



NGONGOTAHA NEWS

The Sunny side of the Mountain -

FLUORIDE FREE NGONGOTAHA

Editor Ann Henderson - email: annhend@extra.co.nz

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website: www.ngongotahanews.co.nz

Next deadline Friday 3rd June 11am

MAY 2016 issue

Three very proud Whanau of Waiteti - all supporting the achievements of Renee Ngatai, Bachelor of Sports and Leisure and she will finish her teaching degree this year, Tawi Roberts - Bachelor of Teaching, and also Delta King with a Degree in Psychology



Lavinia, Moana, Tim, Delta, Moses Whakaue (Dad), Shiney King (Mum), Miria, Mohi and Kararaina

Renee Ngatai, daughter of Roger and Donna Ngatai, and I think that is little sister Leah in the background



To the left, Tawi Roberts with her family, plus proud parents Katherine and Willie Roberts





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HERE AND THERE.....

Burglary

A few nights ago a resident had everything that was cartable on their deck stolen while they were in the house including a very heavy bird bath- a lamp burner from Mike Steiner's, pot plants, all the candles, vase of flowers etc on the outside table etc etc etc. It must have been planned as it happened after dark, given no-one walks randomly past at night walks up to someone's deck when they have their windows open.

I personally had something happen to my grand-daughter that still angers me.

She is on her Learners Licence, so I was accompanying her to work on a Saturday morning approx 3 weeks ago. This was at 7.30am.

As we approached the 60k sign at the top of Fairy Springs Road, near Mitais, I heard her say "oh my God" Next minute we were overtaken or undertaken on the left hand side (we hadn't reached the double lanes) by an idiot driving a white holden commodore, he hit us on the left hand rear wheel, narrowly missing the petrol tank, and sped on through on the inside of us, I mean between us and the curb, pity he didn't hit the power pole. Did he stop - NO. I got the Registration Number and phoned the Police, and a very nice man who was following us in a Car Transporter Truck witnessed it all too. He later told me that he was following the idiot along Ngongotaha Road and dropped back a bit as the driver was driving very irracially. Have I heard from the Police since - NO. There is a lunatic driving around out there somewhere with a dented front right mudguard. Meanwhile, my Grand-daughter has to front up with \$600 Excess on her insurance policy and she will probably lose her No Claims bonus for something that was not her fault. Only positive thing, was that we were not hurt. **Editor**



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| Day | Time | Venue |
|-----------|-------------------|---|
| Monday | 1.30pm – 2.15pm | Ngongotaha Community Hall, 5 School Road, Ngongotaha |
| Tuesday | 10.30am – 11.15am | Rotorua East Bowling Club, 26 Warwick Drive, Lynmore |
| Tuesday | 1.00pm – 1.45pm | Parksyde Older Persons Community Centre, 7-9 Tarewa Place, Rotorua |
| Tuesday | 2.00pm – 2.45pm | Parksyde Older Persons Community Centre, 7-9 Tarewa Place, Rotorua |
| Wednesday | 9.45am – 10.30am | Mokoia Association Community Hall, 297 Vaughan Road, Owkata |



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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 – 1 ½ hr gentle walk.

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

Saturday 14th May – Aung Mang – Myanmar Evangelical School of Theology St Barnabas Hall 10.00am

Parent Election Notice

Kaharoa School Board of trustees' election

Nominations are invited for the election of 5 parent representatives to the board of trustees.

A nomination form and a notice calling for nominations have been posted to all eligible voters.

You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself (make sure you sign both parts of the form).

Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office.

Nominations close at noon on Friday 20 May 2016 and may be accompanied by signed candidates' statements.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

Voting closes at noon on Friday 3rd June 2016.

Heidi Vosse

Returning Officer

HAVANWANT

I have: a large wine barrel and a medium wine barrel

I want: \$140 and \$80 cash ---- Phone 3572335

Seniors.....

I still like to rock, still like to cruise in my Camaro on Saturday nights and still like to play the guitar.

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Operations & Monitoring Committee

Deputy Chairman

Kauae Cemetery Trust Member

Ngati Whakaue Gifted Reserves Protocol

Committee Member

Te Maioha o Parekarangi Youth Justice Community

Liaison Committee Member

P/F: 07 349 3315

M: 0274 836 306

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Mamaku's long, summer has experienced many flies, glorious days, pleasant nights and only the heightened colour of the leaves to remind us that we are now but four weeks away from winter's start. While this summer has been memorable in more ways than one, perhaps the singularly most depressing event for the villagers was to awake to find the Church of St. Peter's on the Rock engulfed in flames. The seared remnants of this once-proud building where in years past many had prayed to and thanked their Creator was sadly familiar. How many schools, churches, marae buildings, etc. have been burnt down by similar, mindless, acts of vandalism?

