**Buy two products get a third FREE!** Until 30<sup>th</sup> April, simply purchase two Moisture Mist products and receive your third product FREE!\*

\*For a limited time only, while stocks last. Free product must be of equal or lesser value.

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**USL First Aid Kits from \$19.50**



**APRIL SPECIAL: Time for Buccaline to prevent colds this winter**

**Buy one \$15.00 Buy two for only \$24.00**

**New Opening hours at Ngongotaha Pharmacy:** The pharmacy will shortly be closed on Saturday mornings. The last Saturday for opening will be 16<sup>th</sup> May. From 19<sup>th</sup> May the pharmacy will be open every Tuesday until 6.00pm to align with the medical centre hours.

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**John Piercy**  
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**Ngongotaha 35 Ranginui Street**

**IT'S GOT THE BELLS AND WHISTLES**

First home buyers must inspect this. Three large double bedrooms, gas heating, open plan living and large sunny decking with lake views. Add to the list the single garaging, huge double carport with high stud plus two separate garden sheds. Give it a bit of a spruce up for a family home to be proud of. Handy to lake reserve, boat ramp and village shopping. Public transport and school bus are almost at the door.

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**HOME AND INCOME**

Perfect for extended family or extra income this modern 3 bedroom home with second lounge or rumplus has the added advantage of a 1 bedroom self contained unit. The property has a double garage, and the lovely easy care section can be fenced or secured for children or pets. Situated in a cul de sac very close to lake reserve and all the fantastic amenities the Ngongotaha village has on offer. You will be impressed!

**For Sale**  
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**Leanne Leef**  
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**Ngongotaha 21 Mohi Crescent**  
**SURPRISE PACKAGE**

Stylish and spacious home set on 2115m2 section with exceptional indoor outdoor flow. Sun filled, private, 3 double bedrooms, study, separate lounge, large open plan family room, log fire and heat pump. Designer kitchen with space for 2 fridges, amazing bench space and great storage with soft closing drawers. Polished concrete floors, double glazed throughout, great large double garage and lovely private section. View now!

**For Sale**  
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**Ngongotaha 24 Kinder Place**  
**MODERN WITH SPARKLING PRESENTATION**

Presented in an "As New" condition with 3 bedrooms, ensuite and walk-in-wardrobe, open plan lounge/dining, computer nook and internal access double garaging, this home has an appealing functional design. Small easy care section and close to vibrant Village shopping centre and a lake. This easy care low maintenance property must be inspected immediately. The vendor's committed to selling!

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**Hamurana 597b Hamurana Road**  
**MY VENDORS ARE ON THE MOVE**

Sitting on 2 acres (8000sqm) more or less, this lovely 5 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with 3 car garaging has heaps of space for all the family. Fence off an acre and have a pony or some sheep. Close to the lake for those water sports, and on the bus route. Fully wheelchair friendly and loads of sunshine. You will love living in your own little slice of heaven. Call to make an appointment to view, my vendors would love an offer!

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**Ngongotaha 4a Paraone Street**  
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A gorgeous, funky, contemporary home. Cleverly renovated from the ordinary to the extraordinary! The open plan living area is filled with light and opens out to a warm, sunny conservatory and continues on out to the low maintenance, landscaped sunny garden. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, single garage plus plenty of room for extra cars or the boat. Lakeside of Ngongotaha Village and a short walk to the lake.

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**Anita Martelli**  
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Does a bit of character tickle your fancy? Higher stud ceilings and sash windows? Moved to its current location some 17 years ago this home has had work done including replacing a number of sash windows, reframing all the interior walls except the hall and insulation has been added to cosy it all up. 3 bedrooms and a utility room, plus an enclosed outdoor area allowing under cover access from the garage.

