

NGONGOTAHA NEWS

The Sunny side of the Mountain -

FLUORIDE FREE NGONGOTAHA

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NEXT DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 2018



MERRY CHRISTMAS

It is that time of the year again when we are all preparing for the Christmas/Summer/Holidays.

May I take this opportunity of thanking all the wonderful people who have supported this newsletter, especially to my loyal advertisers, for without you there would be no newsletter. I hope I can count on your continued support, and you all have a very prosperous New Year.

To my delivery people who are out there in all weathers trying to get the newsletters to you, Rural Delivery, Sally, Michael, and the Pollard Family of Oakland Place, a huge thanks.

To Arin, Richard and Glen of Dudfield Bryce printers, for the huge job you do in getting the newsletter printed on time and delivered to me in Ngongotaha thank you.

Last but not least to my "Scribes" especially Charles, you send in articles week after week keeping us informed of what is happening on Council and in our Community. You have your 'knockers' but just remember people he is doing this out of the kindness of his heart and he does a pretty good job too, keep up the good work Charles.

Finally, my family would like to wish you all a very merry christmas, keep safe on the roads, and enjoy your families, see you all next year.

Ann, Grant, Kath, Matariki, Arapeta, and of course Basil Dog.



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A chemistry professor wanted to teach his class a lesson about the evils of alcohol, so he produced an experiment that involved a glass of water, a glass of whiskey and two worms.
"Now, class. Observe closely the worms," said the professor putting a worm first into the water. The worm in the water writhed about, as happy as a worm in water could be.
The second worm, he put into the whiskey. It writhed painfully, and quickly sank to the bottom, dead as a doornail.

"Now, what lesson can we derive from this experiment?" the professor asked.
Little Johnny, who naturally sits in the back, raised his hand and wisely responded...
"Drink whiskey and you won't get worms!"



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Barnabas for a 1 – 1 ½ hr gentle walk.

4th Friday: 7.00pm Games Evening(Scrabble, Rumikub etc)

CHRISTMAS:

17th December 7.00pm Service of Readings favourites

24th December 7.00pm Christmas Eucharist Family Service

25th December 9.45am Christmas Eucharist Family Service

HAMURANA SPRINGS INCORPORATED SOCIETY

On Friday 1 December, Jerry Douglas and Sally French from the Society (which is winding up) donated a \$2000 cheque to the Kaharoa Kokako Trust, to enable an additional stoat trap line to be purchased and installed. In addition to this, the society also paid for the bait to be used in the rodent trapping programme at the Hamurana Springs, which is enough to last a number of months. These funds have been made possible from the sale of the book that was published "Hamurana Springs - The Ancient Waters" of which the last few copies are still available to purchase. If you are interested in buying one of these, please call Jerry on 0274 824 850 but be in quick as they will not last - they would make a good Christmas present.



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- Witnessing documents such as land transfer documents
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sure if a JP can help you with a document, just ask - the JP can advise you.)

There are Four hundred specially-trained judicial JPs sit in the District Court around the country to hear minor traffic and some summary offences, preside over preliminary hearings for certain offences and hear bail applications and requests for remands and adjournments.

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Merry Christmas and have a safe & blessed New Year!

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The Christmas Season Is Upon Us!!

We wish to take the opportunity to thank all of our Patients and the wider Community of Ngongotaha for supporting the Practice throughout 2017 and the **Team wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Over the Christmas period the Surgery will be closed on the Statutory Holidays so please remember to order prescriptions well in advance or alternatively you can order your prescription by using Manage My Health.

For the two short weeks, we will be running "Drop In" Clinics for acute issues where no appointment is necessary and we will also have limited full appointments available.

The Laboratory Service will only be operating on one day between Christmas and New Year which will be 27th of December, but normal service will resume after New Year from the 3rd of January 2018.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL - The Surgery is once again collecting food and gift items for the Salvation Army to Distribute to families in need over the Christmas period. If you would like to contribute – please bring your gift items into the Surgery, and place them in the box in the reception area.

STAFF – We are very pleased to announce that **Doctor Ben McHale** who is currently our Registrar will be joining the NMC Team as a permanent Doctor from 18 December and he will be a welcome addition to the team.

Sadly **Karen Wiringi**, our Operations and Administration Manger, will be leaving the NMC Team at the end of the year. Karen and her husband have accepted a fantastic opportunity in a field that they are both passionate about. Whilst Karen will be a big loss to the NMC Team, we are thrilled that her and Raki have been provided with such an opportunity.

Karen has made a magnificent contribution to NMC in several roles over the last 13 years and we will sorely miss her experience, leadership and contribution to NMC and we wish her every success for the future.



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Ngongotaha Community Patrol Update By Sharon Fleet

Did you know that the NZ Police and Facebook have teamed up to launch an alert system to enlist public help to find missing children.

Police Comms Centres will activate an AMBER Alert if it is believed a missing child or young person under 18 is at serious risk of harm and members of the public could help find them.

Facebook users in the targeted search area will then receive a notification at the top of their news feed – and can share the alert across their networks. Media organisations will also receive an immediate notification.

Alerts include a photograph of the child, important information about the circumstances in which they went missing, and an indication that there is an active search under way.

At the launch at Police National Headquarters, Wellington, on the 9th November, Assistant Commissioner Richard Chambers said child abductions were extremely rare in New Zealand but welcomed an initiative "focused on keeping those we most treasure safe". "Our mission is to be the safest country and this partnership will help us achieve that," he said.

