



**DOG SITTER**

# NGONGOTAHA NEWS

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

Editor Ann Henderson - Phone 3574 651

email: [annhend@xtra.co.nz](mailto:annhend@xtra.co.nz)

website: [www.ngongotahanews.co.nz](http://www.ngongotahanews.co.nz)

**Next deadline Friday 6 March 2015 11am**

**February 2015 issue**

## **Ngati Rangiwehi and Hamurana Springs Reserve**

Ngā mihi o te tou hou and welcome to 2015 - The opportunity to contribute to this local community newsletter is timely and the Board of Te Tahuhu o Tawakeheimoa Trust look forward to submitting regular articles that keep the community informed of our future plans. We hope this bit of background information will put into context our inherent passion to initiate a suite of activities and planned development we intend to undertake over the coming months and years.

**Ngati Rangiwehi** - The people of Ngati Rangiwehi have resided within the Mangorewa Kaharoa area since the time of Whakauekaipapa, seventh generation descendent of Tamatekapua, the captain of the Te Arawa waka. Ngati Rangiwehi is made up of seven hapu; Ngati Kereru, Ngati Ngata, Ngati Te Purei, Ngati Rehu, Ngati Tawakepotiki, Ngati Whakakeu and Ngati Whakaokorau. The home of Ngati Rangiwehi, Tarimano Marae, Te Awahou is situated and located on the north western shores of Lake Rotorua Nui a Kahumatamomoe and next to the Te Awahou River (Te Wai Mimi o Pekehaua). **Hamurana Springs Reserve** - Annexed from Ngati Rangiwehi via Native Land Court processes in the 1890's. The main spring known as Te Puna-a-Hangarua, named after Hangarua a chieftainess of Ngati Rangiwehi; and the traditional home of HINERUA (benevolent female taniwha) – He Kaitiaki o nga punawai a Hangarua. The area was heavily cultivated with gardens on both sides of the river and was a rich source of food. The river also provided kokopu, inanga, toitoi and koura. The Hamurana stream originally known as Kaikaitahuna, and renamed Kaikaitahuna in May 2014 as part of Treaty of Waitangi Claims settlement. Te Tahuhu o Tawakeheimoa Trust was established by Deed of Trust on 13 December 2012 and mandated by the members of Ngati Rangiwehi to receive Treaty of Waitangi settlement assets on behalf of its people. **Transfer of ownership of Hamurana Springs Reserve.** In May 2014 the Hamurana Springs Reserve freehold title with recreation reserve classification transferred to Te Tahuhu o Tawakeheimoa Trust on behalf of Ngati Rangiwehi. Relationships with existing and new entities is ongoing. Two organisations the Trust continues to engage with are Hamurana Springs Incorporated Society (12 month bio diversity work plan) including supporting monthly work days; and the Hamurana Park Golf Club (12 month agreement to play golf) 2014-2015, including shared facilities. Dept of Conservation holds a key advisory role, with a five year co-management arrangement over the Central Portion of the Springs, supported by a new DOC placement for a .5 position to assist the Trust in its development of the Reserves Management Plan, Concessions and success planning.

## **NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE HAMURANA SPRINGS INCORPORATED SOCIETY (HSIS).**

First, our grateful thanks to Ann and her team for giving us the opportunity to share the opening of the 2015 editions of the Ngongotaha News, all copies of which we look forward to throughout the year, with Ngati Rangiwehi – kaitiaki of Hamurana Springs. Second, our best wishes to all readers for a Happy and Healthy 2015.

The HSIS has been beaver away at our monthly workdays at the Hamurana Springs Recreation Reserve since 2003. Through the on-going efforts of successive Presidents and Committees and a hard core of dedicated volunteers, our passion and love as a community care group of this unique and special place has never waned. Our inspiration stems from both the need to nurture the magical surroundings in which we work for 3 hours per month, and our love and respect for our Patron, Ynys Fraser. Both incredibly powerful drivers!

Entering 2015 we again face the continuing issues of shortage of funds and a shortage of members. They go hand-in-hand, and it is frustrating to face and comprehend the general apathy from the wider Hamurana/Kaharoa/Ngongotaha communities, many of whom visit and enjoy the place regularly, with friends and visitors. Here is this amazing natural gift at their backdoor, there are all the positive comments about the improvements within the Reserve which is great, but what happens when the 10-15 (ageing!) families who try to attend every workday, say "enough is enough"? So, after reading this, PLEASE COME AND JOIN US, EVEN IF IT IS ONLY TO SPREAD THE WORD THAT WE CAN DO WITH SOME HELP, AND WOULD BE THANKFUL OF SOME NEW VOLUNTEERS/MEMBERS. The only time cost is 3 hours per month (Feb-Nov), usually on the last Saturday morning of the month, and a membership fee of \$25 per family or \$15 per individual. And we actually have FUN, lots of camaraderie and leg-pulling, followed by a relaxing social picnic lunch on-site in good weather, or hosted by members if not. It's a great way to meet the locals, make new friends and enjoy the beauty of the Reserve with like minded people over a glass of your favourite or a nice hot cuppa. Further, it is exciting times historically at the Reserve, with positive changes and developments ongoing. Ngati Rangiwehi have now received this land back from the Crown and are developing plans and strategies for the Reserve (see their article above). The managing Trust Board and our own committee meet regularly to form a united cooperative approach to our land management/maintenance tasks with some guidance from DOC where necessary. The Koaro (native trout) restoration project is one example of how joint ventures can excel conservation initiatives right here in our front yard.

Yet more exciting (for HSIS), the book "Hamurana Springs – The Ancient Waters" has now been published by HSIS and is AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. It is the result of 4 years of work and fund raising, written by Deb Burton from Taupo, fully researched and a compilation of memories from many local identities, including Ynys Fraser, The Beaufill and Short families and others. Easy, interesting reading, with many old photographs, maps etc. Copies at \$40.00, may be obtained from Cherry & Jerry Douglas, phone 3322 474, or via email [jerry.douglas@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jerry.douglas@xtra.co.nz). Only 200 copies available, so SECURE YOUR COPY NOW!

And finally, we extend this invitation to all interested readers to attend our FIRST WORK DAY, at the Reserve on Saturday 28 February, 9.00am onwards, where we will be on-board to meet you, show casing the work of HSIS and Ngati Rangiwehi around the Reserve environs. Come and learn just who we are, what we do, how we do it, and see the results of our joint labours. Learn about our predator trapping programme and how bird life is being protected, watch a demo or have a go your self, see the trout weir and how it works. Bring a picnic lunch and join in the fun.

## Learn to play Bridge this Year

Lessons start April 8th. Telephone Gill Nelson 3462911 for information Rotorua Bridge Club

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I received an email from Paige McLeary, who has Cerebral Palsy and is an 18 year old local studying Creative writing at Waiariki. during the holiday break asking if she could submit to the newsletter on a regular basis. Hope you enjoy.

