

DEAR DIET,
Things just aren't
going to work
between us.
it's not me
it's you
You are tasteless,
boring and i
can't stop
cheating on you.



NGONGOTAHA NEWS

The Sunny side of the Mountain -

FLUORIDE FREE NGONGOTAHA

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Next deadline Friday 6th November 2015 11am

OCTOBER 2015 issue

It is so good to be home!

I apologise now if there are any errors in this newsletter, as I am horribly jet-lagged having just returned from a "whistle-stop" tour of Italy, Paris overnight, London, Hong Kong and home all in 18 days.

The trip didn't get off to a very good start as we had two aborted "take-offs" with Cathay Pacific in Auckland, a bit scary to be flying down the runway, about to take off and on went the brakes, not once but twice. The pilot first said we were on the wrong runway, then the next excuse was luggage hold wouldn't close properly, third excuse was engine trouble.

This not only happened once, but twice eventually Cathay accommodated 200 passengers at a hotel in Auckland. After most of us refusing to fly on that plane again, our Travel Agent got us on to Emirates so instead of flying via Hong Kong, we flew Sydney, Dubai and then Rome, losing about 3 days of our itinerary. All was not lost because we never missed anything that was planned.

The trip was with Rotorua Intermediate following the Maori Battalion through Italy ending at Monte Cassino.

Three Cemeteries were visited where we laid poppies on the NZ Soldier's graves. Faenza, an International Cemetery in Firenze or Florence and finally Cassino. To anyone who has Whanau buried there, please take comfort in the fact that they are all well looked after. The cemeteries were immaculate. We visited some incredible Cathedrals in Firenze plus the Ponto Vecchio which was the only bridge that the Germans didn't bomb as they needed access to Firenze, BUT our Maori Battalion thwarted that plan and saved Firenze. Another highlight was visiting the Vatican City, the Sistine Chapel and of course St Peters, of course the Coliseum was also another must. Formia was by far my favourite as our hotel was opposite the Mediterranean sea, where everyone went swimming. Beautiful views, the only blot on the landscape was an American Naval Base on a very desirable piece of land. From here they launch any attacks for example when war broke out in Bosnia. Formia is of course within easy driving distance of Cassino which was where I had an Uncle wounded in the Rapido river, which now of course has been diverted. We visited the Monastery which was bombed and reduced to rubble by the allies as they believed this housed the Germans, but unfortunately this was not the case. Cassino was where we could see exactly what the Battalion faced. Huge losses. Loved Italy, and who would believe that all the hills around Italy are actually marble. We visited Montagna Spacata. where legend had it that at the time of Christ's crucifixion he let out 7 screams, and 7 mountains around the world split in two. Montagna Spacata was one such mountain, this was an incredible sight, and there were even Turke's hand prints still in the marble mountain where he reportedly held the mountain apart.

Only disadvantage with travelling around Europe, they are not into rugby but we managed to find a cafe who was showing the All Blacks playing Namibia, one downfall it was in Italian, but then that was even better than having to listen to Justin Marshall aye Charles.

Travelled from Italy to Paris, where the kids (young and old) visited Euro Disney, the Eifel Tower and Louvre, Champs Elyse, and did an "illuminations of Paris" tour, spent one night, then the Euro Star to London. I was not looking forward to travelling under all that water, but you are actually only under-ground for about 1/2 hour. Amazing experience. Arrived in London, and you would not even know they were hosting the World Cup, apart from the fact that each car on the London Eye represented the countries participating.

Went to the amazing Lion King Show - fantastic experience, and as this was my second visit to London, I did the "shopping thing" rather than the "Tourist thing".

Left London for Hong Kong for even more heat but there was rain there as a typhoon had hit, so was a bit cooler, but still very humid. When the Typhoon hit, we thought great we are going to be delayed, like so many other people coming home, but for once we got away about a half hour late.

Weather wise, absolutely beautiful in Italy, bit cooler and windy in Paris, London cooler, but still warm for London.

There is no place like home and sure glad to be back.

So sad to hear of the passing of Mrs Palma Sturt - to Charles and Denise my sincerest condolences, and also to Judy Edmonds and Whanau on the passing of Paddy.