**SOLD**  
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If I can do it so can you. Give them a call today. Sean Rusling*

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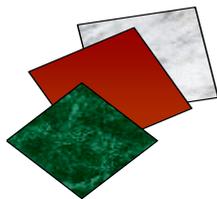
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*Do you suffer from shyness?*

*Do you sometimes wish you were more assertive?*

*If you answered yes to any of these questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist about Cabernet Sauvignon.*

*Cabernet Sauvignon is the safe, natural way to feel better and more confident about yourself and your actions. It can help ease you out of your shyness and let you tell the world that you're ready and willing to do just about anything.*

*You will notice the benefits of Cabernet Sauvignon almost immediately and, with a regimen of regular doses, you can overcome any obstacles that prevent you from living the life you want to live.*

*Shyness and awkwardness will be a thing of the past and you will discover many talents you never knew you had. Stop hiding and start living.*

*Cabernet Sauvignon may not be right for everyone. Women who are pregnant or nursing should not use it.*

*Side effects may include:*

*Dizziness, nausea, vomiting, incarceration, loss of motor control, loss of clothing, loss of money, delusions of grandeur, table dancing, headache, dehydration, dry mouth, and a desire to sing Karaoke and play all-night rounds of Strip Poker, Truth Or Dare, and Naked Twister.*

*Warnings:*

*The consumption of Cabernet Sauvignon may make you think you are whispering when you are not.*

*The consumption of Cabernet Sauvignon may cause you to tell your friends over and over again that you love them.*

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*The consumption of Cabernet Sauvignon may create the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.*

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## ANZAC BISCUITS

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| ◆ 1 cup flour          | ◆ 1 cup caster sugar   |
| ◆ 1 cup desic. coconut | ◆ 2 cups rolled oats   |
| ◆ 125g butter          | ◆ 2 tbsp golden syrup  |
| ◆ 1 tsp baking soda    | ◆ 3 tbsp boiling water |

Heat oven to 180C (160C fan bake). Line two baking trays with nonstick baking paper.

Place flour, caster sugar, coconut and oats in a bowl and stir to combine. Make a well in the centre.

Place butter and golden syrup in a saucepan to melt, or microwave in a bowl to melt. Dissolve baking soda in boiling water. Add melted ingredients and dissolved baking soda to dry ingredients and mix to combine.

Roll spoonfuls into balls and press onto prepared baking trays, allowing space for biscuits to spread while cooking.

Bake for 15 minutes or until firm and golden brown. Remove to a wire rack to cool, and enjoy!

Cooking tip: Stored in an airtight container, Anzac biscuits will last well for up to a week.

**Happy 35th birthday Hamurana Playcentre!**

Yes it's true, Hamurana Playcentre first opened its doors 35 years ago on 26 April 1980. To celebrate this special occasion we will be holding an Open Day at our Playcentre (38 Tauranga Direct Road, Hamurana) on Saturday 18 April between 10am and 1pm. Entry is free and there will be activities set up for all children to enjoy. We will also be having a jumble sale of kid's clothing, toys and books; and a yummy homemade cake stall.

Everybody is welcome to come along and see what Playcentre is all about. If you are a past member why not bring your family and see how things have changed over the last 35 years and what we are up to now. If you have been thinking about visiting one of our sessions but just haven't got around to it yet, what a perfect opportunity to come and see what Playcentre can offer you and your children! We have been enjoying a break over the school holidays and will re-open for Term 2 on Monday 20 April at 9.15am. Come and spend some quality time with your little ones (aged from birth to 6 years) at Hamurana Playcentre where you get to stay and join in your children's fun and learning. Our session times are Mondays and Thursdays from 9.15am to 11.45am (you can choose to attend one or both sessions). We are at 38 Tauranga Direct Road. All enquires welcome - phone 332 2110 during session times or contact our President, Sharon on 021 208 0101. You can also find us on facebook.com/HamuranaPlaycentre. See you soon!

**Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigade**

It has been a reasonably quiet month for callouts, with most of our calls being to back-up Rotorua crews.