*Hi my name is Paige McLeary. I have Cerebral Palsy I'm eighteen years old and I'm in a wheelchair. I live in the Ngongotaha area with my mum, twin sister Chelsea and ten year old sister Millie. From a very young age I was extremely passionate about writing, because I simply love the freedom that writing has, I feel it allows my imagination to run wild, limitless with the possibility of ideas.*

*I'm studying Creative writing through Waiariki Institute of Technology. So far last year I passed my all assessments in the compulsory paper Creative Writing Skill. My writing goals for this year are to do three more papers, which are optional. I've chosen to do Poetry, An introduction to fiction writing and Writing children's books. My ultimate writing goal for this year is to pass all my papers and then receive my Creative Writing Certificate this year or the following one. Me in my ball dress for the Western heights high school ball last year.*

### Georgia my papillon puppy

#### Story and photography By Paige McLeary

Your tail wags as you rush up to me wanting to play, your black and white fur glistens in the sun. You often make me laugh because you are afraid of your own reflection and upside down pink buckets. To amuse yourself you leave a mischievous trail of mums fancy underwear behind you. Georgia you bring me so much joy, so I can forgive you for stealing my shoes, I love you Georgia even if you fart on my leg each morning. I love you just the way you are.



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M: 0274 836 306

E: charleswsturt@hotmail.com

W: www.rdc.govt.nz



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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 – 1½ hr gentle walk.

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

Wednesday 18th February – Ash Wednesday Service at 6.00pm

All Welcome

## ROTORUA DAHLIA CLUB ANNUAL SHOW

**Saturday, 28 February 11-3pm** at Ngongotaha Community Hall. Entry: Gold coin donation. The general public can enter their flowers free in the Dahlia First Ever Section, Dahlia Floral Art Section, or Home Garden Section (any cut flower type). There are prizes in all sections. The public are welcome to come along on Friday night 5-7pm and will be shown how to arrange their blooms in a vase for the show. Phone: Kathleen Lee 3479336 for a Dahlia Club Show Schedule or email: [rotoruahdahlia.club@gmail.com](mailto:rotoruahdahlia.club@gmail.com)

## NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

We hope you all had a very happy Christmas and the year will be a good one. Now it's time to give some serious thought to joining the Indoor Bowling Club. If you have never played before, don't worry, we have coaching and all the help you will need. The first three nights are free, after that it's \$3 a night for a nice cup of tea and biscuits, and if you are still enjoying it, there are annual subs. If you have played before, now is the time to come back and enjoy our friendly club.

We play every Monday night at 7.30. We start on Monday February the 9th with a 'roll-up'. Opening night will be Monday 16th February. So come along and enjoy a good night.

For more information please phone Cheryl on 3575 332 or Kevin 3574 766.

Social bowls starts March the 10th.

## HARRA

### Hamurana Lakefront Working Bee

Saturday 7 March 9am until 1pm

Meeting opposite the shop

(Postponed to the following Saturday if raining.)

There will be refreshments available for workers including a sausage sizzle on site, (catered by the Mobile Chef).

Come along and get behind and be part of this worthy community project. Bring along spades, rakes, wheelbarrows and weed eaters etc. anything to assist with the cleanup. This project is being supported by the Rotorua Lakes Council.

For queries phone 3322474

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## NGATI RANGIWEWEHI AND HAMURANA SPRINGS RESERVE

### Administration of Concessions

Previously, if you want to use public conservation land to run a business or activity you must get permission from DOC in the form of a concession. Responsibility for granting of concessions in Hamurana Springs Reserve transferred to the Trust, as well, from May 2014. In spite of genuine efforts to engage with Commercial and semi commercial operators, they remain elusive with a range of excuses that are at times quite ingenious.

This then leads to the Trust engaging definitions and control of 'public' and 'free access' to the Springs area through a number of mechanisms to be introduced over time; including the enforcing of practical rules and regulations put in place under the DOC regime, largely ignored for a number of years. Public health and safety being to the forefront, with a large Public Indemnity Insurance responsibility for the Trust over the whole of the Reserve.

**Review of existing rules and regulations** – is being undertaken by the Trust, specifically as they apply to the Wildlife Refuge status ie No swimming, no bicycles or cycling, no boats including any type of paddle boats, kayaks and / or boards, and definitely no fishing. These are applicable to all people visiting the Reserve ie locals and tourists alike.

**Recognition and acknowledgement of local community** – we are considering an initiative already utilised by a number of well known tourism operations in Rotorua ie PROOF OF LOCAL RESIDENCY, that provides for free access to permitted areas, and discounts to areas designated commercial and/ or under concession.

**Signage** – existing and new – both a publicity and marketing tool, in our case – reinforcement and reminder of change of ownership from DOC to Ngati Rangiwewehi. Information about existing areas of interest, and soon to be sites of cultural significance to Ngati Rangiwewehi, and its relationship to the land and the water.

**New Initiatives and pilots 2014-2015** are being introduced by the Trust, including 2014-2015 Hamurana Springs Strategic (business) plan. One of these includes an Interim Management Team, with an office (Mon to Fri) based out of the Hamurana Golf Course Club Building; shared facilities with Hamurana Park Golf Club; Information Kiosk and gift shop with host / guiding facility (Mon to Sun); Hamurana Springs Cabin accommodation available shortly (watch this space); increased whole of Park grounds maintenance; charging commercial operators at the entry point who are avoiding applying for Concessions; introduction of local residents identification and discounts; introduction of new walkways (2015-2016); investigation of joint ventures with both local and offshore organisations.

**Enquiries to:** **Toro Bidois** : Phn: 0274147505; Email: [korotoro1@gmail.com](mailto:korotoro1@gmail.com); call in at Hamurana Springs Golf Club Building Mon to Fri 9am to 3.30pm, office phn 07 3322254. or Te Rangikaheke Bidois phn 0272129668; [terangikaheke@gmail.com](mailto:terangikaheke@gmail.com)

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*Paddy texts his wife...*

*"Mary, I 'm just having one more pint with the lads. If I 'm not home in 20 minutes, read this message again."*

*As I was lying around, pondering the problems of the world,*

*I realized that at my age I don't really care any more.*

*.. If walking is good for your health, the postman would be immortal.*

*.. A whale swims all day, only eats fish, drinks water, but is still fat.*

*.. A rabbit runs and hops and only lives 15 years, while*

*.. A tortoise doesn't run and does mostly nothing, yet it lives for 150 years.*

*And you tell me to exercise? I don't think so.*

*Just grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the good fortune to remember the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.*

*Now that I'm older here's what I've discovered:*

*I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.*

*My wild oats are mostly enjoyed with prunes and all-*

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*bran.*

*I finally got my head together, and now my body is falling apart.*

*Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.*

*If all is not lost, then where the heck is it ?*

*It was a whole lot easier to get older, than to get wiser.*

*Some days, you're the top dog; some days you're the lamp post.*

*I wish the buck really did stop here; I sure could use a few of them.*

*Kids in the back seat cause accidents.*

*Accidents in the back seat cause kids.*

*It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.*

*The world only beats a path to your door when you're in the bathroom.*

*If God wanted me to touch my toes, he'd have put them on my knees.*

*When I'm finally holding all the right cards, everyone wants to play chess.*

*It's not hard to meet expenses . . . they're everywhere.*

*The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.*

*These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter . . . I go somewhere to get something, and then wonder what I'm "here after".*

*Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.*

## KAHAROA SCHOOL

The character value for the term is Respect. Our definition is the willingness to treat with courtesy; to hold in high regard; to honour, to care about yourself and others. This means being caring.

Our Key Competency is Self-Manager. A Self Manager (Manage me) - A Kaharoa Kid has the ability to set goals, make plans and evaluate their progress.

We are delighted to be back at school for the 2015 year and are encouraged by the enthusiastic way the students have started the New Year.

The term looks to be a busy one with senior camps, swimming sports, class trips, the trolley derby and other exciting learning opportunities.

Our term started with a 'Meet the Teacher' evening where teachers and parents met to talk about the year ahead. This was well supported by parents and the teachers enjoyed meeting with and sharing their visions.