AMBER Alerts originated in the United States in 1996 after the abduction and murder of nine-year-old Amber Hagerman in Texas. It is used in all 50 US states and 22 other countries, 14 of them through a partnership between police organisations and Facebook.

The project in New Zealand has been led by Detective Senior Sergeant Warren Olsson and Missing Persons Officer Detective Sergeant Lisa Harrington, working closely with Facebook in New York and social media and web specialists in the Police Public Affairs team.

Emily Vacher, Director of Trust and Safety at Facebook, told the launch 900 children had been returned safely to their families in the US because of AMBER Alerts.

"We often hear the saying that it takes a village to raise a child; it also takes a village to protect one," she said.

"Putting lifesaving information into the hands of members of the child's community is what makes the difference."

With Christmas fast approaching, it is a timely reminder that many criminals see the holiday season as their opportunity to cash in. Your Community Patrol want to help make sure you don't become a victim of crime over this coming festive season.

Please make sure you secure windows and doors particularly when you leave your home, put away those bike and smaller items, lock your garages and vehicles. Burglary, personal safety and road safety are just some of the areas that seem to increase over this period. On behalf of your local Community Patrol and our many volunteer Patrollers we wish you a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

DON'T WAIT FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN - JOIN OUR PATROL AND HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE.

For more information Contact David on 357 4734 or check out our National Website: www.cpnz.org.nz





*"Wishing everyone a very Merry Xmas & a safe and prosperous New Year!
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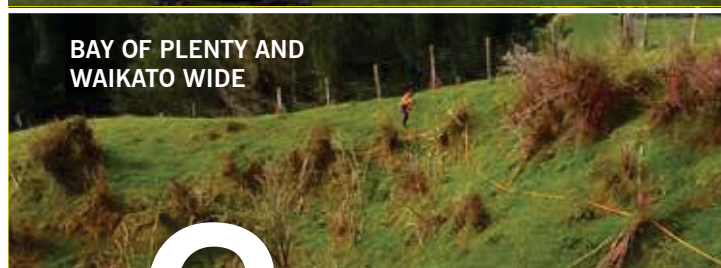


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Racing

I do hope those of you who like a small wager followed my tips since the last edition as Heavens Keep has won twice, Embellish won the 2000 guineas, Poker face placed, Al Hasa being aimed at the Karaka million by the Aksum team had a second place at Te Rapa etc. I think locals Rich Billy Marsh and ENDEAN EXPRESS are worth following and don't forget TO FOLLOW 2yo by the Cambridge stud stallion Power. I saw a few races recently at the trials and from very powerful stables they will win at short notice. Many are trying to qualify for the Karaka million which also has a three year old race in the million dollars range also. I'd also like to remember Big Mike as a winner at short notice and back Worthiswaitingold when there has been rain. Any horse with a Zabeel connection must be followed in the major staying races coming up so do a bit of research. Horses by speed stallions out of Zabeel mares or horses by Savabeel are winning endless races.

If you want to experience top class racing on a speed dating basis, do go to the Karaka million night at Ellerslie and then go onto the horse sales at Karaka the very next day.

Well the Melbourne Cup has come and gone and for me wasn't that memorable. I do know a lady who boxed 5 horses and got 60% of the trifecta. She's a one off bettor at Cup time but backed the third place getter as her husband name is Max. The demise of NZ champion Gingernuts before the running of the Emirates stakes on the last day of the cup carnival is indicative of the racing game. One day your up and then you come crashing down. So when you experience the success savour it.

The win of Lazarus in the NZ Pacing cup at Addington was fantastic. He repeated the win in 2016 with ease and is trained by the ever dominant Purdon/Rasmussen team who seem to have a mortgage on most winners in that form of racing. I do not back trotters/pacers, as soon as I do, they think they are at the gallops and break and lose all chance.

Local trainers Bill and Suzy Pomare have to be given the thumbs up with the way they give young up and coming jockeys the chances to ride their horses and have given many a step up to greater opportunities. That's why I think Rich Billy Marsh is worth following as Team Pomare know how to place a horse and the horse mentioned thrives at tracks like Tauranga and Rotorua. If he starts at the Rotorua Xmas meeting get on. He will win at least two over the next two months at odds so keep him in mind.



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A mature lady gets pulled over for speeding... Woman: Is there a problem, Officer? Officer: Ma'am, you were speeding. Woman: Oh, I see. Officer: Can I see your license, please? Woman: I'd give it to you but I don't have one. Officer: Don't have one? Woman: Lost it, 4 years ago for drunk driving. Officer: I see... Can I see your vehicle registration papers, please? Woman: I can't do that. Officer: Why not? Woman: I stole this car. Officer: Stole it? Woman: Yes, and I killed and hacked up the owner. Officer: You what? Woman: His body parts are in plastic bags in the boot if you want to see. The Officer looks at the woman and slowly backs away to his car and calls for back up. Within minutes, five police cars circle the car. A senior officer slowly approaches the car, clasping his half drawn gun. Officer 2: Ma'am, could you step out of your vehicle, please! The woman steps out of her vehicle. Woman: Is there a problem sir? Officer 2: One of my officers told me that you have stolen this car and murdered the owner. Woman: Murdered the owner? Officer 2: Yes, could you please open the boot of your car, please. The woman opens the boot, revealing nothing but an empty boot. Officer 2: Is this your car, ma'am? Woman: Yes, here are the registration papers. The officer is quite stunned. Officer 2: One of my officers claims that you do not have a driving license. The woman digs into her handbag and pulls out a clutch purse and hands it to the officer. The officer examines the license. He looks quite puzzled. Officer 2: Thank you, ma'am, one of my officers told me you didn't have a license, that you stole this car, and that you murdered and hacked up the owner.