HAVANWANTS:

I HAVE: VARIOUS ITEMS FOR SALE

I WANT: YOU TO PHONE Jacqui: 0297712884, Mike: 0277777502, Landline: 073575147

Hamurana Springs Incorporated Society

Greetings everyone.

Our 1st summer work day is scheduled for Sat 31st October 2015. As usual we will meet in the carpark at 9.00am for Health & Safety talk and be directed to the allocated worksite. Our tasks weather permitting will be a general tidy up along the Ynys Fraser walkway, weedeating, spraying of blackberry growth and some mowing. Bring gardening tools, weed eaters, loppers, spray packs for those who are certified, gloves, hat, drink and bring your own lunch. If the weather on the day is inclement a decision will be made on the morning for either a cancellation or postponement.

An open day was held recently at the Springs with Ngati Rangiwewehi, Doc, EBOP, Fish&Game, TeArawa Lakes Trust & Rotorua Lakes Council, in attendance to promote awareness of the Springs and to get feedback on its future activities. This was your opportunity to have your say on the future Reserve Management Plan, but if you were unable to go along that morning then you can still go onto the HSIS website www.hamurana-springs.co.nz and click onto the link to the survey form, complete and then submit to the Te Tahuhu o Tawakeimoa Trust. We understand it was a successful morning. Unfortunately HSIS was unable to attend due to a bereavement, but a table was set aside for our brochures. HSIS wishes to thank both Ngati Rangiwewehi and DOC for their support to our society.

We also wish to thank those Society members who turned out en-masse to support one of our own – in the passing of Sally French's husband Rob - it is great to see this support within our organisation.

Don't forget that we will only be doing four working days from now to April 2016 so come along and join in with those stalwart members who work as a team on the day.

And finally we still have our book Hamurana Springs – The Ancient Waters available through the two Paper Plus stores and McLeods in town, or directly through Jerry

Contact details – Jerry Douglas 0274 824850 should you have any queries.

Two young boys walked into a pharmacy one day, picked out a box of tampons and preceded to the checkout counter. The man at the counter asked the older boy, "Son, how old are you?" "Eight," the boy replied. The man continued, "do you know what these are used for?" The boy replied, "not exactly, but they aren't for me. They're for him. He's my brother. He's four. We saw on TV that if you use these you would be able to swim and ride a bike. Right now, he can't do either."

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son: "You bring your grades up from a C to a B, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut; then we'll talk about the car." The boy thought about it for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it. After about six weeks, his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible but I'm disappointed you haven't cut your hair." The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's strong evidence that Jesus had long hair." "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"



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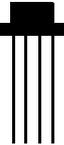


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ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

School Road, Ngongotaha

Sunday: 9.45am Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.

Thursday: 9.45am Contemplative Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.

Wednesday 1st & 3rd: 1.30pm Games afternoon (Scrabble, Rumikub, 500 etc)

Friday: 9.30am during term time. Music and Movement for preschoolers.

All Welcome, an hour of fun and fellowship

10.00am. Walking Group – meet outside St. Barnabas for a 1 – 1 ½ hr gentle walk.

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

1st Ngongotaha Scouts

Garage Sale 31st October 2015 From 8am Ngongotaha Scout Den Cnr Western Rd & Ngongotaha Rd 1st Ngongotaha Scouts are having a Garage Sale to raise funds for our group. We would love any donations of suitable goods to sell e.g. toys, books, furniture, bric-a-brac, sports gear, tools etc. If you have any items suitable for sale please call Karen 0293486491 or email the Scouts on 1stngongotahascouts@gmail.com so we can arrange for pick up or drop off.

BINGO BINGO BINGO BINGO

The Kaharoa Community Assn are holding a fun family neighbourly BINGO night on

Friday 16th October starting at 7.00 pm

at the Kaharoa Hall

Bring your own drink, a highlighter pen to mark the cards with a few dollars and a plate for a shared supper.

This is a chance to catch up with the neighbours again.

Every one welcome. Enquiries to Chris 3322818

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OPEN SERVICE DESK

For some years Justices of the Peace have operated Service Desks in several sites in the city.

The purpose of these is to provide a place for members of the community to:

- have signatures witnessed
- copies certified
- affidavits witnessed
- and other activities requiring the signature of a Justice of the Peace.