Manual at WHHS commences for the Year 7 & 8 student on Thursday 12th February. For safety reasons the students are expected to wear closed footwear. Parental reminders to the children will be appreciated.

Room Totara (Year 7 & 8) will start the camps for the year from 25-27 February. They will be going to Tui Ridge for an exciting three days of challenge and adventure!

Room Tawa have a class trip to the museum and library on 27 February. The theme for the museum experience is 'The Body in Action.' This interactive display looks to be interesting and stimulating. A tour and orientation of the library will reinforce to the children just how important reading is to their learning and we hope that all children will join and use this amazing resource.

The winter sports muster will be held over the week 2-6 March. During this time parents will need to register their children for any sport they will be playing over the winter months. More about this will follow in the Kaharoa newsletters.

### Swimming Sports

Junior School swimming sports will be held on Thursday 5 March, commencing 1.00pm. Children in Years 1-3 will be involved in these events. Rural Schools and Senior School swimming sports will be held at Kaharoa on Friday 6 March. We look forward to inviting, and hopefully hosting, the following schools; Koutu, Mamaku, Kaharoa, Whangamarino, Rotokawa, Rotoma, Rotoiti, Horohoro, 7th Day Adventist, Rotorua Primary, Ngongotaha and Chapman College. This event has been well supported by local schools over the years and we look forward to this continuing. The events are for 8 to 13 year old students. We welcome whanau to support the children and cheer them on.

Details regarding senior swimming sports times, along with all the current school news and calendar dates can be found on our Kaharoa School website [www.kaharoa.school.nz](http://www.kaharoa.school.nz)

**Keep Sunday 22 March 2015 free for our Mike Donnelly Memorial Trolley Derby. Entries details and information can also be found on our website. A great day of fun out with the family.**

**Kaharoa Team**

## Todd McClay

### MP FOR ROTORUA



To make an appointment please contact me at:

1241 Amohau Street, PO Box 1099, Rotorua

p 07 348 5871 | f 07 349 6732

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### SPORTS TALK

**Tennis** - Wow with Nadal, Federer, Djokovic, the Williams sisters, Azarenka, Sharapova and co the Aussie open is truly a blue ribbon event an event I must put on the bucket list. I don't think I could stand listening to those Aussie songsters between points though. Serena Williams showed her class in beating Sharapova in the Womens final, and of course shock horror Nadal and Federer were knocked out early, leaving the field open for a Djokovic - Murray final. Djokovic was too good, but he was a bit worried in the second set, however class came through in the end. I see our local boy Shaun Tamai is doing well in the local competition. Good to see you back Shaun.

**Cricket** - NZ is building up well for the World cup but gee the media are building them up as having won it already. The Aussies and SA are going to be tough. Great to see Ronchi and Milne perform recently with the bat. Bowling is a problem area as you have to get wickets and have to catch those catches as they win matches. Had the privilege recently of going to Adelaide Oval to watch India get slaughtered by Australia what an experience in such an amazing ground and \$55-00 per day.

**Netball** - What a great opportunity for the NZ Silver ferns to experiment on the Fiji tour against the hosts and Samoa. Good to see Wai experimenting with some new talent. Hurry back Casey Kopua we need you for the world champs.

**Racing** - I see that local lad Vinnie Colgan ( all the way from Ngongotaha Road) is about 35 wins away from reaching the 1000 wins and Noel Harris who has strong links to Rotorua turned 60 recently. Oh also congrats to team Bill and Suzy Pomare for your recent win with Rich Billie Marsh, boy he can fly up to 1200m. Got to hand it to Opie Bosson, he knows when the big races come around and he along with Michael Coleman, Danielle Johnson, Leith Innes KNOW WHEN TO WIN. I must say the most improved Jockeys are Roy Hutchings, Vanessa Johnston, Rowena Smythe and Anna Jones. Best jockey down south is Chris Johnson who is without Peer. Big day coming up at Te Rapa so watch the horses trained by Baker/Forsman, Shailer and the powerful McKee stable. Lucky number 5 and lucky omen is yellow cap.

**Rugby League** - Local lad Dean Whare All the way from Waiteti ( the aussie say it FARAY) will be at the Rotorua international Stadium on Valentines day when Penrith front up in a pre-season outing with the NZ Warriors. I have a feeling the Warriors are going to do great things this year. So if Vatuvei Johnson and co are you idols see you out at the Stadium.

**Rugby** - Isn't it a great thing to have SBW back in the Chiefs. The other franchises, while they won't admit it are fearful of him as a defensive and attacking player. Whether you like it or not the media play his profile to the max and he is a humble person very focussed on his new baby and wife. What a sportsman and I hope he gets a chance to go to RIO and again win the RWC . The Chiefs are coming to Rotorua in a full competition game against the Bulls in May.

**Athletics** - Well Val Adams (all the way from Western Heights) elevation to World Athlete of the years must elevate her to NZ Sportsman of the Year for 2014. Surely even after the world titles won by Yachting, Rowing and top years by the Kiwis, All Blacks, Black Sticks, Black Soxs etc etc. the standout male sportsman is undoubtedly Richie McCaw.

**Locally** - Ngongotaha soccer junior soccer, Jab rugby and the senior will start training soon best wishes and let's have some Baywide or league champs this year.



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generosity of the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust who provided us with \$4,000 worth of funding for science and water play, as well new fabulous new storage and books for our grown-up's library. A huge thank you to the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust.

We welcome all families whether local or from further afield. Our session times are Mondays and Thursdays from 9.15-11.45am and we'd love to see you there. 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. See you soon!



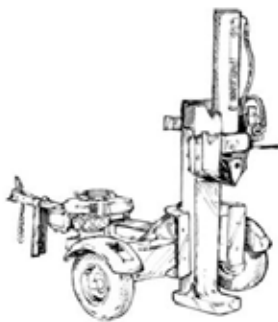
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### IN MY VIEW

Greetings and Happy new Year to everyone.

Special mention to the family and friends of those who lost loved ones since the last issue and I had the privilege of attending the services for Joe Khan Jnr and Dianne Yorke and more recently Stevie Morrison to farewell them.

### Success

Who determines what success is, who gauges what the levels are and are there rules to success. Not in my book. Yes, there are rules and laws to obey and stretch in the game or pursuit you encounter or belong too. But surely success is an individual thing in my view gauged by you and you alone. Do you really care what others think or of those who stand in judgement of whether your successful or not. They do not know you or your goals, dreams or aspirations. So set your own goals, be determined and

care for those effected by what you do and dream away. Only you know what those dreams are (yes I'm a Pisces). Let's ignore the put downs the negative, but reach high. Aim high and dream away.

### Rotorua District Council

Those of us who can remember as far back as 1979 will recall the creation of the Rotorua District Council. It was borne out of the amalgamation of the Rotorua City and Rotorua County Councils. The amalgamation was strenuously opposed by the people in the rural sector especially those in Ngongotaha. So in order to include all sectors in the community the name Rotorua District Council was selected. This meant those in the rural, forestry, farming, geothermal, tourism, residential, lakes and lifestyle sectors were included in a wider district. It was (the name) adopted by the Kirk Labour government reforms in the 1972-75 era. The reforms forced certain amalgamation and government took the lead from Rotorua's stance and they then created Regional and District council under Hon. Michael Bassett the Minister of Local government at the time.