But while the Mamaku community will grieve over its loss, too many good things exist to keep us down too long. The recently RLC refurbished Youth Space is well patronised by the young and older people feel a great debt of gratitude to the Rotorua Lakes Council for their generosity and concern in providing such an excellent resource.

A bus shelter has been mooted and may well be in place for the coming winter. How grateful students will feel to be sheltered from the wind, rain and occasional snow while waiting for their transport to college. Even somewhere to sit while waiting will be appreciated.

For the older folk a monthly morning get-together in the Mamaku Hall has been arranged by Lynne Fleet and her group,

providing activities such as cards, table tennis, bowls and just the chance for a chat. On the opening day there was a splendid display of home cooking provided by the ladies of the community. Anyone who went home hungry must have been too distracted by the activities. It is hoped this may become a fortnightly event as and when additional helpers are found. Well done Lynne – we older folk really enjoyed ourselves.

On the farm dairy prices have recently moved marginally upwards, and sheep, lamb and cattle are bringing in good returns. Wool has slipped somewhat but given a colder winter in the Far East the price should rise, hopefully soon. All we need now is a moderate winter, an early spring, flush growth and lots of it. The farmers will do the rest and if world prices reflect the true value of NZ's produce we'll be back to black ink before we know it.

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Garage Sale * Garage Sale

*Garage Sale

at the Ngongotaha Hall,

School road,

Ngongotaha

Saturday 28th May 2016

From 7.30am to 11am

**hosted by Ngongotaha Lions
to raise funds for Community
projects. See you all there.**

*BEST LAWYER / INSURANCE STORY OF THE YEAR,
DECADE AND POSSIBLY THE CENTURY.*

This actually took place in Charlotte, North Carolina.

A lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, then insured them against, among other things, fire. Within a month, having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars, the lawyer filed a claim against the insurance company. In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost 'in a series of small fires.' The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason, that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion. The lawyer sued and WON!

Delivering the ruling, the judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The judge stated nevertheless, that the lawyer held a policy from the company, in which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable 'fire' and was obligated to pay the claim.

*Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000 to the lawyer for his loss of the cigars that perished in the 'fires'.
NOW FOR THE BEST PART...*

After the lawyer cashed the check, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!! With his own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000 fine. This true story won First Place in last year's Criminal Lawyers Awards.

On their honeymoon, the bride slipped into a sexy nightie and, with great anticipation, crawled into bed, only to find her new husband had settled down on the couch. When she asked him why he was apparently not going to make love to her, he replied, 'It's Lent.' In tears, she sobbed, 'Well, that is the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard! Who did you lend it to, and for how long?'

I was standing at the bar one night, minding my own business. This FAT ugly chick came up behind me, grabbed my behind and said, "You're kind'a cute. You gotta phone number?" I said, "Yeah, you gotta pen?" She said, "Yeah, I got a pen". I said, "You better get back in it before the farmer misses you." I got 6 stitches...but, when you're over sixty.....who cares?

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\$3.3M FUND SEEKS LAND USE SOLUTIONS

Bay of Plenty Regional Council, on behalf of the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme is asking for expressions of interest from landowners, researchers and the general public to help come up with solutions to reduce the amount of nitrogen entering Lake Rotorua from land use activities.

The Low Nitrogen Land Use Fund of \$3.3 million is jointly funded by Regional Council and Ministry for the Environment (MfE) with \$1.5 million of that offered in the first round. The fund will support landowners with making their required nitrogen reductions as part of the long term solution to protect Lake Rotorua water quality.

Anna Grayling, Regional Council's principal advisor Rotorua Catchments, invites individuals and groups with an idea or initiative that could make a difference to contact Regional Council.

"This could be landowners who have successfully reduced nitrogen on their farm or professionals who want to trial a proven crop or land use.

"We know there are people out there devoting much of their time to the science behind reducing the amount of nitrogen reaching waterways and we want to share that information with others.

Proposals to promote initiatives that have already shown to be working in the Lake Rotorua catchment, research in to how initiatives working in other areas could be implemented in Rotorua, and new initiatives that haven't yet been formally investigated will be considered.