On Wednesday 25th March, Past and present members of the brigade attended the funeral of Honorary Life Member Keith Ferguson. Keith's commitment to the brigade and community was extensive, as was told in many stories afterwards when family and friends gathered at the Ngongotaha Fire Station to reflect on their memories.

On the 23rd of May; 10 of our firefighters will be heading to Auckland to take on the Sky Tower Stair Challenge. Wearing 25kgs of firefighting gear complete with breathing apparatus, each person will take on the 1,103 steps of the Sky Tower to raise awareness and fundraise for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand. If you would like to support the team or make a donation to LBC, head to facebook.com/ngoskytower. With the raising number of daytime callouts, we are on the hunt for more potential members who live or work in the Ngongotaha area and are available to respond during business hours. If you are a stay at home parent and would like some more excitement in your days, we can cater for you too with provided childcare facilities. For more information email join@ngongotahafire.org.nz or leave a message on 357 4085.

**Fire Safety Tip: Before using your fireplace, have your chimney cleaned and checked. When removing ashes, allow them to cool in a metal bucket for 7 days before disposing of them.**

*After being married for 48 years, a wife asked her husband to describe her. He looked at her for a while, then said, "you're an alphabet wife... A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K." She asks, "what the hell does that mean?" He said, "Adorable, Beautiful, Cute, Delightful, Elegant, Fabulous, Gorgeous, and Hot". She smiled happily and said, "oh that's so lovely, but what about I, J, K?" He said, "I'm Just Kidding!" The swelling in his eye is going down and the doctor is fairly optimistic about saving his t@#\$\$%^\*es.*



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ANZAC at AWAHOU  
The Ngati Rangiwewehi War Veterans committee would like to invite you and your whanau to join us at Awahou marae (Gloucester Road) at 10am on ANZAC DAY, the 25th April 2015, to acknowledge and pay our respects to past and current service people who have represented Ngati Rangiwewehi in the armed forces of New Zealand.



I always wondered what the big marble structure on our marae was. At least, as a tiny skinny youngster it certainly seemed very big to me. I would often lie on the concrete at the base of the monument getting warm after swimming in the Awahou River. As I lay on my back I would look up at the big marble structure thinking why is this on our marae? Why does it have such a prominent place on our marae? Why is it so important that it is one of the first things people see when they come onto our marae?

I would often read the names and ask myself why they were the same surnames as my cousins and relatives I knew in Ngati Rangiwewehi such as Douglas and Mohi. As I grew taller I would etch my finger in their names on the memorial and read them to myself and ask, who are you? Why are you important enough to our people to have your name engraved into this marble rock for us to remember you for a very long time? What have you done to earn this honour? Why is it important that I remember you?

In later tiny person years I remember thinking that the memorial

structure was made out of the same marble stone as headstones so it must have something to do with our dead people – our tupuna – our ancestors that everyone seems to talk about in whaikorero.

I knew the big marble structure on our marae was important. I certainly knew that it was not put there just to be our base for our games of hide and seek or as a climbing tower to see who could climb it to the highest level or walk around the whole structure while perching on the first ledge. It was not a playing apparatus – but having said that I always felt comfortable using it as such anyway.

And then one day, I do not recall who explained the significance of the big marble structure on our marae to me, or whether I suddenly comprehended the meaning of the writing which read “To the glory of God and in loving memory of all who gave their lives in the second world war, 1939 to 1945, including members of the Ngati Rangiwewehi tribe whose names appear on this monument,” but I never climbed it again. I gave the memorial and those people the respect they deserved.

You see, whenever I was playing hide and seek with my cousins touching the marble memorial without getting tagged meant I had made it safely home. I was at home base. The people on the Awahou memorial did not make it safely home from World War 2. They never made it back to home base. They were tagged.

Their names are etched into the memorial to remind us that they made the ultimate sacrifice to make home base a safe place for us. They gave up their dreams, their futures, their swims in the Awahou river, their wives, lovers and friends. They gave up any future time with their whanau. They gave up their opportunities to do the dishes in the wharekai or carve the meat or speak in our wharetupuna. They never caught another trout at Awahou.