Woman: Bet the liar told you I was speeding, too.

He grasped me firmly, but gently, just above my elbow and guided me into a room, his room. Then he quietly shut the door and we were alone. He approached me soundlessly from behind, and spoke in a low, reassuring voice close to my ear, "Just relax." Without warning, he reached down and I felt his strong, calloused hands start at my ankles, gently probing and moving upward along my calves, slowly but steadily. My breath caught in my throat.

I knew I should be afraid, but somehow I didn't care. His touch was so experienced, so sure. When his hands moved up onto my thighs, I gave a slight shudder, and partly closed my eyes. My pulse was pounding. I felt his knowing fingers caress my abdomen, my ribcage. And then, as he cupped my firm, full breasts in his hands, I inhaled sharply. Probing, searching, knowing what he wanted, he brought his hands to my shoulders, slid them down my tingling spine.

Although I knew nothing about this man, I felt oddly trusting and expectant. This is a man, I thought, a man used to taking charge. A man not used to taking 'No' for an answer. A man who would tell me what he wanted. A man who would look into my soul and say...;

"Okay ma'am, you can board your flight now." (and what were you thinking????? tut tut)

'Tis The Season...Isn't It?

One thing I learned from drinking is that if you ever go Christmas caroling, you should go with a group of people. And also go in mid-December.

— Louis C.K.



A woman walks into the City Centrelink office, trailed by 15 kids .. 'WOW,' the social worker exclaims, 'Are they ALL yours?' 'Yeah, they are all mine,' the flustered mother sighs, having heard that question a thousand times before. She says, 'Sit down Terry.' All the children rush to find seats. 'Well,' says the social worker, 'then you must be here to sign up. I'll need all your children's names.' 'This one's my oldest - he is Terry.' 'OK, and who's next?' 'Well, this one, he is Terry, also.' The social worker raises an eyebrow but continues. One by one, through the oldest four, all boys, all named Terry. Then she is introduced to the eldest girl, named Terri. 'All right,' says the caseworker. 'I'm seeing a pattern here. Are they ALL named Terri?' Their Mother replied, 'Well, yes - it makes it easier. When it is time to get them out of bed and ready for school, I yell, 'Terry!' An' when it's time for dinner, I just yell 'Terry!' an' they all come runnin.' An' if I need to stop the kid who's running into the street, I just yell 'Terry' and all of them stop. It's the smartest idea I ever had, namin' them all Terry.' The social worker thinks this over for a bit, then wrinkles her forehead and says tentatively, 'But what if you just want ONE kid to come, and not the whole bunch I call them by their surnames!'

An old lady gets caught shoplifting. On court day the lady and her husband who goes with her stands before the judge and he says to her, "Why did you shoplift?" And she says "I was hungry." The judge says "What did you take?" She replies, "A can of peaches." So the judge trying to figure out how to punish her says, "How many peaches where in the can?" The lady says "6" so the judge says ok then 1 day per peach in jail that will be 6 days time served. The judge says would anyone like to say anything and her husband says your honor, "She stole a can of peas too"

I've read so many horrible things about drinking and smoking recently that I made a new, firm New Year's resolution: NO MORE READING!



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Hon Todd McClay MP for Rotorua

Thank you Rotorua

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Authorised by Todd McClay,
1301 Amohau Street, Rotorua

A Great Big Thank You Ngongotaha.

As the year draws to a close and we all start getting ready for Christmas I wanted to use this month's article to thank the communities of Ngongotaha, Mamaku, Kaharoa and Hamurana for the very strong support that they have shown me and the National Party over the last 3 years.

I'm grateful for the support I received in the recent election and I'm humbled that both my vote and majority increased. It is equally an honour to have been elected Rotorua's MP for a fourth time - the last person to have been given this honour was Paul East back 1987. I look forward to continuing to work hard for our community and serve you in Parliament over the next 3 years.

Whilst National got the largest vote during the election we weren't able to form a government. In opposition my job is to ensure the new government doesn't forget us. We've made a lot of progress over the last 9 years, it's important that it continues.

Ngongotaha and surrounding areas are doing well. It's a strong community with a lot going for it. In talking to local parents I know the 3 schools in the area have had a good year. A big thanks to our teachers, teacher's aids, school staff and Board members for all of their hard work and effort this year.

A month ago Nadene and I were delighted to attend the Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigade annual awards evening at the Bowls Club. Ngongotaha Brigade has a large number of hard working and enthusiastic volunteer fire men and women. They too deserve recognition at this time of the year. They give their time freely to ensure people are safe, and the summer months can be a particularly busy time for them.

One of the responsibilities of being a local MP is to provide assistance to members of our community. I run regular clinics in my office in Rotorua each Friday. If you have an issue you'd like me to be aware of or if my staff Michelle, Tracey or I can assist you or your family in any way please get in touch. I also hold clinics in rural areas and during the course of 2018 will get to every area of the electorate to hold small town hall events and individual meetings.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Hon Todd McClay MP for Rotorua

Spokesperson for Trade, State Services

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Xmas greetings

Denise and our family want to wish you all a very, very, merry Xmas and a wonderful 2018. Like many of you we will be spending it with people who count, our families. Elizabeth, James and our two grannies Charlie and Finley, Cameron Denise and I are celebrating Xmas together. Spend a thought for those with no family and embrace them into your own home. Those in hospital or Care please make a special effort for them too. Loneliness seems to be the greatest killer and if a visit or small gift lights up a life at Xmas you have served well. To all those volunteers in our community in the local fire brigade, the moreporks, those who serve in churches, support the elderly and homeless my thoughts are with you all. A special Xmas to you all.