"Some landowners may need to make significant changes to what they are currently doing and we want to ensure that they are provided with credible information that enables them to make informed decisions about what they do on their land."

Staff will evaluate expressions of interest to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria and successful applicants will be asked to submit a full application for funding. Expressions of interest close on May 20, 2016.

More details and the expressions of interest form can be found at: www.rotorualakes.co.nz/low-nitrogen-land-use-fund

For further media information, please contact Hariata Ngatai, Marketing and Communications Advisor, on 0800 884 880 or 027 588 8170

Additional Information:

The Low Nitrogen Land Use Fund is delivered under the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme. The purpose of the unique programme is to enable a sustainable economic, lifestyle and cultural future for 12 of the lakes in the Rotorua district.

To reach water quality standards set with the community for Lake Rotorua a reduction of 320 tonnes of nitrogen entering Lake Rotorua is required. The parts of the solution for achieving long term sustainable water quality for Lake Rotorua have been developed with the community.

- 140 tonnes of nitrogen reductions will be achieved through regulatory rules (Lake Rotorua Nutrient Management – Proposed Plan Change 10).

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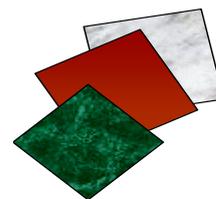
- 100 tonnes of nitrogen reductions will be achieved through voluntary land use change (Lake Rotorua Incentives Programme).
 - 30 tonnes of nitrogen reductions will be achieved through voluntary gorse conversion (Gorse Conversion Programme).
 - 50 tonnes of nitrogen reductions will be achieved through engineering initiatives.
- In total, \$47.5 million of joint funding from MfE and Regional Council is available to achieve the reductions and support affected landowners.
- \$2.2 million - Land Use Advice and Support service to assist landowners with reaching their requirements under the regulatory rules.
 - \$3.3 million – Low Nitrogen Land Use Fund to provide solutions for landowners who need to make significant reductions under the regulatory rules.
 - \$40 million – Lake Rotorua Incentives Programme to compensate for nitrogen reductions made by landowners below what they are required to do under the regulatory rules.
 - \$2 million – Gorse Conversion Programme to remove gorse and convert it into low nitrogen land use.

Once upon a time, all the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one small boy came with an umbrella. That's FAITH
 WHEN You throw a baby in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That's TRUST
 Almost 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 absolutely no knowledge of the future. That's CONFIDENCE
 We see the world suffering and in turmoil, but still we get married. That's LOVE
 On an old woman's shirt was written a cute sentence - 'I Am Not 60 Years Old., I Am Sweet 16 with 44 Years' Experience.' That's ATTITUDE
 Now that you've been blessed, don't be stingy with the blessing – pass this on! That's CARING

*Here's a truly heartwarming story about the bond formed between a little 4-year-old girl & some construction workers that will make you believe that we all can make a difference when we give a child the gift of our time. A young family moved into a house, next to a vacant lot. One day, a construction crew turned up to start building a house on the empty lot.. The young family's 4-year-old daughter naturally took an interest in all the activity going on next door and spent much of each day observing the workers. Eventually the construction crew, all of them "gems-in-the-rough," more or less adopted her as a kind of project mascot. They chatted with her, let her sit with them while they had coffee and lunch breaks, & gave her 20 little jobs to do here and there to make her feel important. At the end of the first week, they even presented her with a pay envelope containing ten dollars. The little girl took this home to her mother who suggested that she take her 10 dollars "pay" she'd received to the bank the next day to start a savings account. When the girl and her mom got to the bank, the teller was equally impressed & asked the little girl how she had come by her very own pay check at such a young age. The little girl proudly replied, "I worked last week with a real construction crew building the new house next door to us." "Oh my goodness gracious," said the teller, "and will you be working on the house again this week, too?" The little girl replied, "I will, if those a@#\$\$%^*s at Home Depot ever deliver the &^%\$#@! drywall."*