Several Justices from the Ngongotaha-Hamurana area have now decided to provide the same service for their local community.

Details are as follows:

Venue: Whare Hauora, 152 Ngongotaha Rd

Time: Alternate Thursdays commencing 15 October 2015 from 10.00 –12.00

If you prefer not to visit a Justice of the Peace in their home, here is the opportunity to have your documents handled in a user-friendly atmosphere.

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And when someone breaks our wings,
We simply continue to fly.....
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cos
We are flexible that way! ☺*

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Kia ora from Hamurana Playcentre!

Term 3 has finished and we are heading into Term 4. From here it is downhill to our Spring Fair and Christmas. Being the beginning of summer we have lots planned for our little learners at Centre this coming term; water, water and more water, play in our wonderful sandpit and stories and imagination play. We will explore the process of making things, such as playdough and collage play. Science projects are always a hit with our tamariki as well as using tools. Of course we will allow for that special time of year to make Christmas decorations as well.

Term 3 saw some wonderful outdoor play with some lovely days had. The children love playing on the swings or challenging themselves on obstacle courses. As some of the children are fascinated with wheels and movement, we went on an outing with the Rotorua Duck Tours one sunny Monday. The adventure was enjoyed by all and we got to have a wee ride on the Blue Lake.

Thanks to Pub Charity, we were able to purchase a brand new sofa that has spruced up the reading corner of our Centre. Thank you very much Pub Charity for giving us the opportunity to have a lovely new sofa to sit on to read with our tamariki and for those mums feeding brand new babies. In the photo you can see the children are using the sofa box as a slide – also used for a hut and was great for painting onto.

We have our ninth annual Hamurana Playcentre Spring Fair & Grand Auction on 22 November at the Hamurana Reserve from 10am to 2pm. Thanks to our kind and generous community we have some wonderful goodies up for grabs in our Grand Auction. We will have all the usual fun and entertainment along with some new things.

Our session times are Monday and Thursday from 9.15am to 11.45am at 38 Tauranga Direct Road. All enquiries welcome – phone 332 2110 during session times or contact our president, Jo on 027 550 3225. Or just come and join us at a session... see you soon! Like us on Facebook facebook.com/HamuranaPlaycentre. Here's to some great learning with our children in Term 4!



*I love it when the weather is bad
There's much less rubbish to be had.
On the kilometre I try to keep neat,
There are such a lot of people to meet,
I pick up their plastic and even a shoe,
Lots and lots of takeaways too.*

*Nappies and bags and an old beer can,
Dropped by a lazy beer drinking man!
About the rubbish, people make a stink,
But not enough of them think,
That they could also pick it up;
The bottle and glass... and even the cup!*

*Toys and chairs...and a telephone,
Things that once they loved to own,
Are left for me to find each week,
And they just turn the other cheek.*

Hon Todd McClay
Trans-Pacific Partnership good
for Rotorua

Last week the largest free trade agreement in New Zealand's history was signed by 12 countries, totalling 36 per cent of the world's economy. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) has certainly had its detractors, but it is set to bring significant gains to Rotorua.

This agreement gives our exporters much better access to more than 800 million customers in Asia, North America and the Pacific, and is expected to add \$2.7 billion to our economy by 2030.

The TPP completely eliminates tariffs on all forestry products going into Canada, the United States, and Vietnam, and 69 per cent of the tariffs for products going into Japan. This will mean significant savings for the industry – estimated to be around \$9 million once TPP comes into force.

The deal also means that it makes far better sense to export value added processed products such as sawn wood, fibreboard, and builder's joinery. This has huge potential for more jobs and higher wages in Rotorua.

TPP is also a good deal for the sheep and beef industry. Savings for the industry thanks to TPP are expected to be around \$59.8 million for beef farmers, and \$2.6 million for sheep farmers – all of which goes back into our economy.

We are a small nation that relies on trade with the world. This deal is a game changer for New Zealand, and not being part of it would have been a missed opportunity. I welcome and celebrate its conclusion.

PUNS FOR EDUCATED MINDS...

The fattest knight at King Arthurs round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.

She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.

A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.

Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: You stay here; I'll go on a head.

I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: Keep off the Grass.