Events

Oh you can't please everyone and to be honest the negativity over this council's drive to make Rotorua a vibrant, progressive growing district that has events, activities and an upgrade disappoints me. The population has grown by 3500 since 2013, more houses, more jobs, more and better incomes are a result. What a boring depressing town we would be without Crankworks, without the Tulip festival without, Mudtopia, without Mountain bike tracks and our parks reserves playgrounds etc, without the Annual Lakeside concert, without the Rotorua energy Charitable Trust, without the Community Trust, Bay Trust, Pukeroa/Oruawhata Trust, Ngati Whakaue Trust, we all would be the poorer including our schools who rely on Ngati Whakaue funding to give those little extras like numeracy programmes etc.

Debt

There has been a huge uplift by those who aren't aware of the structure of council's debt and have been 'scaremongering'

about this council's debt levels. The debt is not out of control it is audited by Audit NZ, we are subject to debt limitations but most of the debt is for Core service which have a life of between 30-100 years ie sewerage, Water reticulation and schemes, roading street scapes, playgrounds, landfill, libraries, aquatic centre, energy events centre, museums etc. Council is not a business in the general business sense. If we refuse to have debt for the life of a service then the ratepayers of today would pay for it today at no cost to further generations who will use it and benefit from its creation. One example is Lake road one of Rotorua's main entrance a local road with no funding from central government. It cost \$14 million from Mouth corner to the junction of Ranolf St and Lake road. We borrowed for this development and look at the economic activity that's occurred since we got rid of the bridge and four lanes. Huge. We borrowed and have structured the debt over the next 50 years the estimated life of the road and the debt repaid over that period. Running council is far from running a household. If you want it to grow new debt will occur. I'm not scared of it but control of its creation and for the right reasons is where the Mayor and Councillors come in. We have a growing community hungry for growth hungry for facilities hungry to be the best. The scaremongering I can't stop but be aware we collectively, want to take Rotorua forward and the next three years are exciting. Listen to the naysayers yes but get the balanced view.

To you all every one of you who call Ngongotaha, Mamaku, Kaharoa, Hamurana HOME who are passionate about what you do and how you do it have a wonderful holiday break, enjoy family time and look forward to a great 2018.

PS To Ann Henderson our ngo news editor sincere thanks to you and your deliverers of this wonderful community link. Merry Xmas. **Cr Sturt**

Benefits of New Village Already Obvious

Within the first 24 hours of moving into The CARE Village there were already signs that residents, many of whom have severe dementia, were enjoying the freedom the new environment provides.

Chief executive Therese Jeffs says that in recent years the service had made significant changes to the way they cared for people, but moving to the new village has proven to provide the real foundation of independence, home and community.

"It's a joy to see residents out and about making the most of the footpaths to guide them through the gardens and around to the lakefront. They are enjoying eating their lunch outside, taking their turn to host Happy Hour and helping with the daily chores with professional support and carers nearby."

The transition of residents from Whare Aroha CARE to the new bespoke dementia-friendly CARE Village is being studied by AUT PhD Student, Kay Shannon.

Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's FAITH.

When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That's TRUST.

Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That's HOPE.

We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That's CONFIDENCE.

We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children. That's LOVE.

On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.' That's ATTITUDE.

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ROAST KUMARA & ROCKET SALAD

600g kumara, cut into 2cm pieces

1/2 tsp ground cumin

1 clove garlic, crushed

1/2 cup Greek-style natural yoghurt

200g baby rocket leaves

2 Tbsp vegetable or olive oil

1/2 tsp ground coriander

250g green beans, halved diagonally

2 tsp finely grated lemon zest, plus 1 Tbsp juice

1/2 cup coriander leaves, to serve

Method

1. Preheat oven to 200°C (180°C fan-forced). Line a baking tray with baking paper.
2. Place kumara in a bowl. Add oil, cumin, ground coriander and garlic. Toss to combine. Place on prepared baking tray and bake for 20 minutes or until golden and tender. Leave to cool.
3. Meanwhile, blanch beans in a saucepan of boiling water until bright green and crisp. Rinse under cold running water and drain well.
4. To make the dressing, combine yoghurt, lemon zest and juice in a bowl. Mix well.
5. Arrange rocket, kumara and beans in a shallow serving bowl. Drizzle dressing over the salad and top with coriander leaves.

Tip: This salad is also nice with pumpkin instead of kumara.



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Once upon a time, there was a king who had gone to visit neighboring kingdoms. He was gifted a pair of baby Macaw Parrots by the king of the last kingdom where he was visiting. They were the most beautiful birds he had ever seen. So, upon returning to his kingdom, he called for a bird trainer and asked him to train macaw parrots.

The king also arranged a place in the palace garden for the parrots. He often looked at them from his palace window. As time passed, one day the trainer came to the palace and informed the king that though one of the parrots was flying majestically high in the sky, the other one was not moving from its branch since the day it had arrived.

Upon hearing this, the king summoned trainer and healers from the nearby kingdoms. They all tried their best, but couldn't make the parrot fly! He even asked his courtiers to try to find a way to make the parrot fly but they all failed. The parrot was not moving from his branch at all. Finally, after trying everything, the king thought that maybe he needs someone who may be

more familiar with natural habitat. He asked his courtier to get a farmer from the countryside and take him to the parrot to see if he can understand the problem with the parrot.