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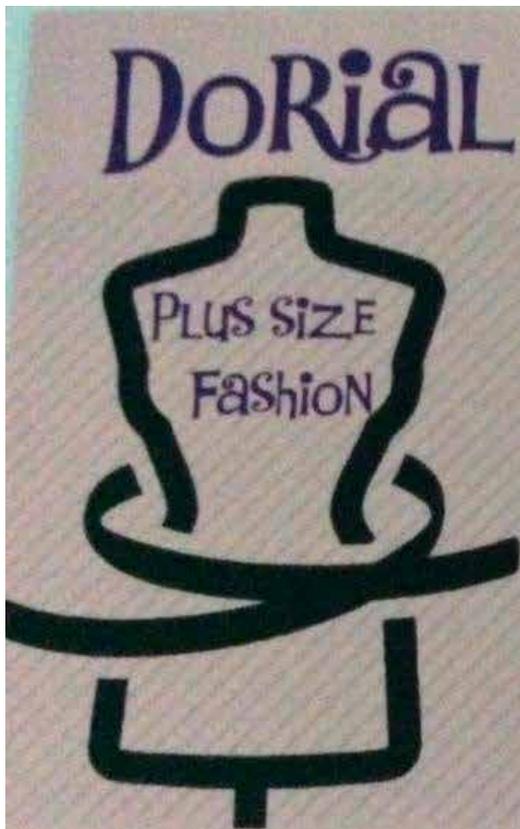
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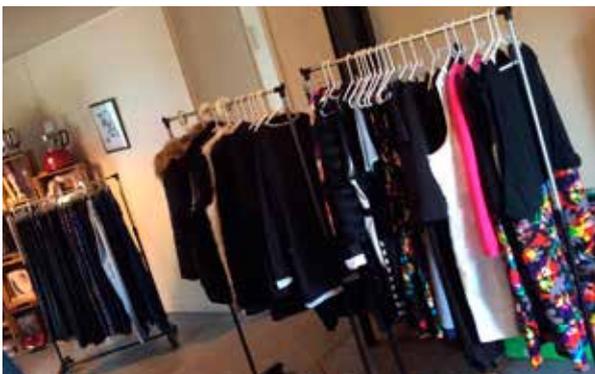


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“Where is the Transport Funding for Ngongotaha”

When is the Rotorua Lakes Council going to receive the long demanded funds to improve the Ngongotaha Roundabout, the Hemo Gorge and the Te Ngae Road upgrades?

The Ngongotaha Village has suffered long enough with a roundabout that badly needs only slight improvements; a slip lane for traffic at the roundabout is all that is needed to prevent traffic jams going all the way through the village and out the other side. That should then lead into a four lane road all the way to Mitai's.

Funding of a sufficient amount from the Governments Transport budget has not been forthcoming. The issue was first highlighted many years ago and as we can all see the problem is just getting worse; almost week to week.

This Government has obviously prioritised Auckland, so more traffic can clog up the motorways. Meanwhile Rotorua which is heading the country in Tourism growth has had to suffer the not so sultry tones of Minister Simon “no” Bridges who basically said that we are not worthy of significant investment and then we have our local MP Todd McClay agreeing “that the decision was probably right”

The roading network is beginning to struggle and unless funding is allocated now and with an appropriate dollar attached then we will see more frustrated motorists and our small community, Ngongotaha, suffer.

We should not accept patch up jobs that could literally go on for decades given the current funding schedule for Rotorua. Ngongotaha and Rotorua need the upgrades now so we can get on with day to day business, growing our local economy and even the very real and basic need of travelling to work and home again safely is so very badly needed right now.

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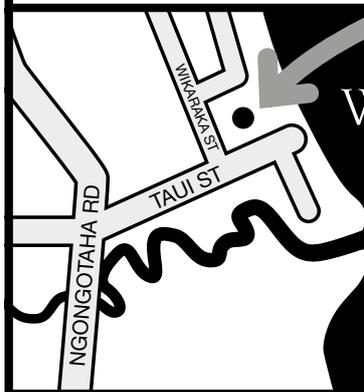
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Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 tim.osullivan@raywhite.com or Anita Martelli 027 552 6482 anita.martelli@raywhite.com



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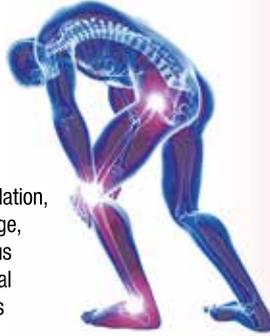
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Kaitao Middle School

This term has started well and we are looking forward to a visit from the Education Review Office next week. We have been doing a great deal of work to improve our achievement levels and we are beginning to show real progress. With the Board of Trustees elections coming up it would be great to have representation from Ngongotaha so if any parents are thinking about sending their child here next year or already have someone here please get someone to nominate you.

China

I had a fantastic trip to China but I am glad to be back in clean green New Zealand. Since my last visit the smog and pollution has increased especially in the large cities of Beijing and Shanghai. Our sister school city of Nanchang is a beautiful city and has a world class light show which lights up over 150 Skyscrapers. Our sister school hosts were outstanding and ensured that I was well fed and saw all the relevant cultural experiences available.