What is ironic for me is that under new mayor Chadwick we all agreed to seek the public IDEA's on where Rotorua and its people should head under the respective portfolios and yet the public wasn't even considered when such an important issue like this for some was not consulted on. This I'm disappointed with as it's supposed to be "We Together" Not "we know best" and we'll box on regardless of what you say. I thought that attitude would change but it hasn't. Such arrogance is demeaning for those who did not want this to be altered or even options considered.

So several months ago not at a committee meeting but a focus group meeting the mention of this was made. In fact several of us elected reps heard about it as a rumour that a major change was muted but we didn't see it as a priority or on the "to do" list or a must or a huge need. Yes there are several mottos at council but we have one coat of arms with Tatau tatau on it meaning "We together". So the Name Rotorua Lakes Council evolved and while I was in Oz on holiday it passed 7-5 and the change made. No consultation with the People. In direct opposition to the stance all councillors took of seeking ideas from the people of Rotorua district hence the Ideas shop. It was considered by the 7 who voted for it that the change was not significant. No public options put forward, "not on your nelly" or important enough to seek public input and was put through. I really object to the name Lakes. Yes we have 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 lakes in the Rotorua district but we have as many rivers, streams, hills and many natural features. But one word that includes everyone is DISTRICT.

We do not see the Queenstown Mountains Council, Taupo River Council, South Waikato Farming Council or Ohakune Carrot Council. Any of those would be as ridiculous. Not much thought went into this and I think it was to deflect the Te Arawa out pouring of public opinion. Now you want to search District councils, which are universally used and known throughout NZ and its Rotorua out on a limb. Confusion with the Lakes District Health Board will occur and it was so named as it incorporates the Taupo District and Rotorua and Lakes are big part of what both districts have in common. Then we have the Rotorua Lakes Community Board cause that includes Lakeside settlements and they pay extra rates as they have another tier of representation.

In May 2015 I will re introduce the Word "District" in the Rotorua district council again and maybe an option like the  
contd overpage .....



Rotorua Lakes District Council could suffice. But the people must have a say but frankly we at council have bigger issues to consider and it's a distraction we do not need. Debt, Airport its future, development of Rotorua, Jobs into the future for our young people, lakes water quality and education opportunities etc

#### **Reserves**

The Ngongotaha Domain or any park in the Ngongotaha/ Mamaku Village or Hamurana, Kaharoa etc are NOT designated as Motorbike tracks or golf driving ranges for you to use as such. Parks are a designated for specific use and the cost of your wheelies is borne by the community. You may think it's smart but your motor bike or four wheeler conflicts with the passive use most parks enjoy. If anyone sees this activity please call the police as it is a form of vandalism.

#### **Rubbish**

Have you noticed a few vehicles travelling North with trailers of rubbish and yet the landfill and recycling centres are south. If you get a chance follow them, get the trailer and vehicle number plates and see where they are dumping and call 07-3484199 to report it. It is costing you and I a fortune to pick up after these lazy people. Please support the Ngongotaha Recycling Centre behind the Memorial hall and the Gull Service station. It is run by the Volunteers from Progress Ngongotaha for a gold coin donation. Awesome community initiative. If it wasn't for previous Mayor we would have our own council operated facility. Is kerbside the answer. Maybe a trial at Ngongotaha would be a good start. No rubbish bags just recycling. If they can do it in the rural parts of Waikato like Taupiri and Gordonton why cant we? (AND REALLY REALLY REALLY RURAL PARTS UP NORTH. ED)

#### **Personal**

Oh well back into it. Our only grandson Charlie is 1, doesn't time fly. I have joined bowls and loving it. Love My work on Council the DHB in Real estate and family. Enjoy.

#### **Cr Charles Sturt**

**Rotorua District Councillor 1989-1994, 1996-**

#### **Why I Like Retirement !**

*Question: How many days in a week?*

*Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday*

*Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?*

*Answer: Two hours after he falls asleep on the couch.*

*Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?*

*Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.*

*Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?*

*Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.*

*Question: Among retirees, what is considered formal attire?*

*Answer: Tied shoes.*

*Question: Why do retirees count pennies?*

*Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.*

*Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?*

*Answer: NUTS!*

*Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?*

*Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.*

*Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?*

*Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.*

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## GREETINGS FROM MAMAKU

Mamaku's citizens are a varied lot. There is a serious farming community with some of the families going back four generations. So close is the district to earlier pioneering days that some of the farm fences even are remnants of when an earlier generation cleared the land and split totara logs and other suitable timber for posts and batons. On Gary and Bronwyn Roe's South Road farm treated pine batons, in places, are only just replacing native timber batons.

Hardened native logs often still lie near where they were felled fifty years ago and when work allows some respite, firewood is gathered from them and the soft glow of their embers brightens many a cold winter night.

Many farms have, in recent years, been converted from sheep and cattle into dairy operations. The costs of additional fencing, races, and a fully modernised milking shed can be from a million upwards. The plunging dairy prices of recent days have sent a collective shiver down the backs of dairy farmers everywhere necessitating careful husbandry of resources. Some farmers remember when a pedigree jersey heifer couldn't fetch a hundred dollars at a sale meaning the would-be seller taking the heifer home and milking it for the season. The economic outcome being a better butterfat price than the cow would bring at a sale.

Then there's the life-style community. Properties range from an acre to fifty acres. And gardens, animals, out-door activities abound. Many of the occupants run businesses in town or work

in Rotorua for large corporations. They enjoy space, room for their horses and very often they pay not much more for a house with acreage than they would pay in town for a house and 500sq metre section. Those that run stock can make a tidy income even with as few as nine or ten head of cattle.

Also the opportunity to enjoy the flavour and tenderness of their own homegrown home-killed meat is very special with meat costs as low as \$5 per kilo.

Between 250 and 300 houses are located in the Mamaku Village. people who choose to live in Mamaku own many of these houses, others are rented out to farm employees, mill workers and younger couples not yet able to afford their own home. Two things are fairly essential for those living in Mamaku, the first is a reliable vehicle to get in and out of town

- there being no bus service and the second is firewood or some other means of keeping the house warm during the cooler six months of the year.

Although the winters are a mere shadow of what they once were it is not uncommon for families with babies and younger children or the elderly to keep their fires going night and day for many months of the year. For some of us the warm glow of a fire is worth the money spent whether it is needed for cold or not.

The list above is not extensive enough to cover all the aspects and undertakings of the citizens of Mamaku, but it gives a cross section of many and perhaps is sufficient to paint a picture of this unique village poised 680 metres above sea level surrounded by flourishing farm-lands and bush remnants and providing Rotorua City with a home-base far enough removed from places of work for many citizens who choose an alternative life style.



*A Reporter asked Hattie pictured above:*

*Can you give us some health tips for reaching the age of 101?*

*Hattie: For better digestion I drink beer.*

*In the case of appetite loss I drink white wine.*

*For low blood pressure I drink Red Wine.*

*In the case of high blood pressure I drink scotch.*

*And when I have a cold I drink Schnapps.*

*Reporter: When do you drink water?*

*Hattie: I've never been that sick*



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The summer months see an influx of boats, kayaks, fishing equipment and water skis into the Rotorua lakes area. As a result, the lakes are increasingly at risk of being invaded by aquatic pests such as koi carp, catfish and terrapins which are all introduced species.

***Whenever you use equipment in a new water way, please take the time to help stop the spread of pest fish and weeds by taking the following steps :***

- Check: Remove all obvious clumps of weed and look for hidden fragments on all equipment
- Clean: Soak and scrub all items for at least 1 minute in either: hot (60C) water, 2% (200ml/10L water) solution of household bleach, or 5% ( 500ml in 10 L) solution of dishwashing detergent.
- Dry: If cleaning is not practical, after the item is completely dry to touch, wait an additional 48 hours before use in another water way.