The next morning, the king was thrilled to see the parrot flying high above the palace gardens. He asked his servant to call that farmer to meet him. The servant quickly went and located the farmer, who came and stood before the king. The king asked him, "How did you make the parrot fly?"

With his hands folded with respect, the farmer said to the king, "It was very easy, your majesty. I simply cut the branch where the bird was sitting."

Moral: We are all gifted with energy to find a success in our life, but fail to gather a courage which is required to reach heights of success and end up clinging to the things that are familiar to us. We need to free ourselves from our comfort zone to explore new opportunities and find a success beyond our capacity.



Fletcher Tabuteau

The silly season is already upon us. I hope your reflections on 2017 bring a smile to your face, and I hope like me, you are looking forward to relaxing with family and friends at Christmas.

It was pleasing to see that some of the major increases in support for New Zealand First and myself were out here in the Ngongotaha, Hamurana and Kaharoa areas, with the addition of Mamaku. It felt like that for those who got to know me in the place I call home, the votes went up.

I was part of the New Zealand First negotiations team during the coalition talks, so I can assure you that we undertook the negotiations in good faith and believe both sides reciprocated in-kind. Our foremost consideration was to ensure that our common sense policy ideas would be included, as much as possible given the election results. The well-being of the people of New Zealand was paramount for the New Zealand First team during negotiations.

I now have the privilege of being the Under-Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and also the Minister for Regional Economic Development, both New Zealand First MPs, in the new Labour- New Zealand First coalition Government, with confidence and support from the Greens. I am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities these responsibilities bring.

Meetings now dominate my days as I undertake my Under-Secretary delegations and engage with people and organisations who have ideas and plans to grow business, jobs and dignity in our regions; in our provinces. There are so many people who share a vision for growing our provinces, they now finally feel that they are in a place to talk to a government that shares their passion and is ready to listen. I am thrilled to be a part of this endeavour and look forward to helping those who have long sought to help themselves, but needing that first hand up rather than a hand out.

A highlight of the year in my efforts to promote Rotorua was in support of our wonderful local artists. Many submitted artworks encapsulating the theme of 'Te Wairua o Rotorua.' These works were displayed proudly in the Parliamentary Gallery within the Parliamentary precinct for public viewing. It was a great success showcasing not only our local talent, but the imagery of Rotorua and its people.

As always I thank my Rotorua office team who so diligently work with me to support the people of the Rotorua Electorate. This work will continue with the same vigour that we brought to this advocacy and support role in the last parliament.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and an invigorating New Year.

Fletcher Tabuteau MP





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Rotorua Office

Fletcher Tabuteau List MP

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Have a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year**

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...and last but not least a huge thank you to the local community for your support!



NGONGOTAHA BOWLING CLUB

KIA ORA

Congratulations to Nick Tomsett who teamed up with a couple of mates from Tauranga, Andre Hudson and Cliff Webber to win the BOP centre 2 bowl triples. After losing their very first game on Saturday they rode their luck with a couple of 1 point victories to get through to Sunday and going on to beat last years champs 17/14 in final. Well done.

On the club front.

Womens champ fours: Leoni Renata, P.K.Tamehana, Lil Mohi, and Char Beckett prevailed over Wendy Green, Lynette McIntosh, Huia Ratana, and Doreen Ryan.

Womens champ pairs Huia Ratana and Vini Smith beat Mere Eden and Mina Paul Snr. This was after a heavy defeat in the semi final where they lost their first life but picked themselves off the canvass to win.

Mens champ pairs: Reg Martin and Chook Chase beat Shon Fitzgerald and Gazza Brake. Shon/Gazza looked to be cruising, leading all the way but dropped a five on last end to force a tie breaker which went the way of the champs. That worm turned again.

Rumour has it that Gazza after playing in numerous pairs finals still hasn't won that discipline.

All that's left to play is the Junior and Senior and vet singles.

Thursday night interclub

With 1 round to go at Reporoa, Ngongotaha is in front with daylight second.

Well done to selector/Coach/babysitter Gossy? for the work he has put in and well done to the boys, job well done, enjoy that BBQ and bring me back some mussels.

Upcoming events Centre

Dec 2nd Geddes trophy (under 8's)

Dec 3rd Open Team Both squads playing Waikato, Counties and Thames Valley

Dec 9/10TH Centre pairs (men and Women)

Dec 16th Zone interclub playoff, Our Ngongotaha Top 7 girls (BOP champs) try to Qualify for N.Z. finals.

Upcoming events Club

Dec 2nd Club Hams (Teams drawn out a hat)

Dec 5th 60+ (grandmasters) Triples sponsored by Simon Greenhalgh and Whitehaven Funeral home

Dec 16th Henderson Memorial Fours (hams) Sponsored by J.Swap and the Henderson family

Dec 27/28th xmas mixed pairs sponsored by Aspect Aluminium

Dec 29th Optional pairs

Remember folks our club is available for hireage Ph Rob 07374332

A very merry xmas and happy new year to our great lil community

Simbo

Advice

"If your Skip wants an opinion, He'll give it to you".

Lead: "How much am I short?" Skip: "You ought to know, you're closer to it"

Definition of a Novice:

A new convert to bowls who confesses he knows nothing about the game and then becomes angry when you agree with him.