I joined the 17 strong Principals Delegation, including Cathryn Naera and her husband John, Warwick Moyle and Andrew Sinclair, in Beijing and we were taken to the Great Wall, The Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the New Zealand Embassy, a number of schools, Beijing Park and Confucius Institute Headquarters.

We then flew to Xiamen which is a beautiful coastal city on an Island and boasts the largest tunnel in China. While there we visited Nanjing Tulou which is a mountain village of round and square earth houses. We also visited museums, Xiamen Botanical Gardens,



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Xiamen University, a number of schools and a tea ceremony. Our visit to Gulangyu Island was also a highlight. The island is the original home of all the Embassies and there were some striking buildings all being upgraded. The tourist trade in China is booming but mainly with Chinese. We actually saw very few foreigners, just lots of groups of Chinese tourists. Plans going forward include 10 students from our sister school coming here in July and 10 of our students visiting China next year with Western Heights High School in April, 2017

School Leaders

After a lengthy process including interviews last year and observations throughout this year at school and at Outdoor Pursuits Centre we have finally come to the election of our Head Boy and Head Girl and their Deputies;

Head Boy - Jimmy Setu-Galo, Deputies - Whakamoe Te Rauna, Jacob Tuhakaraina, Ricky Hirst

Head Girl - Maia Bidois Deputies - Courtney Dodson, Acaylia Ransfield

One of the early tasks for our new leaders was to take part in the Anzac Parade and to present a wreath.

Kaitao contd overpage.....



Kaitao intermediate contd.....

Kia Ora from the Technology Block

Technology cycles are well under way for the year. There have been a few changes this year within the programs which means some exciting stuff happening ...

Mister Boot is our supreme leader of Technology and runs an exciting collaboration of photography, robotics, Minecraft and 3D House Design.

Whaea Tayla, is our resident foodie.. Students are whipping up some great menus and experiments. Three course meals, brownies and the perfect pikelet are what can be expected on your dinner table.

Whaea Deb is our M.A.D (Marvellous. Awesome. Diva) Science Teacher. Students are channelling their inner Einstein with experiments, observations and questioning the world around them.

Whaea Larissa is our Artist in residence. Textile with an artistic flavour sees some exciting artworks being made. Wood Cut Prints and D.I.Y Animal Heads are just some examples of the awesome creative flair our students are showing.

Matua Brendon runs a tight ship in Carving. He has given up his time when he can to share his skills and knowledge of the carving world.. Some wonderful mantle pieces are in the process of being made.

And last but certainly not least.. Matua Alex in Graphic Design. With Computers meeting Art, students are able to visually communicate their ideas in a wide variety of forms.

During week three on the 24th May we will be having our Student Led Conferences followed by our annual Lip Sinc Competition. Parents who come to SLC's get a free family pass to the Lip Sinc which starts at 7pm.

All Welcome

Rory O'Rourke Principal

Feijoa Cake

3 large Feijoas, peeled and sliced

¾ cup Caster sugar

2 large Eggs

125 g Butter, softened

1 tsp Vanilla essence

1¾ cups Self raising flour

¾ tsp Baking soda

¾ tsp Ground cinnamon

Filling

1 cup Cream

2 Tbsp Icing sugar, plus extra to dust

2 large Feijoas, peeled and thinly sliced

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 180C. Lightly grease 23cm cake pan and line base with baking paper.

2. Place feijoas in food processor with caster sugar, eggs, butter and vanilla. Process until smooth. Transfer to bowl.

3. Sift flour, baking soda and cinnamon. Fold into feijoa mixture. Do not over-mix.

4. Tip into prepared cake pan. Bake for 30-35 minutes, until skewer inserted in centre comes out clean.

5. Cool for five minutes, then remove from pan and place on wire rack. When cold, cut in half through centre.

6. To prepare filling, whip cream and icing sugar together until thick. Spread half on base of cake.

7. Top with sliced feijoas. Cover with remaining cream and replace top half of cake. Dust liberally with icing sugar.



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Ngongotaha School

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

Welcome to term two which brings autumn leaves and a touch of cooler air. We have had an excellent run of weather, especially for the holiday break, which always makes for a good break. I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Wayne Henderson who passed away last month. Kath Henderson taught at Ngongotaha School for many years and we have fond memories of our times spent with her and her family.