When I was playing hide and seek with my cousins getting tagged meant a gentle touch – sometimes not so gentle – on the back. A tagging to our service people meant they lost their lives. They were killed in action.

The names on the big memorial on our marae and in prominent places throughout Aotearoa are there because they gave their lives for you and for me. They deserve the honour of having their names etched into marble and they deserve to be remembered. We meet on ANZAC day to remember them and to voice our remembrance of them and other people who represented families, tribes and our nation and served in our armed forces and indeed lost their lives during all armed forces campaigns when we say:

**“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We will remember them.”  
We will remember them.**

Ngahihi o te ra Bidois is an international leadership speaker and author living here in Awahou. To find out more about him view his website on [www.ngahibidois.com](http://www.ngahibidois.com)

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**RACING**

Noel Harris aged 60 finally ended his race riding career and according to NZTR he rode in 13144 races had 1780 winners of which 193 were Listed or Group races. His rides earned \$31,251,139 in stakes money. This does not include his many winners in Aust, Singapore, Macau, Malaysia. What a great career and a delight that he has accepted the position to mentor all our Jockey Apprentices. No substitute for experience. Must Say you would have yelled at the TV when we all encouraged Rotorua born Opie Bosson to win the Australian Derby at Randwick recently on Mongolian Khan. A huge fillip for the NZ industry and Mongolian Khan also won the NZ derby in March. No disgrace to Volkstock and barrel running third. Winters around the corner and lets hope all our local trainer have

huge success.

**Netball**

Magic centre Sam Sinclair and all the new players in the Wai-BOP Magic team must be enjoying playing alongside internationals Jo Harten.

Congrats to Rotorua Netball for hosting the Magic verses the Mystics game at Rotorua Energy events Centre recently. While the result was 45 all it's a shame the umpires are the centre of attention and they need to remember we pay to watch the player not them. Magic gave away an 8 point advantage but hey those young players need to experience pressure and learn from it.

**Rugby**

Well the Chiefs while playing winning rugby at times showed their class in the last 20 minutes against the Blues at Waikato Stadium recently. A player reaching his peak with extended game time is Reporoa's Sam Cane. Many say he is head and shoulders above the other loosies but the Auckland media seem to talk up Todd from Canterbury and Vito from Wellington. You got to be joking I do not think even Kaino is playing well in a poor performing team. Although Richie MacCaw is an inspirational leader his speed to the breakdown and ability to stay on his feet and get to the ruck and maul doesn't compare with Cane's recent form. Even Liam Messam is playing well but seems to get overlooked. His aggression is way more valuable and he's always going forward.

Locally Rotoiti, Whaka and Waikite seem to be the top teams in the Rotorua Comp.

**Cricket**

Well all the 'hoopla' is over and Australia are the World Champs. NZ are the Champion of Sportsmanship there is no doubt and being the best NZ team ever at the 50 over game. The best match for me was the NZ v South Africa game and the player of the tournament was McCallum. We might not have the trophy but in our eye the 2015 Black Caps are winners.

*India was playing a match at the Sheshrao Krushnarao Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai, but on the same day an Indian supporters wife was having a baby. He could not bear to miss the match so he decided to watch the game and visit his wife later on. The match began, two quick wickets fell. The man was disappointed and he remembered his wife he picked up the phone and quickly dialled the hospital number. He had meant to call the hospital but accidentally phones the stadium, he asks the man on the other end thinking him to be the doctor, 'So what's the result?' **The man replies, 'It's still in process, two are out nine are left and the last one was a duck!'***

*The Wallabies rugby practice was delayed nearly two hours today after a player reported finding an unknown white powdery substance on the practice field. Head coach Eddie Jones immediately suspended practice while police and federal investigators were called to investigate. After a complete analysis, investigating forensic experts determined that the white substance unknown to players was the try line. Practice was resumed after special agents decided the team was unlikely to encounter the substance again.*