A Selectors Prayer

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Blessed are they who can still be taught

Blessed are they who accept with grace

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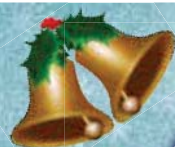


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Angela & Nicole Parker

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Kaharoa School

The Cornerstone Value: Compassion

Our definition is willingness to help, empathise with, or show mercy to those who suffer. This means helping those in trouble.

Key Competency: A Communicator (Give and receive)

A Kaharoa Learner can confidently and clearly communicate, interpret and respond to messages.

Athletics

We enjoyed a fantastic Athletics Sports Day on November 17th, with all the children participating in track and field events. The weather was calm and sunny, parents supportive and children energetic and enthusiastic. The day finished with all students participating in the wheel relay, cheered on by whanau.

CBOP and Rural Athletics day

Students (9 years and older) who were placed first in our school athletics joined hundreds of others at the CBOP & Rural Athletics day held at the International Stadium. A fantastic effort was put in by all, with some breaking records. Sam G. set a new record in the 12+ boys long jump, 100m and 200m events and Emma E.B. set a new record in the 12+ girls high jump.

Kahawrite

Our school magazine showcasing children's writing will be given out this term. The Kahawrite magazine is a wonderful opportunity for children to see their work in print and share it with family, friends and the wider community.

West Cup Speech Competition

Our annual West Cup Speech Competition was held this term, with all the Year 7 & 8 students presenting exciting and imaginative speeches on a range of topics. We are grateful to Toastmasters for judging the competition. Our winner for 2018 is Charlotte L. who presented a speech titled 'Life was better/worse in my parent's day.' Congratulations to all the students who participated; we know that it is not easy to stand up in front of a large crowd and give a speech.

Staff Changes

We are farewelling Stella van Gelder, after 20 years at Kaharoa, as she heads to Nelson to be closer to family. Stella will be greatly missed. She is an exceptional teacher, a teacher of excellence, who has always set high standards for herself and for all the children she has taught. Stella has embraced many learning opportunities with enthusiasm for the benefit of all the children. Over 20 years there have been many highlights and achievements of which I will highlight just a few

- Setting up and overseeing the Kaharoa School Soccer Club which at its height had 12 teams.
- Introducing and organising electives to provide a wide variety of learning opportunities for the children.
- Exploiting her passion and strength in maths by overseeing Rotomath teams for a number of years. We have achieved outstanding results in this event over many years.
- Mentoring and supporting many teachers over the years assisting them to become great teachers.
- Starting up our school Kahawrite magazine.

Stella is an astute educationalist, an extremely organised and efficient leader with a sharp mind. She is the consummate professional and a great ambassador for Kaharoa School and the teaching professional as a whole. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

contd overpage.....

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Ngongotaha School

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

By the time this publication arrives in your homes the school year will be over for us. 2017 has been rewarding and busy, as most years are now. We have seen our student numbers grow considerably which has prompted the Ministry of Education to work with us to form an enrolment zone for the school. If this meets with the final approval of the ministry, it will be in place for the start of the 2018 school year. You can view the map and read the descriptors of the zone in the notice board at the school entrance. If you have any questions please pop in and see me, Cathryn, and I will do my best to answer them.

Since the last journal we have held our school athletics, attended interschool athletics and, this week, we have attended the Bay of Plenty athletics. Our students competed with pride at each event and it is great to see seven children travelling to the Bay of Plenty athletics event in Whakatane.

Our senior school performed at Ahurei last week. The group sang beautifully and were a real credit to the school. A big thank you to the staff who assisted with their tutoring. Whaea Jamie and the senior team have been teaching waiata all year and it was great to have Whaea Ana, Whaea Takiata and Matua Joe come in for the last three weeks to polish them up. A great team effort, thank you all.

All whanau teams have had various trips to local attractions to support the science kaupapa we have been working through. Te Whanau Wai carried out the walk around Sulphur

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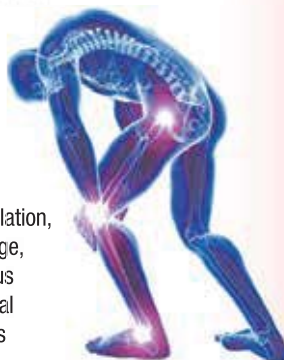
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Point, through Kuirau Park and on to the Aquatic Centre and then enjoyed an afternoon of swimming. Te Whanau Ngahere enjoyed a trip to Te Puia where they saw various science features they had been learning about. Te Whanau Maunga had a trip to Te Puia at the start of the term and this week will be visiting Hamurana Springs. Te Whanau Manu will have a trip to Mt Maunganui this week to end the year for the senior school. Thank you to all the family members who attended the various trips with us, without you we would not be able to have these worthwhile experiences.

At this time of year we reflect on all who have contributed to the success of the year and the success of the students. We acknowledge and thank Ngati Whakaue Education Endowment Trust for the support they give our class programmes to raise achievement and engagement. This is invaluable support for the tamariki of the kura. We thank Mainfreight for their continued support of our Duffy Books in Homes programme. This is an amazing initiative, which sees children building up their own library during their time at primary school. We also thank Mainfreight for the other aspects they bring to the school; sunhats, calendars, apples and continued support. They also present our annual Mainfreight Award for Excellence in Attitude at prize-giving.

We would like to thank the local Four Square who have transformed the shop and who are very supportive of our initiatives. Having you dressed at the gate, at the start of term two, giving out apples with Harold, from Life Education, was a great success. We thank you for supporting our PB4L initiatives which see our values being taken into the community. We thank all the local shops and businesses who support the school.