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

HON TODD MCCLAY MP FOR ROTORUA



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HAMURANA & AWAHOU RESIDENTS ASSOC. (HARRA)

*Regarding the piles of stumps and branches left on the Hamurana Lakeside after our first working bee, we have to thank John Caufield, who has used his own tractor to reconfigure the five piles into just two. He then levelled the cleared sites.

*Unfortunately certain people had added their own green waste instead of taking it to the council tip.

*HARRA will apply for ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT funding to pay for the final removal of the two piles.

*The recent ELECTORAL REVIEW, (required by law) proposes a new LAKES COMMUNITY BOARD, (which includes Hamurana,) be created with 3 elected members, and one nominated Councillor.

*We are now in the fire season from 1st October 2015 - 31st April 2016....so everyone is required to apply for Council fire permits...phone 07 3484 199.

An Indian Doctor can't find a job in a Hospital in the US, so he opens a clinic and puts a sign outside 'GET TREATMENT FOR \$20 - IF NOT CURED GET BACK \$100.' An American lawyer thinks this is a great opportunity to earn \$100 and goes to the clinic...Lawyer: "I have lost my sense of taste."

Indian: "Nurse, bring medicine from box no. 22 and put 3 drops in patient's mouth." Lawyer: "Ugh... this is kerosene."

Indian: "Congrats, your sense of taste is restored. Give me \$20." The annoyed lawyer goes back after a few days to recover his money...

Lawyer: "I have lost my memory. I cannot remember anything." Indian: "Nurse, bring medicine from box no. 22 and put 3 drops in his mouth." Lawyer (annoyed): "This is kerosene. You gave this to me last time for restoring my taste."

Indian: "Congrats. You got your memory back. Give me \$20." The fuming lawyer pays him, and then comes back a week later determined to get back \$100. Lawyer: "My eyesight has become very weak I can't see at all." Indian: "Well, I don't have any medicine for that, so take this \$100." Lawyer (staring at the note): "But this is \$20, not \$100!!" Indian: "Congrats, your eyesight is restored. Give me \$20"

You can't beat Indians!!

NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

The season has come to a close after a very successful one, now all that remains is our AGM and Club Dinner on Friday 16th October.

We kept our RSA trophy by having a good win. Kevin Whyte, Eddie Dibley and Murray Harris played in the Westbrook Challenge, there were teams from Taupo, Tauranga and Whakatane, and we were the only ones with no losses. We won the raffles and spot prizes too, so great evening was had. James Schuster, Christine Kingi and a fill in, won the Farmland Trophy at Te Puke.

Kevin Whyte, Murray Harris and Geoff Sircombe won the Graded Triples and Marguerite Gerand and Syd Gumbley won the Trophy night.

It was great to see at our recent Prize giving that everyone shared them. One special was the most improved player, which was Richard Mills. Congratulations to him and all Trophy winners. See you all again next season.



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In 2011 Lions International President Wing-Kum Tan challenged Lions Clubs all around the world to plant over one million trees – taking up this challenge John Smale a member of Ngongotaha Lions came up with an idea to take the International President's dream and carry it a stage further, with the idea being to create a Lions' International Tree Grove in TECT All Terrain Park on State Highway 36 between Rotorua and Tauranga.

Ngongotaha Lions' Club members had spoken to the Management of TECT All Terrain Park and the response from them has been one of enthusiasm, being very pleased with the concept as it fits in with their plans. Since then other Lions' Clubs from the Bay of Plenty area have added their support to this project and a Steering Committee of members from other Lions' Clubs has been set up to oversee the development of the Lions Tree Grove. This area will be one of the places within the park that would be open to the general public and not just for club members of the other organisations who are users of the park.

The two and a half hectares would be planted with NZ Natives to increase the wild life and to include walking tracks and grassed areas to cater for picnics and places for children to be active in a safe environment. "The Lions' Tree Grove" will be available to all who wish to enjoy the beauty of NZ's flora and fauna.

The overall idea is to develop this area in perpetuity which will be known as "The Lions' Tree Grove."

It is expected that the development will take up to five years with ongoing maintenance. The land that is being developed is cut over pine forest. Tracks are being developed and the 4000 understory trees that were planted in August 2012 are growing well. In June 2013, 800 understory trees were planted with further plantings of canopy trees taking place in September 2013 and September 2014.