During this term we will continue our maths focus with the theme being financial literacy. The classes will be working on aspects of finance as they lead up to a market day later in the term. This is an opportunity for the children to learn about money. It does not grow on trees or automatically come out of a machine. We want children to realise that you need to work to attain things, you need to budget and you need to plan ahead. We look forward to seeing the efforts of the children as they work towards the market day.

We will also hold a Matariki week celebration later in the term. This is an opportunity for children to share with whanau, to take part in family activities and to enjoy a new year from a different perspective. With winter approaching our winter sports codes will get underway. We have a weekend hockey team and netball teams who will be taking part in the local competitions. Our miniball teams begin their season this week. We thank all who have offered their time to coach and manage our teams. It can be a very rewarding experience as you see the skill of the children develop during the season and it gives you the opportunity to support the school. Thank you so much for your time and dedication.

We have two teams entered in the Rippa Rugby competition day which will be held later this term. Good luck to all the children who are training for this now. At the end of term one we had a big group of students take part in the Rotorua Mini Marathon. The children enjoyed the opportunity to take part in this event which is run before the Rotorua Marathon, an event which attracts so many from all over the country and the world.

Our school cross country will be held on Friday 3rd June, followed by the central Bay of Plenty cross country and, if selected, the BOP champs in Opotiki. Good luck to all who have set their own personal goals for this physical activity.

We would like to congratulate our two beginning teachers who celebrated their graduation during the holiday break. Christina Welch and Tawi Roberts have both spent the last three years training for teaching. Tawi is a past pupil of Ngongotaha School and worked as a kaiawhina with us before her training. We are very proud of both of you and welcome you to the teaching profession. We wish you well in your career.

Our junior playground development still continues. Two of the new areas are almost complete with the last area under-development now. It is disappointing that the work is taking so long but it will be well used once complete.

We are still selling school desks to anyone interested. These are in excellent condition, have a nice green top with tray beneath for

storing items. They are good for older students or for craft activities. Please come in and see us if you are interested. They are available for \$5.00 for one or for more than one it is still \$5.00. We would really like to see these go to new homes and be used rather than being stored in our shed.

The board of trustee elections will be held this term. Being on the board is a good way to be involved in your child's education and to help the community support the education of all the children. We have always enjoyed a board that are keen to see the children achieve, are committed to providing a safe learning environment and who work with the staff in the best interests of the school. If you are interested in finding out more please call in and see us. Thank you to everyone who has supported our school over the years, we look forward to the communities continued involvement and interest in the school.

Cathryn Naera and staff of Ngongotaha School

Iti rearea teitei kahikatea ka taea - Aim High, Stand Proud

Term Dates for 2016

Term Two Monday 2nd May to Friday 8th July

Term Three Monday 25th July to Friday 23rd September.

Term Four Monday 10th October to Thursday 15th December.

Helping to Make Our Community Safe

"The more eyes and ears we have the more we can focus on early intervention and without over simplifying the issue, the more we can help to prevent bad things happening in our community the better it is for us all" says Sharon Fleet, who has been involved with our local community patrol since its inception in July 2004.

"We have had some great results and NZ Police interactions over the years . I can only imagine what some of the alternative outcomes could have been if we hadn't been the Eyes and Ears on the ground for the Police."

To help keep our community safe we couldn't do it without the support of our wonderful volunteers and the generous donations from our local businesses which offsets our vehicle running costs. A big THANK YOU to our volunteers and Andy's Hire, Ngongotaha Pharmacy, Ngongotaha Medical Centre, Swaps, Ray White Real Estate, Progress Ngongotaha and Kraft Engineering.

You might not see our sign written vehicle out on the road but rest assured it is. It covers Kaharoa, Hamurana, Mamaku, Paradise Valley as well as Ngongotaha and also goes into Rotorua. One of the highlights is visiting Kauae Cemetery after dark, it is quite beautiful with all the colourful solar lights and movement.

If you are keen to find out more about this community focussed group contact David on 357 4734.

NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

A good month started with the Whyte Trophy, which is won on total points not most wins, and it was nice to see Kevin Whyte and his team of Delwyn Hughes, and Amy Nichols win with 39 points, second was Marguerite Garrand and Bitty Witton on 30. The Championship fours was a tough battle between Mike Bryant, Bruce Wiggins, Christine Kingi and Helen White who came out eventual winners with James Schuster, Murray Harris, Betty Witton and Jan Dravel taking out second place.