We will have some contractors in school over the holiday break completing some maintenance work ready for the New Year. We do ask that you keep an eye on the school, feel free to come in and use the playgrounds with your children and check that all is well. We have had issues with children climbing on the sails, in the junior playground, during the weekends and after school. One sail has already been damaged and we have had to remove it. If you see anyone on the sails please come in and ask them to come down as this is very dangerous practice. If you have any trouble call the police as we do not want any injuries.



contd overpage.....



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Kaharoa School contd.....

A farewell for Stella will be held on Friday 15 December from at 5.00pm to 7.00pm in the Kaharoa Hall. Parents of current pupils and past pupils, along with past pupils are welcome to attend. Please contact the school office on 07 3323444 or office@kaharoa.school.nz by Monday 11 December if you would like to attend.

Congratulations to Rose Powley who has won the position of Deputy Principal from 2018.

As the year draws to a close, we would like to wish everyone a happy festive season and very best wishes for 2018.

Term 4 ends at 12.20pm on 15 December and school commences on Tuesday 30 January 2018.

LENTIL, BEAN AND BEETROOT SALAD

Ingredients

150g baby potatoes, quartered
100g packet baby salad leaves
850g can baby beetroot, drained, halved
2 Tbsp lemon juice
1 tsp horseradish sauce
Pepper

200g green beans, halved lengthways
1/2 cup walnuts, chopped and toasted
420g can lentils, rinsed and drained
1/4 cup vegetable or olive oil
Salt
1/4 cup shaved Parmesan

Method

1. Place potatoes in a large microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on high for 3 minutes. Add beans and microwave for 2 minutes more or until just soft. Leave to cool then transfer to a large mixing bowl.
2. Add salad leaves, walnuts, beetroot and lentils to the potato and beans. Gently toss to combine.
3. Whisk lemon juice, oil and horseradish in a small jug. Season to taste. Pour over the salad and gently mix through. Serve salad topped with Parmesan.

Tip: You could also use chickpeas or any type of canned beans, such as kidney or butter beans, instead of lentils.

We are saying goodbye to sixty year six children this year. The children are going in a number of directions and are looking forward to their new challenges. They are well set up with the values and aspirations of our Ngongotaha community and we look forward to watching them grow and achieve in their new environments.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Drive safely, be sun smart, swim between the flags and enjoy the precious time with your children. We look forward to seeing them back at school on Tuesday 30th January. We will have a powhiri to welcome all new pupils, staff and families at 9.05am that morning.

Finally thank you to our editor, Ann Henderson, for the time and work you put into this publication. Your dedication and efficiency is appreciated. Have a great break ready for 2018.

Iti rearea teitei kahikatea ka taea" – "Aim High, Stand Proud"

Cathryn Naera and staff of Ngongotaha School

Dates for 2018.

Term One: Tuesday 30th January to Friday 13th April

Term Two: Monday 30th April to Friday 6th July

Term Three: Monday 23rd July to Friday 28th September

Term Four: Monday 15th October to either Thursday 13th December or Friday 14th December

"LIONS ROAR"

THE LIONS CLUB OF NGONGOTAHA

"We Serve."

Christmas is just around the corner with members of the Ngongotaha Club involved many projects in the area. Saturday 2nd December 80 Gold card holders enjoyed Afternoon Tea at the Community Hall. Two well deserving students from Western Heights High are receiving our Scholarships. The Ronald MacDonald Retreat will be getting a spruce up. The "Magic Show" will light up the faces of over 600 children and families with the mystery of magic!

From the Lions Club of Ngongotaha we wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Want to join us? We would love to meet you!

For catering purposes please

Contact Phyl Hawkins 07 3492450.

The Club meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Ngongotaha Community Hall, School Rd at 6.30pm.

I once bought my kid a set of batteries for Christmas with a note on it saying "Toys not included."

Four-year-old to her two-year-old sister: "Let's play Christmas. I'll be Santa Claus and you can be a present and I'll give you away."



Two kids are on their way to Sunday school when one says to the other, "What do you think about this Satan stuff?"

"Well, you remember Santa? This could turn out to be your dad too."



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From the Library

New library cards available now

Get ready with your new library card before Te Aka Mauri opens. If you are a current library member or thinking of joining, new Te Aka Mauri cards are available for free from Friday 1 December. On Saturday 3 February 2018 Te Aka Mauri Rotorua Library and Children's Health Hub will open. As part of the lead up to our Open Day we are launching a brand new library card. The card features new Te Aka Mauri branding and includes our new logo, tukutuku pattern and an image of the building itself.

"We want people to be as excited about Te Aka Mauri as we are, get their new library card ahead of time and be a part of the Te Aka Mauri journey" says Library Communications Lead Sandra Quinn.

Newly designed cards are free for current and new library members. For current library members, all you need to do is bring your old library card or some ID to Rotorua Library or the Mobile Library and ask our staff to upgrade you to the new card. If you are unsure if you are a member or think your membership may have lapsed, contact us and we can check for you.

If you have been thinking of joining the library, now is a great time to do it so that you can stock up on holiday reading. It is free to join which includes your new card. Library membership opens a world of books, DVDs, toys, eBooks, eMagazines and more. Check out our membership page to find out how easy it is to join.

Ask our staff for your free new card today!

Stories Men Tell

This little gem of a book fell into my hands and something about the title appealed to me. Basically it is a celebration of an establishment that celebrated its 50 year anniversary and decided to mark that achievement with a book. They took 50 of their members and asked each to write a short piece retelling some interesting tales.