This applies to ALL equipment used in and around water including lifejackets, kayaks, tramping boots and fishing gear. Weed fragments and fish eggs are easily transferred on such items that haven't been properly cleaned.

Aquatic weeds are present in some of Rotorua's lakes but not all are affected. It is important that we do not transfer weed fragments and fish eggs are easily transferred on such items that haven't been properly cleaned. Nuisance weeds threaten the ecology of the region's waterways as they can form large surface-reaching beds, often smothering native plants communities and reducing scenic and recreational values.

There are no known populations of koi, catfish or terrapins in Rotorua but we are at risk of invasion as equipment is brought to the Rotorua Lakes area from places where the presence of these species has been confirmed.

Red eared sliders – a type of terrapin – create a big problem in the Waikato. These reptiles – which may nip – could have been introduced to lakes from an aquarium. Living up to 40 years, owners often empty aquariums into waterways when the responsibility of owning a pet becomes too much. It is thought that geothermal pockets could create an environment suitable for breeding.

If you suspect you have seen a pest fish, weed or terrapin, please take a photograph and forward to [rotorua@doc.govt.nz](mailto:rotorua@doc.govt.nz).

It is an offence to knowingly spread an unwanted organism (under the Biosecurity act 1993) with penalties of up to 5 years imprisonment, and/or a fine of up to \$100,000.

The **Trustpower Rotorua Community Awards** are run in partnership with the Rotorua Lakes Council and started in 1999. They are all about celebrating and rewarding voluntary groups, and on the night there is \$5000 up for grabs. There is a 10 week promotional period where we call for entries and that kicks off on Monday 23 February.

At the Awards we have an overall Supreme Winner which is announced and last year was the Empowered Learning Trust, in 2013 it was FavAsum and before that the Rotorua Neighbourhood Trust. These overall Supreme Winners head off to the National Community Awards. Here is the website containing a little more information: <http://communityconnect.co.nz/Community-Awards.aspx> **Jess Somerville Community Relations Representative**



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## KAITAO INTERMEDIATE

We welcomed our new year 7's and their parents and it was great to see so many who had come from Ngongotaha Primary School. We have begun the year fully staffed and welcome new staff; Nathalie Jeeves, Academy Leader, Wero Matauranga Denise Sharp, Teacher, Accelerate Academy Alex Juma, Graphic Design/Audio visual Tayla Haumaha, Food Technology/Adventure Learning Support Aiden Ingram, Social Worker in Schools Emma MacDonald, Teacher Aide Margaret Bloomfield, Teacher Aide Tracey Papuni, Deaf Support Teacher Aide We look forward to a very busy term. On the 10th February we will be holding the first curriculum evenings specially for parents developing strategies to help their child at home. The first one will be on reading and on the 12th March we will be holding sessions on mathematics.

February 12th at 7pm sees the introduction of Mobile Learning Devices that the school will supply to our students at a small deposit and small payments over a year. This way we can get most of our kids into e-learning without too much financial hardship for families.

The first of termly whanau evenings will be held on Wednesday 18th February and will be an opportunity for parents to join their child in a series of house based activities.

This term also all classes will be attending a camp or a Marae stay as part of class bonding and team building.

Our school fundraiser for this term will be a Food and Fun Fair to be held on the evening of March 19th from 4pm – 7pm. All classes will be involved in organising one food stall and one activity. Last year this evening was well supported with hundreds turning out.

At the end of March our 20 selected leaders (10 boys and 10 girls) will spend a week at the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre at Tongariro. They will be exposed to a number of Leadership building activities ranging from caving to rafting and following the camp our Head Boy and Head Girl and deputies will be announced.

Our first big cultural event of the year will be the Lip Sync Competition and will follow Student Led Conferences on March 31st. This event is always well supported and last year there was standing room only in our hall.

Grand Circle is groups of American tourists (mainly retired) who visit one school in New Zealand and that is Kaitao. Generally groups of around 30 come once a week and we welcome them with a traditional Powhiri and then they have a tour of the school. Each year they provide us with funding for a project of our choice. This year our project will be the provision of new pui pui for our Kapahaka.

On the property front we are having seven high quality CCTV cameras installed to attempt to further reduce the amount of vandalism we have.

The new Modern Learning Environment classroom block replacing rooms 1 and 2 will be getting underway soon and will be a fantastic addition to our school with its open plan areas and breakout spaces catering for all manner of exciting activities that you would not find in a traditional classroom.

The school will be holding a series of curriculum based evenings for our parents to give them strategies to assist them with helping their child at home with reading and maths. The first of these will be next week and the facilitator will be Sally Muir a renowned expert in literacy and she will share her expertise around reading. Rory O'Rourke Principal

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## Ralph's Comments

Here we are into the New Year and I hope everyone is fit and well and looking forward to many new adventures. I know that I am.

Since the last Newsletter many things have happened.

In December the Lions Club of Ngongotaha hosted their Annual Senior's luncheon which was a great success.

The Lions Club celebrated their 49th Charter Anniversary and we were once again able to present two top students with scholarships to help them continue with their education

I helped once again on the gates at the A & P show and managed to have a chat to a couple of people.

One was a farmer from Paeroa and he knew people that I knew in his area. Another family was from Takapau, Hawkes Bay who camped overnight and was going on to Coromandel to do a spot of fishing. I don't know what they did with their horse but they also had a boat. Maybe the horse was only good for pig hunting. I told them to make sure they visited the Driving Creek Railway while in Coromandel and take the train trip to the Eyeful Tower on top of the hill overlooking the township. It's a must for all visitors and a real tribute to Barry Brickell and the willing band of helpers he has had over the years to make the project possible.

Isn't it great to see the old sales yards being spruced up and put to good use, instead of being an eye sore? And across the road the railway park is also nice and tidy so the volunteers who do all the work must be congratulated for their efforts.

Now what about those adventures I keep seeing that railway advert on T V so am very tempted to do the trip from Christchurch to Greymouth and return. I hope it is good as the ad. And maybe a trip to Australia would be good as well.

So with that I'll say best wishes to all - Ralph

*A high school teacher was arrested today at Sydney's Kingsford-Smith International airport as he attempted to board a flight while in possession of a ruler, a protractor, a compass, a slide-rule and a calculator.*

*At the press conference, the Attorney General said he believes the man is a member of the notorious extremist Al-Gebra movement.*

*He did not identify the man, who has been charged by the AFP with carrying weapons of maths instruction.*

*'Al-Gebra is a problem for us', the Attorney General said. 'They derive solutions by means and extremes, and sometimes go off on tangents in search of absolute values.' They use secret code names like "X" and "Y" and refer to themselves as "unknowns;" but we have determined that they belong to a common denominator of the axis of medieval with coordinates in every country. As the Greek philosopher Isosceles used to say, "There are three sides to every triangle."*

*When asked to comment on the arrest, the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott said, "If God had wanted us to have better weapons of maths instruction, He would have given us more fingers and toes."*

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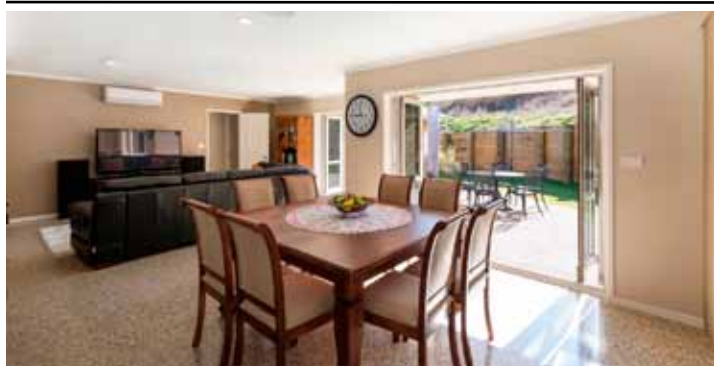
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**NGONGOTAHA 21 Mohi Crescent**  
 SURPRISE PACKAGE

Beautifully presented, spacious home on a 2115m2 section featuring exceptional indoor outdoor flow for entertaining. Sun filled and private, 4 bedrooms and a lovely separate lounge. Large open plan family room with log fire and heat pump, designer kitchen with amazing bench space, room for 2 fridges, great storage and soft close drawers. Amazing polished concrete floors, double glazed throughout, great large double garage and lovely private section. Perfection!