Tracks were upgraded and sealed in November 2014 making access to the Lions Tree Grove more user friendly.

In 2015 seats from Opotiki Lions have been positioned around the Grove and chicanes installed to restrict horses from entering and damaging the tracks.

The goal in 2016 is to grade and seed the grassed area thus encouraging families to enjoy picnics and explore the Grove.

A guy was getting ready to tee off on the first hole when a second golfer approached and asked if he could join him. The first said that he usually played alone, but agreed to the twosome. They were even after the first few holes. The second guy said, "We're about evenly matched, how about playing for five bucks a hole?" The first guy said that he wasn't much for betting, but agreed to the terms. The second guy won the remaining sixteen holes with ease. As they were walking off number eighteen, the second guy was busy counting his \$80.00. He confessed that he was the pro at a neighboring course and liked to pick on suckers. The first fellow revealed that he was the Parish Priest. The pro was flustered and apologetic, offering to return the money. The Priest said, "You won fair and square and I was foolish to bet with you. You keep your winnings." The pro said, "Is there anything I can do to make it up to you?"

The Priest said, "Well, you could come to Mass on Sunday and make a donation. And, if you want to bring your Mother and Father along, I'll marry them".

NGONGOTAHA MEDICAL CENTRE

17 Taui Street, Ngongotaha
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www.nmc.org.nz

Doctors – Kingsley Aneke, Jane Carman, Simon Firth, Jorgelina Ferreira,
Jonathan McPherson, Genevieve Matthews
General Manager - Yvonne Chadwick

Nurses – Denise Gray, Kris Penman, Anna Burton, Eileen Lewis, Keren Jenkins, Barbara Swale.
Clinical Assistant – Irene Stoddart

Receptionists – Christine Hands, Dulcie Rika, Karen Wiringi, Christina Harkness, Sue Forster, Eden Fraser.

Staff

In the last month we said farewell to Yvonne Chadwick who had been our General Manager for the last 4 years. Yvonne made a magnificent contribution to the Practice, both as a business and as a great workplace and will be sorely missed. She and her husband have headed off for a well earned break followed by a move to Karitane to be closer to family.

Mike Ferris has joined the Practice as our new General Manager and is enjoying working locally as part of the NMC Team. We also welcome Kate Wauchop as our new Trainee Intern and we look forward to having her as part of our team. Our Lead Nurse Denise is still on leave – Continuing to enjoy the diversity of the USA.

Of Interest

The month of October is “**STOPTOBER**” where “Stopping could be the start of Something” “**STOPTOBER**” is all about people quitting cigarettes for 31-days! Just like “Dry July” or “Junk Free June”, everyone is encouraged to set as a goal, going without cigarettes for the month. Check out the details on the Stoptober web site www.stoptober.nz and challenge friends and family.

Lions Tree Grove

Saturday 31st October 2015 at 2pm

Members of the Public are given the opportunity to walk around the Lions Tree Grove TECT All Terrain Park

Please meet at the grassed area of the Lions Tree Grove, above the carpark situated by “Adrenalin Forest” on Te Ara O Raha Road, right at the end of Weld road (look for signs)

TECT All Terrain Park. The Park entrance is situated on Whataroa Road, Highway 36 (Tauranga/Rotorua Direct Road)

Since September 2012 more than 6 thousand NZ native tree species have been planted in a 2.4 hectare area that was once exotic pine forest. This area known as “Lions Tree Grove” has been developed with walking tracks and park benches by a number of Lions Clubs situated in and around the Bay of Plenty, spearheaded by the Lions Club of Ngongotaha, with financial help from various local Charitable Trusts. The aim is for future generations to enjoy the NZ fauna and flora with the wildlife that it attracts. The general public are encouraged to walk through the Lions Tree Grove and picnic on the grassed area whenever they wish.

**For further information please contact:
Secretary Lions Tree Grove Committee:
Phyl Hawkins thchef@xtra.co.nz
ph 07 3492450**

An Old Farmer's Advice

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.

Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honorable life.. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.

Always drink upstream from the herd.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.

If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly.

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In my view.....

Council

Judge me by my actions. If anyone wants to see the facts on what any councillor is doing at any time in a committee meeting or at the full council meetings they are Live streamed. Go to Councils website and follow the link.