*A father and his son, Bobby, arrive at the local Rugby match and Dad can't find the tickets. Dad: "Nip home and see if I left the tickets there." Bobby: "No probs, Dad." Half an hour later Bobby returns to his dad who is patiently waiting outside the stadium. **Bobby: "Yep, they're on the kitchen table where you left them."***

*Yup, some people can't handle the truth!  
Our teacher asked what my favorite animal was, and I said,  
"Fried chicken." She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't  
have been right, because everyone else laughed. My parents  
told me to always tell the truth! I did. Fried chicken is my  
favorite animal. I told my dad what happened, and he said my  
teacher was probably a member of PETA. He said they love  
animals very much. I do, too. Especially chicken, pork and  
beef. Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office.  
I told him what happened, and he laughed, too. Then he told  
me not to do it again. Next day in class, my teacher asked me  
what my favorite live animal was. I told her it was chicken.  
She asked me why, so I told her it was because you could make  
them into fried chicken. She sent me back to the principal's  
office. He laughed, and told me not to do it again. I don't  
understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my  
teacher doesn't like it when I am. Today, my teacher asked  
me to tell her what famous person I admired most. I told her,  
"Colonel Sanders." Guess where I am now?! .....*

### GREEN TOMATO RELISH

#### Ingredients

2.5kg green tomatoes, roughly chopped  
500g onions, finely sliced  
4 tsp / 30g salt  
1 litre malt vinegar  
500g soft light brown sugar  
250g sultanas, roughly chopped  
3 tsp / 20g ground pepper

#### You will need:

Preserving pan or other large lidless pan  
7 - 10 jars with lids  
Glad wrap

#### Method

Finely slice your onions and washed green tomatoes, cutting out any bad bits. Add to a large bowl and stir. Add the 4 teaspoons of salt, stir again and then cover with gladwrap or a large plate and leave overnight – this draws out a lot of the unnecessary moisture from the tomatoes and helps to enhance the flavour. However if you don't have the time, reduce the salt by half and skip this stage although you will have to cook it a little longer to thicken it up!

Place the litre of vinegar into a large pan. Add the 500g of light brown soft sugar and stir over a medium heat until all the sugar has dissolved.

Bring to the boil. Add the sultanas and add to the simmering vinegar and sugar. Bring the whole lot to a gentle boil.

Remove the cover from the tomatoes and onions that you've left overnight. Drain well but do not rinse as rinsing will add more water and the goal of leaving it overnight with salt was to remove as much water as possible without pulping them.

Add to the chutney and stir in well. Add the 3 teaspoons white pepper.

Once all the ingredients have been added they need to be boiled gently for 1.5 to 2 hours until thick and golden stirring occasionally, do not let it boil to vigorously.

When the relish is thick, golden and pulpy cool slightly then pour carefully into sterilised jars.

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## KAITAO INTERMEDIATE

Our 20 leaders, 10 boys and 10 girls attend the Hillary Outdoor Tongariro for a week.

They undertook a personal development programme which involved taking part in outdoor activities such as bush craft, navigation, kayaking, carving, mountaineering, rock climbing, abseiling, caving and adventure based learning. Our leaders learned to work together as a group and during the programme they learnt about the environment, teamwork, communication, decision making, accepting challenges, facing fears and above all learning that life is full of fun filled adventures.

Our Head Boy and Head Girl and their deputies will be announced after the holidays.

What a great night we had for our annual Lip Sync which followed on from our Student Led Conferences.

The hall was overflowing as usual. This year our judges were Mrs Geraldine Parker our recently retired librarian, Mrs Deborah Mitchell – Academy Leader for Discovery at present on a Science Scholarship and the principal of Western Heights Primary School Mr Brent Griffin.