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**NGONGOTAHA 3 Operiana Street**  
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Everyone is very happy and in evening dress. They run to greet him, shake his hand, and reminisce about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people.

They play a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster, caviar and champagne.

Also present is the devil, who really is a very friendly & nice guy who has a good time dancing and telling jokes. They are having such a good time that before he realizes it, it is time to go.

Everyone gives him a hearty farewell and waves while the elevator rises....

The elevator goes up, up, up and the door reopens on heaven where St. Peter is waiting for him.

'Now it's time to visit heaven.'

So, 24 hours pass with the MP joining a group of contented souls moving from cloud to cloud, playing the harp and singing. They have a good time and, before he realizes it, the 24 hours have gone by and St. Peter returns.

'Well, then, you've spent a day in hell and another in heaven.

Now choose your eternity.' The MP reflects for a minute, then he answers: 'Well, I would never have said it before, I mean heaven has been delightful, but I think I would be better off in hell.' So St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell.

Now the doors of the elevator open and he's in the middle of a barren land covered with waste and garbage.

He sees all his friends, dressed in rags, picking up the trash and putting it in black bags as more trash falls from above.

The devil comes over to him and puts his arm around his shoulder: 'I don't understand,' stammers the MP. 'Yesterday I was here

and there was a golf course and clubhouse, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne, and danced and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of garbage and my friends look haunted and miserable.

What happened? 'The devil looks at him, smiles and says, 'Yesterday we were campaigning'. ..... "Today you voted".

### TOMATO RELISH

#### Ingredients

500g fresh tomatoes or	2 x 430g tinned tomatoes
2 medium onions	2 cloves garlic
1 cup Chelsea Raw Sugar	1/2 cup cider vinegar
2 tsp salt	2 tsp curry powder
2 tsp mustard powder	2 tsp cornflour
1-2 Tbsp extra vinegar	

#### Method

Fresh tomatoes: cut a small cross on the top of each tomato, place in large bowl, cover with boiling water, leave for a minute. Drain and rinse with cold water, peel off skins.

Tinned tomatoes: drain off juice and set aside.

Roughly chop the tomatoes; finely chop the onions and garlic. Place the tomatoes, onions, garlic, sugar, vinegar and salt in a large saucepan and bring to the boil, reduce to a medium heat and gently cook for 15-20 mins.

Mix the curry powder, mustard and cornflour with the extra vinegar to a smooth paste, stir into the tomatoes and cook until thickened.

Spoon into warm, sterilised jars and seal. Refrigerate once opened.

Makes: 1 large 500ml jar.

Tip: Goes well with cheese, cold sliced meats, burgers, sausages or steak. Serve with frittata or add to wraps and sandwiches. If using tinned tomatoes, save the discarded juice to use in pasta sauces, casseroles and soups.

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While walking down the street one day a Member of Parliament is tragically hit by a truck and dies. His soul arrives in heaven and is met by St. Peter at the entrance. 'Welcome to heaven,' says St Peter: 'Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We seldom see a high official around these parts, you see, so we're not sure what to do with you.'

'No problem, just let me in,' says the man. 'Well, I'd like to, but I have orders from higher up. What we'll do is have you spend one day in hell and one in heaven. Then you can choose where to spend eternity.' 'Really, I've made up my mind. I want to be in heaven,' says the MP. 'I'm sorry, but we have our rules.' And with that, St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell. The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a green golf course. In the distance is a clubhouse and standing in front of it are all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him.



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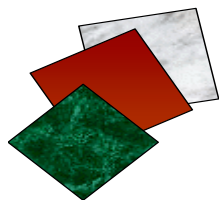
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## Food for thought!!!

Lessons about the way we treat people.

### *First Important Lesson - Cleaning Lady.*

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one: 'What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?' Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50's, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. 'Absolutely,' said the professor. 'In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'hello.' I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

### *2. - Second Important Lesson - Pickup in the Rain*

One night, at 11:30 p.m., an older African American woman was standing on the side of an Alabama highway trying to endure a lashing rain storm. Her car had broken down and she desperately needed a ride. Soaking wet, she decided to flag down the next car. A young white man stopped to help her, generally unheard of in those conflict-filled 1960's. The man took her to safety, helped her get assistance and put her into a taxicab. She seemed to be in a big hurry, but wrote down his address and thanked him. Seven days went by and a knock came on the man's door. To his surprise, a giant console color TV was delivered to his home. A special note was attached. It read: 'Thank you so much for assisting me on the highway the other night. The rain drenched not only my clothes, but also my spirits. Then you came along. Because of you, I was able to make it to my dying husband's bedside just before he passed away... God bless you for helping me and unselfishly serving others.'

Sincerely, Mrs. Nat King Cole.

### *3 - Third Important Lesson - Always remember those who serve.*

In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. 'How much is an ice cream sundae?' he asked. 'Fifty cents,' replied the waitress. The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. 'Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?' he inquired. By now more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. 'Thirty-five cents,' she brusquely replied. The little boy again counted his coins. 'I'll have the plain ice cream,' he said. The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies..

You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

### *4 - Fourth Important Lesson. - The obstacle in Our Path.*

In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way. Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he

contd overpage.....



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contd from page 20.....

noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand!

Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

#### **5 - Fifth Important Lesson - Giving When it Counts...**

Many years ago, when I worked as a volunteer at a hospital, I got to know a little girl named Liz who was suffering from a rare & serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year old brother, who had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness. The doctor explained the situation to her little brother, and asked the little boy if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister. I saw him hesitate for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, 'Yes I'll do it if it will save her.' As the transfusion progressed, he lay in bed next to his sister and smiled, as we all did, seeing the color returning to her cheek. Then his face grew pale and his smile faded. He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, 'Will I start to die right away'. Being young, the little boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give his sister all of his blood in order to save her.

#### **BEETROOT RELISH**

##### **Ingredients**

1kg uncooked beetroot, minced/grated

500g onion, minced/grated

2 cups Chelsea white sugar

1 tsp salt

1 tsp all-spice

Vinegar - enough to cover ingredients

2 Tbs cornflour and vinegar, mixed together

##### **Method**

Stove top cooking.

Add all ingredients to a pot and add enough vinegar to cover mixture. Boil for 30 mins.

Thicken with cornflour mixture & boil a further 5 mins.

Bottle into a sterilised bottle. Keeps like jam.