Recently Council signed off the Long term plan which sets out the debt reduction plan, the recent rates increase which while I did not want to support the increase to get councils spending and debt under control it was inevitable we had to increase the rates. Reasons include the need to treat sewerage and the issue that we can't spray irrigate after 2019 into Whakarewarewa Forest. The need for a sewerage scheme in Rotoma/Rotoehu which has to date cost us 4.3m with design and land issues having to be paid after the Environment court ruling and Land use changes required by EBOP Land plan and Water plan and the absolute waste of money in a so called joint marketing venture with Air NZ to promote the Rotorua to Sydney Flights etc etc. This is a one off increase and increases are planned to be returned to inflation next year and beyond. We must look at the positives Building consents up, Real estate Sales at record levels, new development i.e. Lynmore and Fairy Springs road, new logging operation at the old Tachykawa mill in Vaughan's Road and the revitalisation of the CBD, New Youth spaces in Mamaku, Koutu, Puketawhero park, New toilets at Puketawhero park, the purchase of a new cemetery land in Tarukenga, need to search for a new water supply for the Ngongotaha reservoir (if required), Gardens and parks etc. A Long Term plan as agreed too had heaps of submissions and while we can't appease all requests we have covered most bases. The rates increase on top of a RV increase for many has seen 50% get rate increases and 50% get decreases as its where the value fall. We helped in particular the farming community as there rates increases were unsustainable and that money has been spread across all ratepayers.

I supported a change in how council handles RMA Hearings with two independent Commissioners and a Te Arawa rep forming the hearings panel committee. The Planning policy matters are only decided by councillors who have to be trained at extreme costs. The independents are career planning hearings people who are experts in their field. We have always heard the big barrier to Rotorua is nothing happens unless Maori are on board and to a certain extent that's true as they are major land owners so the inclusion of a Te Arawa rep makes sure the costly lessons of the Rotoma/Rotoiti Environment Court ruling which cost you and I millions will not happen again. This is risk management and best practice.

The people who read this know who to come to if they have an issue involving council sorted and I do not 'run with the Hares or hunt with the Hounds' and I will not tolerate Racism, Bullying or any change that is not inclusive and in the best interest of the whole district. Personal attacks are treated with contempt but I won't tolerate a subversive campaign to undermine the standing of the Mayor, Councillors and more importantly Rotorua and District. Look in the mirror and say have I done something that will improve the perception of Rotorua and can I focus on the positive today. We are so lucky to live in paradise here in a district that has everything except Tsunamis, major threats from floods and has an abundance of water, the great outdoors and have a great place to bring up your children or grandchildren.

contd over page

Feedback from 195 residents on inner city parking changes

Rotorua Lakes Council received written feedback from 195 residents on changes proposed for inner city parking, during a public consultation period which closed last week. Council Transport Solutions Director Stavros Michael said staff were currently working their way through the feedback forms to analyse comments before cost/benefit assessments could be undertaken.

The parking proposals had been put forward by the Inner City Focus Group's Block Champions and were open for public comment for a month. They follow a two-year rolling trial of various parking arrangements in the inner city area.

The Block Champions recommended that all existing 90 and 60 minute free parking along the length of Tutanekei Street become 60 minute free parking, along with shorter adjacent sections of Arawa, Haupapa, Pukuatua, Hinemoa and Eruera streets. In the remaining sections of the five cross streets motorists would be allowed to park for up to three hours at \$1 an hour.

The group also recommended the council's Pukuatua Street Carpark Building have no time limits, and parking be \$1 per hour with a maximum of \$4 per day for casual parkers and \$2 per day for concession holders.

Mr Michael said information compiled from public feedback would form part of a report to be considered by the council's Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee at its 4 November meeting.

Recommendations from the committee would then go to the next full council meeting for final sign-off he said.

Till next month.....**Cr Charles Sturt**

Library News

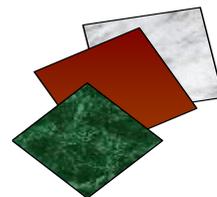
We have been busy, busy for the October school holidays with a record number of children visiting for the "Boredom Busters" programme run by our energetic children's team. Customers have also been keen to join the Stepping Up programme which offers basic computer training for beginners. The range of courses included computer basics, starting an email account, using Word, Facebook and other social media accounts. These are free courses but you do need to book. Give us a call at 348 4177 or come and see us at the library.