Kaharoa then visited with about 15 players for a fun night. The International Pairs ended in a playoff between 3 teams. Murray Harris and Amy Nichols beat Robin Campbell and Christine Kingi, then John Rayner and Jan Dravel beat Murray and Amy. Last but by no means least, James Schuster, Christine Kingi and 2 players from Rotorua, Gaving and Keith won the BOP 4's . Huge congratulations. Social Bowls is going well every second Tuesday. For more info contact Kevin on 3574766 or Murray 3574 015



This is Buster. I bought him as a surprise present for my husband, but it turns out he's allergic to dogs. So unfortunately I'm going to have to find a new home for him, and I'm just wondering if anyone out there can help? His name is Alan, he's 71, great at DIY, drives a nice car and plans wonderful holidays. Any offers?

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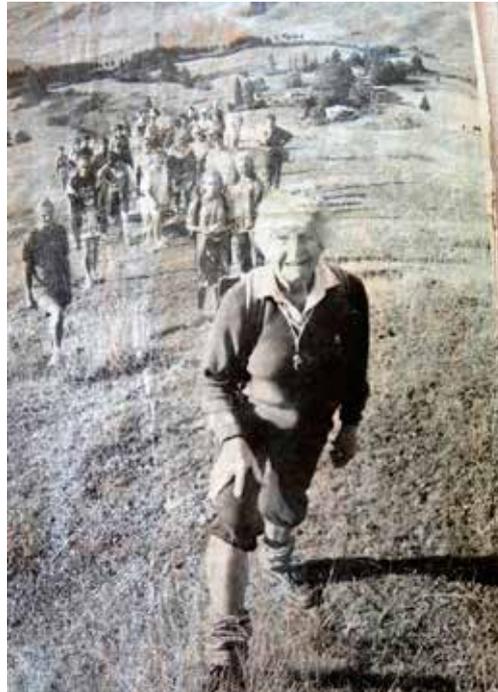
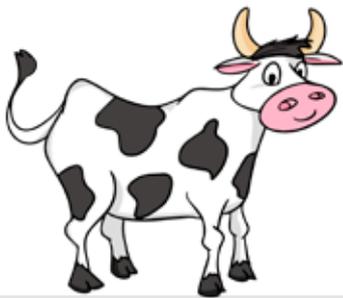
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Led by Anne Moore, the founder of Rotorua's YWCA walking for pleasure group around 50 women marked the centenary of women's suffrage today by following the Mt Ngongotaha Jubilee track cut in 1887 to mark Queen Victoria's 50th year on the throne.

HAMURANA PLAYCENTRE

We are back in to a new term ... Gosh how the year is going fast. We look forward to themes such as messy nature play, puppetry, wheels/bikes and many others for this term.

The children are still doing as much outside play as ever, before the cooler months come along. We still have water play, big muscle play and sand as favourites. They have been challenging themselves with a tight rope and climbing over and under obstacles, balancing - great for their motor skills and confidence development. During the last week of term one we went for an outing to AmazeMe which everyone enjoyed and the challenge of getting through the maze was certainly embraced by many. Patience and perseverance was a learning for the day. We have beans growing in our vege garden and it has been nice to pick them and share them around to enjoy. We are a very busy centre these days. Please feel welcome to come and visit and have a cuppa while your little ones play. 38 Tauranga Direct Road, Hamurana: sessions are Monday's and Thursday's, 9.15 to 11.45am. Ph 332 2110 or Joanne on 0275 503225. Please also contact Joanne if you would be interested in purchasing an Entertainment Book. www.entertainmentbook.co.nz. These offer up to 50% off restaurant, cafes, theme parks and attractions and much more around the BOP, Waikato and Coromandel regions. Each book is \$60 and \$12 from each book sold goes to our lovely centre. Great value for money.



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From the library.....

Large Print reviews.....

***A tap on the window by
Linwood Barclay.***

When Cal Weaver stops at a red light on a rainy night while driving home, he ignores the bedraggled-looking teenage girl trying to hitch a ride - even when she starts tapping on his window. But when he realizes she's one of his son Scott's classmates, he knows he can't really leave her to the mercy of the weather and who knows what else. Cal's well aware that inviting a teenage girl into his car might not be the smartest move, but then again, how much harm could it do? During their short journey, Cal discovers that Claire Sanders is not all she seems. But nothing prepares him for the consequences of trying to help her out. The next morning he finds he's gone from Good Samaritan to murder suspect, and with one girl dead and another missing, he's suddenly at the centre of a deadly puzzle that reaches right through the small town of Griffon - from its bullying police force to its strangely furtive mayor - and finally to one family's shocking secret.