A great variety of men, each with a fascinating story, fills this book which I found to be addictive. The men all belong to the Atrium Club, one of Auckland's best kept secrets. A comfortable, sensible club for men to meet and share wonderful stories, and enjoy companionship.

An excellent book that would make a great gift for any occasion. I enjoyed every tale bar one. Not a bad success rate!

Reviewed by Rose

The Violinist of Venice by Alyssa Palombo

The debut novel by this young author is a fascinating look into the world of Venice in the early 18th century.

Based on the life of Vivaldi, the author has cleverly woven a magical story of life, love and loss. The characters are strong and brought to life with ease and the music of the violin is with you throughout the novel.

One of the central roles is that of Adriana. A beautiful but wilful young lady, who falls in love with the charismatic Antonio Vivaldi also known as Il Prete Rosso (the red priest). Many boundaries are crossed as the story evolves into a solid, enchanting novel that I found hard to put down.

I look forward to reading her new novel about Botticelli - The Most Beautiful Woman in Florence. Reviewed by Rose.

Rotorua Library School Holiday Activities & Bingo Summer Reading Challenge - 12 December 2017 - 3 February 2018

The letters in STEAM stand for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. There will be many opportunities to explore STEAM concepts in the new Rotorua Library and Children's Health Hub, Te Aka Mauri, from February 2018. Get a taste ahead of Open Day with any one of these events happening in our current library this summer.

Download your copy of the Summer of Steam School Holiday Activity Guide or pick one up at the library.

Children must be supervised at all activities. Some activities require booking as numbers are limited. Booking for activities will open on Thursday 21 December 2017. You will be able to book online or by contacting Rotorua Library.

As well as all the fun, exciting activities below, give the Summer of Steam Bingo Summer Reading Challenge a go!

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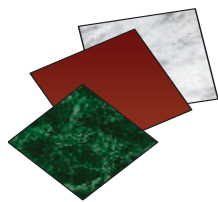
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The new Seniors Minister Hon Tracey Martin's vision for New Zealand is to be more caring. Christmas is a time to exercise a generosity of spirit and think about others less fortunate.

How do you feel about your new role – I was very surprised when Winston Peters rang and asked me if I'd like to be the Minister for Seniors but I was also really pleased. My family is part Pakeha and part Maori and the connection to older people is extremely important to me. My grandparents and great grandparents lived with us on and off when I was a child and as a stay-at-home mum I was around to look after them till their passing. I'm passionate about Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and the wonderful work they do. My great grandmother came to live with us when I was eight. She rescued my mum when she was abandoned at the age of two. Granny Anson had lived through hard times and was a practical no-nonsense woman. She's the type of woman I aspire to be like.

The political agenda for seniors – As Minister for Seniors my role is to advocate for seniors. We have older New Zealanders living in poverty who need affordable housing. I want to keep that at the forefront of politicians' minds. In the short term we've made a commitment to further enhancing the SuperGold Card and will be introducing a free annual health check and eye check for over 65s. I also intend to make sure seniors are clearly identified as one of the recipients of the winter energy package.

What would you like to change – Elder abuse is bigger than we think but this demographic (seniors) don't complain. I'd like people to see it not as complaining but as seeking help. My hope is that over the next three years we can create a situation where those who are being harmed or abused know where they can go to get help and also know they will receive that help.

Your long term vision – My vision for New Zealand is to be more caring. Since the 80s we've become more focused on money and less on people. I believe strongly in a sense of community. Without community we're nothing. No one can manage alone. Before entering Parliament I was a stay-at-home parent. I was on PTAs, Board of Trustees and lots of community and fundraising groups. People giving back to their community keeps that community going.

Christmas wish – My Christmas wish is for seniors to be with others. Those that have family are very lucky, but for those who don't have family – accept invitations and look for opportunities to socialise.

Visiting family in Australia? Then don't forget to take your SuperGold Card with you. Many retailers accept our SuperGold Card.

And if you're planning to be out of New Zealand for longer than 26 weeks it's important to let Work and Income know. The 'don't be caught out' article looks at situations which may affect your NZ Super payments.

You can also find out about a nifty walker designed by Kiwis, how to set up a digital will, virtual retirement villages and keeping brain-fit.

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A LITTLE REMINDER FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.....

This is the time of the year when the less honest among us go about their criminal activities. Some even have shopping lists and steal to order.

33% of burglaries are from houses with front doors not being locked. When I am at home and am out the back in my garden, I lock the front of the house, even if it is to put compost in the bin at the back of my section.

Some great ideas that you may find helpful:

- Leave a large pair of used men's work boots outside your front door, better yet put a large dog bowl near them, and an old dog lead.
- Keep in touch with your neighbours, give them an update on what you are doing over Christmas, or if you have visitors with cars not normally seen in your drive.
- Set up a mock burglary with your neighbours - you visit their property on the outside and see if you can get in, can you see any valuables, are garden tools locked away, and have them visit your property. Might surprise you what others notice that you may take for granted.
- Your garden tools and equipment have your code scratched onto them in an event of theft if these items are recovered they could be identified and returned to you.
- Do you have children at home? Have you a plan for answering the door to strangers? Ensure the bedroom curtains are closed at night prior to getting ready for bed. Locking the doors and windows and putting the security system on before you leave the house.
- Make sure your children know what to do if a burglary has occurred and have an exit strategy in case of fire or any other emergencies.



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