In November we are pleased to be hosting NZ author, Deborah Challinor who is coming to promote her latest book, A Tattooed Heart on Wednesday 11th November at midday. Come along to meet Deborah and maybe get your own signed copy. Our theme for the month will be Discover Arts and Crafts and of course, we have loads of books on this topic. Whether you are a beginner or an expert, there are always lots of fresh ideas to stimulate your creative side. And don't forget to check out our website where you can access plenty of crafty ebooks at www.rotorualibrary.govt.nz We look forward to seeing you soon.

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UPDATE ON HOW ASH DID AT SUPREMES

Ash did extremely well to complete against 14 other competitors in her event from around NZ. Even though she did not get a placing she has been offered to go to other salons to learn more which is fantastic. These are big salons! The feedback that I got from my fellow peers was amazing. We would like to also like to thank her model Cullen Smith. Such a wonderful model!!

SPECIAL FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER 2015

Louisa specials

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- Bleach models wanted

Ash specials

Treatment and complex blowave \$20

Gold card days – Wednesday

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Have you been watching Reno Rumble?

The winners, Ayden and Jess told Daily Mail Australia after Reno Rumble's grand final, they chose *Two Little Boys To Avene* as their charity. The boys suffer from acute eczema, psoriasis and multiple food allergies and have recently begun costly and specialised treatment at a dermatology centre in Avene, France.

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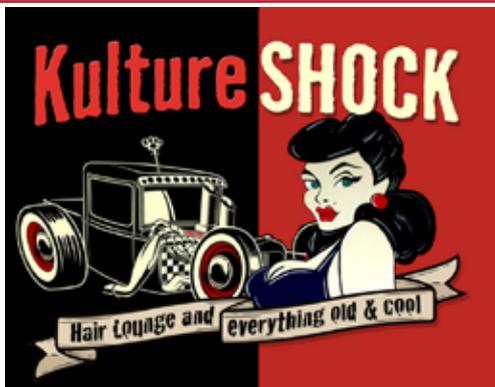
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Kaitao Middle School.

Term three was very busy.

Notable events during the term were :

A very successful school production of Cinderella was performed in the last week to over 1000 school aged students including all of Ngongotaha School and 100 adults. The show highlighted the enormous talent we have and received high praise from all the attendees.

A group of year eight students, some parents and three teachers went on an educational trip to China. They were away for two weeks and visited a large number of important historical sites including the Terracotta Army, The Great Wall of China. They also spent time visiting markets, being hosted by farmers, riding the bullet train, and a visit to Hong Kong Disneyland.

School Orientations took place over the term and provided year six students from our major contributing schools with an insight into our school and what they can expect if they come to Kaitao. An Open Evening was cancelled due to inclement weather and an Open Day will now be held on Saturday 17th October from 10am until 2pm.

The music video "The Traveller" was selected as one of four finalists out of 100's of entries in the very prestigious international Atom Awards (Australian Teachers of Media).

We have high hopes also for our entries this year in the MADE Awards and the Fair Go Ad Awards.

Our school band competed in the regional Band Quest and were successful in the Best Lyrics, Best Original Song and Stage Presence.

Daniel Meneses won the Chinese Speech Competition for the best non native speaker category.

Reading Together began in term three and is a successful programme that assists parents to help their child by reading together at home.

Last term also saw the introduction of a science to our Technology and Arts Cycle. Mrs Deb Mitchell returned from two terms working at a Science Leadership Scholarship programme and set up our Science Lab.

Next term we are looking forward to the official opening of the Gordon Apperley Community Garden. This has been an ongoing project which has been developed with the help of Denise La Groux from the RDC and valuable input from students in the Discovery Academy as well as Scion.

Rory O'Rourke

Principal



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Sports

Ngongotaha RFC

I hear that Jodi Wharekura and Steve Simpkins along with a new Manager Jared Grace have been appointed to coach the Ngongotaha senior Team next season and they would love expressions of interest in terms of team sponsorship. It behoves all of us to return Ngongotaha to the heydays of when we were the Intercity and BOP Champion club. I understand a meeting was held at the Bowling club last week and a senior a and development side are proposed with over 40 players indicating a commitment to be involved. That's the best news I've heard for a while. Congrats to the Club President and Committee for this bold step. Let's hope netball piggyback onto this great move, so we can blood those WHHS girls who play so well into the Premiers grade again.