*This is the story of the poor blonde flying in a two-seater airplane with just the pilot. He has a heart attack and dies. She, frantic, calls out a May Day. "May Day! May Day! Help me! Help me! My pilot had a heart attack and is dead. And I don't know how to fly. Help me! Please help me!" She hears a voice over the radio saying:*

*"This is Air Traffic Control and I have you loud and clear. I will talk you through this and get you back on the ground. I've had a lot of experience with this kind of problem.*

*'Now, just take a deep breath. Everything will be fine! Now give me your height and position.'*

*She says, "I'm 5'4" and I'm in the front seat."*

*"O.K." says the voice on the radio....*

*"Repeat after me: Our Father. . Who art in heaven.*

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# Ngongotaha Medical Centre has achieved Cornerstone accreditation.



Cornerstone is general practice accreditation and celebrates a practice wide commitment to meet standards set by the New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP).

**“The Cornerstone standard is a way we can demonstrate our commitment to high quality patient care and patient safety” said General Manager Yvonne Chadwick. “The Cornerstone process helped us to write down all of our knowledge and experience. Then an assessor, appointed by the NZCGP, visits the practice and reviews that we actually do what we have written down.”**

**The Cornerstone Assessor said in her report that “ the {NMC} team demonstrated a real passion for their work and the people they service.”**

## Pumpkins

Pumpkins are an easy to grow vegetable that even the most novice of gardeners will have success with.

Varieties:

- Common eating varieties: Crown, Queensland Blue, Crown Prince, Butternut
- Old fashioned varieties: Tiamble and Marina di Chioggia are worth looking out for.
- Small varieties for tubs and pots: Triamble, Baby Bear, Peak A Boo
- Giant Pumpkins: Atlantic Giant, Big Boy – these pumpkins are not used for eating.

### ***When, where and how to plant:***

Germinate seeds in late winter or early spring in sheltered areas or after the frosts have finished in cold areas, unless you have a glass house. You can expect to see seedlings appear in 7 to 10 days. Seedlings and young plants are frost tender. Choose a sunny position and dig over the site well. Pumpkins love rich soil so add plenty of compost and well rotted manure or sheep pellets. You can grow pumpkins in containers if space is an issue, choose a smaller growing variety and a large container and place pot in a sunny position.

### ***Growing Guide***

Pumpkins need a long growing season of approx 4 - 6 months depending on where you live. Plant out as soon as threats of frosts have past and keep well watered while the

plant is establishing. Pinch out main stems once growth starts to encourage more lateral stems, this will give you a heavier crop of fruit. To encourage large pumpkins allow only two to three to develop on each plant. Remove excess leaves to aid ripening of Pumpkins, but don't be tempted to remove too many leaves as this will reduce the amount the plant can photosynthesize limiting growth and potential flavour. Water in the morning where possible and avoid getting water on the foliage. In some areas you may need to lift pumpkins up off cold wet ground onto straw, cardboard or boards to prevent fruit from rotting.

Harvest:

The general rule of thumb is to harvest pumpkins after the first frost. If you live in a mild climate you may pick once the pumpkins have coloured up and sound hollow when you knock the shell with your knuckles. If the skin of the pumpkin is hard and doesn't leave a dent when 'knocked' it is ripe. Once the leaves have died away is another way to know your pumpkins are ripe. Then pick - cut the pumpkins from the vine leaving the stem on the Pumpkin. This is important because if you cut it off you leave a wound which may cause the pumpkin to rot rather than store well. Place in a dry, dark place away from rain and weather. Garages, wood sheds and tool sheds are perfect – just keep them up off the ground.

How to use:

Pumpkin can be used in numerous ways in Soups, cakes, muffins, pies, risottos, roasted and mashed.



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## PUMPKIN SOUP

### Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 brown onion, coarsely chopped
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1.2 kg butternut pumpkin, peeled, seeded, coarsely chopped
- 1L (4 cups) chicken or vegetable stock
- Dollop of natural yoghurt
- 1 garlic clove
- Naan bread, to serve

### Method

#### Step 1

Spice up the base: Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Cook onion, stirring, for 5 minutes or until golden. Add cumin and cook, stirring for 1 minute or until aromatic.

#### Step 2

Simmer the soup: Add pumpkin and stir to coat. Add stock. Simmer for 20 minutes or until the pumpkin is soft. Set aside to cool slightly. Use a stick blender to blend until smooth.

#### Step 3

Serve it up: Cut Turkish bread in half and cook on a chargrill until golden. Drizzle with extra virgin olive oil and rub with the cut side of a garlic clove. Ladle soup among serving bowls. Top with a dollop of natural yoghurt. Serve with the bread.

*A man staggered into a hospital with a concussion, multiple bruises, two black eyes, and a five iron wrapped tightly around his throat. Naturally, the Doctor asked him, "What happened to YOU?" "Well, I was having a quiet round of golf with my wife, when at a difficult hole, we both sliced our golf balls into a field of cattle. We went to look for them and while I was looking*

*around I noticed one of the cows had something white at its rear end." "I walked over, lifted its tail, and sure enough, there was a golf ball with my wife's monogram on it - stuck right in the middle of the cow's behind. Still holding the cow's tail up, I yelled to my wife, 'Hey, this looks like yours!'" "I don't remember much after that".*

*This guy brings his best golf buddy home, unannounced, for dinner at 6:30, after golf. His wife screams her head off while his friend sits open mouthed and listens to the tirade.*

*"My bloody hair & makeup are not done, the house is a mess, the dishes aren't done. Can't you see I'm still in my pajamas and I can't be bothered with cooking tonight! Why the did you bring him home unannounced you stupid idiot?" "Because he's thinking of getting married."*

*Brains of older people are slow because they know so much...*

*People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains, scientists believe. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full up, so to do humans take longer to access information, it has been suggested.*

*Researchers say this slowing down it is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more. Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.*

**SO THERE!!**

## EATING IN THE FIFTIES

Pasta had not been invented.

Curry was a surname.

A takeaway was a mathematical problem.

A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put the salt on or not.

A Chinese chippy was a foreign carpenter.

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner.

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Coffee only came with chicory, and came in a bottle.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Only Heinz made beans.

Fish didn't have fingers in those days.

Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

People who didn't peel potatoes were regarded as lazy.

Indian restaurants were only found in India.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognised food.

"Kebab" was not even a word never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.

Water came out of the tap, if someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on our table in the fifties .. was elbows!

At last a guy has taken the time to write this all down ...

Finally, the guys' side of the story. ( I must admit, it's pretty good.) We always hear 'the rules' From the female side now here are the rules from the male side.

Please note.. these are all numbered '1 ' ON PURPOSE!

1. Men are NOT mind readers.

1. Learn to work the toilet seat. You're a big girl. If it's up, put it down. We need it up, you need it down. You don't hear us complaining about you leaving it down.

1. Sports. It's like the full moon or the changing of the tides. Let it be.

1. Crying is blackmail.

1. Ask for what you want. Let us be clear on this one: Subtle hints do not work! Strong hints do not work! Obvious hints do not work! Just say it!

1. Yes and No are perfectly acceptable answers to almost every question.

1. Come to us with a problem only if you want help solving it. That's what we do. Sympathy is what your girlfriends are for.

1. Anything we said 6 months ago is inadmissible in an argument. In fact, all comments become null and void after 7 Days.

1. If you think you're fat, you probably are. Don't ask us..

1. If something we said can be interpreted two ways, and one of the ways makes you sad or angry, we meant the other one ...

1. You can either ask us to do something, or tell us how you want it done. Not both ! If you already know best how to do it, just do it yourself.