**Colonel Fitzwilliam's by
Wendy Soliman**

Lady Catherine de Bourgh has invited herself to Pemberley,

intent upon bringing about an engagement between her daughter Anne and Colonel Fitzwilliam. But her ladyship has failed to take into account the remarkable improvement in her daughter's health and spirits since the arrival of her new tutor, the charismatic Mr. Asquith. Meanwhile, enchanted by the widowed Celia Sheffield, Colonel Fitzwilliam is perturbed to learn that her fortune is being contested by an individual in Jamaica - from whence Mr. Asquith also hails. And when the obsequious Mr. Collins shares grave rumours concerning the tutor's character, further suspicions are raised...

Death angel by Linda Fairstein

In New York's Central Park, Assistant DA Alex Cooper and Detective Mike Chapman race to track down a serial killer before yet another young woman is found dead. Is the body found in the Ramble the first victim of a deranged psychopath, or could other missing women be connected to this savage attack? The enormous urban park, a sanctuary in the middle of the city for thousands of New Yorkers and tourists who fill it every day, may very well become a hunting ground at night for a killer with a twisted mind.

I went to the pub last night and saw a BIG woman dancing on a table. I said, "Good legs." The girl giggled and said, "Do you really think so?" I said, "Definitely! Most tables would have collapsed by now." Cost me 6 more stitches, but... When you're over sixty.....who cares?



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BLAST FROM THE PAST

NEVILLE CALLS IT A DAY AFTER 40 YEARS - THANKS TO THE ROTORUA DAILY POST BY LYNDON HOGG

Neville Black will today close his ancient till for the final time and with it, signal the end of an era for the township of Ngongotaha. The last day of trading for CJ Black Ltd in the town's Western Road will be a sad moment for the 73 year old but he has been buoyed by support from his ongoing customers, so much in fact that he has often found himself contemplating his decision to call it a day. "The people have been wonderful," Neville said. They've been coming up with bottles of wine and they give me big hugs and kisses and say they'll miss me. It's made me ask myself if I'm doing the right thing but I know it's time to go. Neville has practically been part of the Ngongotaha Landscape for about 40 years. Over the years he's seen mechanics and apprentices come and go and had to contend with four decades of automobile advancements. "I've had to update my knowledge every so often as new things come out," he said. "There have been a lot of seminars."

Neville's garage is littered with mechanical 'bits and bobs' which have bred over his 40 years at the garage and while his till could have been used in the hardware store where Noah bought wood for his ark, there was one before it. "The first one was pretty old. I gave that to the kindergarten, but this one is pretty old too. I can't even remember when I got it. The original one had a big old arm on it that you wrenched down.

Neville came to Ngongotaha when he was only two. He grew up in the township and served in the Second World War as a radar technician for the Navy. After playing rugby for Rotorua Boys High and Rotorua Old Boys in his youth, Neville played professionally for Wigan in England before he answered a call from the All Black selectors in 1949 and was whisked away for two tests against South Africa. He played one test and missed out on the second through injury but he did manage to score a try in his single match. "I think someone pushed me over the line" he said.

His brother Colin later established the Ngongotaha Garage and Neville eventually took over the business. "There have been a lot of happy times here," Neville said, scanning his garage. "Times have changed a lot though. I'm not as mobile as I used to be and I don't have the time or patience to train anyone else to take over the business. I'll miss it but it's time to retire. Though he won't be running the business anymore, Neville will still be at his garage selling his tools and gear until the lease expires. Everything, that is but the till. "That'll go to the Kindergarten" he said. (31 January 1988)

Nevie passed away recently.



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Ngongotaha Mountain in 1925. Metal was broken up by hammers and trucks loaded by shovel. The highway between Ngongotaha and Rotorua was originally formed by this firm using hard packed spawls. Progress was then made up to wagons on rails loaded from the quarry face and pushed by hand down to the crushers.

Due to mechanical modernisation it has progressed up to what it is today with bulldozers ripping metal from the quarry face, front end loaders and dump trucks feeding the crushers. It is then crushed into different sizes and binned awaiting delivery in the Rotorua area.

It has been a family firm and worked by three generations up to the present day.

The workforce employed over the 55 years of operations comes mainly from Ngongotaha area many having seen many years of service with the firm.

(The business was sold to J Swap Contractors Ltd about 15 years ago.)

Huge thanks to the Rotorua Daily Post and Colin Brake for supplying me with this interesting information.

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