Eighteen acts including 6 class acts took to the stage and the winners were;

Soloist - Samaiya De Thierry – “Shake It Off” by Taylor Swift

Group – Albert Tamati & Samaiya De Thierry – “Up” by Olly Murs & Demi Lavato

Class - Room 11 – “Chandelier” by Sia

Overall winners – Room 11

The judges commented on the passion shown in presenting their Lip Sync and were unanimous in their praise. In the last week of the term we were visited by Norm Hewitt as part of the SPCA Education programme “Part of the Family”. While in our school he also took the opportunity along with a Maori television film crew, to film some footage for a documentary entitled “Beyond the Bully” which is a series looking at Maori men who have bullied or been victims of bullying. The series looks at the scarring and long term affects that bullying at a young age has but more importantly the opportunity to right the wrongs.

Our entries for the WWI competition ran by the Rotorua Museum and supported by the Ngatai Whakaue Endowment Trust have been sent in. We managed five entries which could be in any media or forum but tell the story of a local World War 1 war hero.

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## HELLO FROM MAMAKU

The inevitability of the recent shutdown of the Mamaku Sawmill was met with a mixture of sadness and resignation. Saw milling had been, after all, part and parcel of the Mamaku Plateau from the arrival of the earliest Europeans. The great podocarp forests irretrievably lost by tangata whenua when the operation of a rail link to Rotorua failed, were a magnet that proved irresistible to pakeha milling interests.

After the forfeiture of the forests, rights to mill the abundant timber were granted to business interests. In time twelve mills would be in operation employing hundreds of Bushmen, mill hands and other workers. Men driving teams of horses or oxen yoked together were employed to drag the giant rimu, tawa, kahikatea, miro, matai and other giants of the forest. Auckland and Sydney – two fast-growing settlements could use all the timber supplied to them. Later bush railways were developed to carry the native logs to the mills.

NZ bushmen were regarded as the finest in the world and though the Bay of Plenty region lacked the mighty kauri so abundant in the North, the podocarps of the Central North Island upland bush were nonetheless magnificent trees which required exceptional skills to fell and transport from their rugged locations to the nearest mill. The heart timber from these splendid trees had such qualities of durability, strength and versatility that it made their value second only to tropical hard woods such as teak, mahogany, etc.

The extensive corporations whose head offices spire into the air in NZ's larger cities today all had their start in bush settlements like Mamaku. After the native timber disappeared exotic timber was milled. No bushman who had learned his trade on the native would ever take to felling exotic, some may have made the change but not many. But even exotic logs have become prohibitively expensive after government agents sold the trees to China. Only a delayed action by tangata whenua prevented the sale of tens of thousands of acres of the Central North Island Volcanic Plateau. NZ lost the trees but only through the efforts of Maori was the land retained.

Mamaku Sawmill is just another of the dozens of provincial interests deemed by government ideologues to be perfectly suitable for demolition in the interests of the globalisation and market forces spoken of by leering economists and government mouthpieces and those who slavishly follow the monetarist policies of these super-rich, super-capitalists.

But Mamaku people are resilient, hard working, honest and committed. They are people who believe in a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. Over history we have seen the outcomes that result from extremes of wealth by the few. Let us hope that when balance is restored to the NZ worker it comes in the ballot box and not as it has in so many other countries - out of the end of a gun.

### Chocolate beetroot cake

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
- 4 large eggs
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp b/powder
- 1/2 cup cocoa
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 cups peeled and grated raw beetroot

Preheat the oven to 180°C on bake.

Grease and line the base of a 23cm spring-form cake tin with



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paper.

In a large bowl place sugar, oil, eggs and vanilla and mix, giving it a good stir then sift dry ingredients into another bowl. Add the flour mix, alternating with the grated beetroot. Mix together lightly and place in the tin. Bake for 1 hour and 30 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean.

Icing:

Chocolate icing or chocolate ganache by melting 125g dark chocolate, 1 tbsp butter and 1/3 cup cream together. Heat gently, then pour over the cake

Ready in 1 hour 45 minutes, serves 12.

Test this cake while it's baking with a skewer or sharp knife – it can look cooked, but the middle may still be raw.

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