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0274 958326 or 3325811  
email: suzyjac@xtra.co.nz

## NGONGOTAHA SCHOOL

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

Welcome back for the 2015 school year. We do hope you have all had a good break enjoying this stunning summer and we look forward to another busy school year.

We welcome all the families, and children, who have joined the school this year.

This year we welcome Lee Anne Bidois, Mata Daniels and Andria Studman to our team. Lee Anne Bidois and Mata Daniels join our rumaki team – Te Whanau Maunga while Andria Studman joins Te Whanau Wai. We look forward to your contribution to Ngongotaha School.

Our annual prize giving was held at the end of 2014 where we said farewell to our year six children as they move onto their intermediate schooling. Congratulations to all who were recognised with class or school awards.

Congratulations to Emma Herbert and Ulysses Kelly who were awarded the Kelso Achievement Award for 2014.

Congratulations to Cate Gulliford who was awarded the Mainfreight Award for Excellence in Attitude for 2014.

Congratulations to Holly Cash and Tieke Te Pairi who were awarded the Maori Culture Awards for 2014.

We had a number of new awards introduced in 2014:

x3 GREAT Awards – Julius Smith, Meg Chrystie and Ella Hudson. x2 Contribution to School Awards – Joy Zhu and Courtney Dodson. x3 Excellence in Te Reo Awards – Ulysses Kelly, Noah Beckham and Toko Beckham. Most Promising Sport Boy and Girl Year 1 or 2 – Amo Kiel and Brodee Hunter. Most Promising Sport Boy and Girl Year 3 or 4 – Kaea Nepia and Tanetekohurangi Forrest. Outstanding Contribution to Sport Year 5 or 6 – Rhiannon Hunter and Daniel Simpkins. Each class also awarded 2 book prizes – Citizenship and Application to Studies.

We ran two prize-giving assemblies due to the number of children in the school and the excellent attendance by families.

This worked very well and we will do this again this year.

This year the staff started the year with a Marae visit to Parawai Marae. We started with a walk from Waiteti to Parawai. We were fortunate to have Henry Colbert as our guide and learnt much about the history of both marae and surrounding areas. We thank Henry for his expertise and the sharing of his wealth of knowledge.

This year our concept curriculum has an Arts focus with an emphasis on music – “The Migration of Music” will be the overarching theme. During term one we will work through “Sounds of Music”, term two “Journeys of Music”, term three “Creating Music” and term four “Celebrating Music”. Each term will start with a WOW day to motivate the children ready for the term. This term we had a number of music stations set up in the Whare for children to experiment at. This included environmental sound making, instrument experimentation and creation. The children enjoyed this opportunity and we look forward to the development over the year. If you are able to support us with music in any way please come in and see Nerida Bowater or phone the office for us to follow up.

Our swimming pool is up and running and children have begun the swimming programme. Swimming is an important skill for all children to acquire as we have access to so much water in New Zealand. Please support this programme by ensuring your child has their togs and towel when they have swimming.

At this time of year many children are returning to school after a break. Please be extra careful when you are driving near the school and in the community, also be extra careful new school bus routes as children sometimes act impulsively. Please take extra care at this time. contd overpage.....

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We have a GALA Day planned for Saturday 28th February from 9.00am to 1.00pm. We look forward to your attendance and your support of the school. We look forward to another GREAT year at Ngongotaha School.

Term One: Monday 2nd February to Wednesday 1st April – 9 weeks

Term Two: Monday 20th April to Friday 3rd July – 11 weeks

Term Three: Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September – 10 weeks

Term Four: Monday 12th October to Friday 18th December – 10 weeks

We wish you all the very best for 2015.

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

**Cathryn Naera and staff of Ngongotaha School**

*From the Library.....*

**Blood Magick Nora Roberts**

Branna O'Dwyer has a rich and remarkable life. Her little shop in County Mayo is thriving and her close circle of friends and family have found love and happiness. But Branna's own heart remains closed - to protect herself and the man she loves from a terrible threat. She reached out once to Finbar Burke - and it almost destroyed them both. Fin and Branna have both inherited a gift for magic, but Fin shares his blood with an old and terrible enemy. And so the two friends have kept their distance, both secretly yearning for the impossible. That distance has kept them safe - and unhappy. But as a final battle draws close, Branna and Fin are brought irresistibly together. And while they succumb to the heat between them, there can be no promises for tomorrow ...

**Burn Author: James Patterson & Michael Ledwidge**

At last, Detective Michael Bennett and his family are coming home to New York City. Thanks to Bennett, the ruthless crime lord whose vengeful mission forced the Bennett family into hiding has been brought down for good.

Back in the city that never sleeps, Bennett takes over a chaotic Outreach Squad in Harlem, where he receives an unusual call: a man claims to have seen a group of well-dressed men holding a bizarre party in a condemned building. With no clear crime or evidence, Bennett dismisses the report. But when a charred body is found in that very same building, he is forced to take the caller seriously - and is drawn into an underground criminal world of terrifying depravity...

**Everyday Delicious by Chelsea Winter**

Chelsea's bestselling first book *At My Table* is loved by many for its tasty and hearty recipes. Her second book contains the same relaxed, accessible style of Kiwi food but it focuses more on 'week-night' style meals that are quick and easy to whip up. And as with all Chelsea's recipes, they are absolutely delicious. It's a lively and fast-paced book, pitched nicely for young families who are pushed for time. Chelsea is fun and high-energy and her new book reflects this perfectly - it's casual, young, spontaneous, fresh and bright. Her food is good straight-forward Kiwi food - mainstream and unpretentious. Two of her most popular recipes are chicken pie and strawberry cheesecake. Delicious and no-fuss.

**Flesh and Blood by Patricia Cornwell**

It's Dr. Kay Scarpetta's birthday and she's about to head to Miami for a vacation with her FBI profiler husband Benton Wesley when she notices seven pennies on a wall behind their Cambridge house. Is this a kids' game? If so, why are all of the coins dated 1981 and so shiny it's as if they're newly minted? Then her cellphone rings, and Detective Pete Marino tells her there's been a homicide five minutes away. A high school music teacher has been shot with shocking precision as he unloaded groceries from his car. No one heard or saw a thing. It's as if God did it. In this 22nd Scarpetta novel, the master forensic sleuth finds herself in the middle of a nightmarish pursuit of a serial sniper who seems to leave no evidence except fragments of copper. The shots are so perfect, they cause instant death and seem impossible, and the death scenes aren't crime scenes because the killer was never within hundreds of yards of the victims. The victims seem to have nothing in common, and there is no pattern that might indicate where the Copperhead will strike next. First New Jersey, then Massachusetts, and then into the murky depths off the coast of South Florida, where Scarpetta dives a shipwreck, looking for answers that only she can discover and analyze. There she must face an unthinkable truth that points in the direction of her techno genius niece, Lucy, Scarpetta's own flesh and blood.



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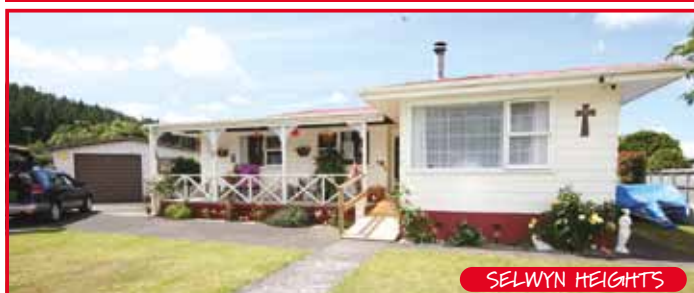


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