RWC

Some great games have been played and the highlights for me have been the emergence of Japan into the top 10 or so teams. Do not panic Hansen and Co have everything under control. Players like Milner-Skudder, Sam Kane, Ma'a Nonu are all stepping up to the high pressure that is the Quarters, semi's and hopefully the Final. What a shame (yeah Right) England are out I suspect the finalist will be NZ, Aust, SA France. In 2011 the game of the RWC was Ireland v Australia at Eden park when the whole crowd except the Ozzies were waving green flags with a wonderful atmosphere. All Black versus Tonga will be a electrifying match and the ABS have promised to open up the games. Games I'm looking forward to in pool play are Aust v Wales as that will determine who is ranked one and two in that pool.

Racing

Great to see Rich Billy Marsh trained by the Pomares at Kaharoa doing the honest job in his races. He has a few wins to come and Bill is a master at placing this speedy horse. Not to many other locals running at the moment as the spring ushers in a new top of the ground horse. Melbourne Cup is up soon and "Who Shot the Barman" is my pick. Lucky Number is 18 in the cup and if taking a trifecta always an outsider finishes third to bolster the amounts paid. I see 14 Wins for Colgan to get to 1000 winning rides.

Netball

Great to see Taumanu hanging up the netball and passing the team to a new coach after the Constellation cup against Aust. Glad she resisted the urge to bring back Latu who needs to work on her speed and fitness again after watching her at the national champs. Kopua is a machine as is Langman.

League

Jonathon Thurston must be leagues equivalent to Rugby's Ritchie McCaw. Both of them have the leadership and play by example traits that lift their fellow team mates. Wowee the win by the North Queensland Cowboys who were the underdogs against Brisbane show a never say die attitude and one in golden point time with a drop kick by the Champion Thurston.

Rio

Young Rotorua man Sam Osborne is working his way up the triathlon ranking and has to become NZs no 3 to get a berth in the Olympics. He doesn't qualify for High performance funding yet so if you win lotto or have a lazy amount invest in this young man he is going places.

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Some Grizzles and Compliments from Mamaku

Mamaku in spite of all its natural advantages, its micro climate, its greenness even in drought sadly suffers from the foolhardiness of some locals and visitors alike. The long, winding, remote, Dansey Road seems to encourage speeding, occasional dangerous overtaking and most irritating of all a compulsion to jettison rubbish along its entire length. Then when the culprits reach the village instead of decelerating they drive Tarena Street as if it were an open-plan speedway! Well the long-arm of the law is busting some drivers' casual attitude to the laws of the land. Frequently now we see police cars tailing offenders and issuing tickets. So be aware and keep your speed within the lawful limits!

Many visitors from abroad have commented on the beauty of Dansey Road - several have described the stretch as the most beautiful section of their drive from Auckland or Wellington. This is a wonderful compliment but we let ourselves down when we deposit the remnants of Friday nights trip to McDonalds along the roadside. Many of the residents of Mamaku take great pride in their village and its surroundings but too many do not. The RLC do not want to impose the harsh measures they possess for litterers. The Council knows people's hard-earned money is required for feeding families not paying stringent fines but there comes a time when the RLC may have to get tough. So, a warning: **DO NOT BE THE FALL GUY WHEN COUNCIL ENFORCES ITS LITTER LAWS!**

Another grizzle concerns the unlawful removal of a road sign warning road users to be careful of the protected Australasian Harrier Hawk when driving. The sign was placed on Dansey Road just outside the village limits. This and one other sign were painted by Dave Fleet and the three metre posts were donated by the late Ian Hossack, an ordinary working bloke, like most people in Mamaku but a benefactor to the township. He and his wife Jan were tremendous assets to the town and the sign was something we could remember Ian by - now it's disappeared. Someone must know something and if someone could quietly drop the sign back, (up on the corner of Dansey and Mauku would do) we'd all be very happy.

Finally a word of praise to both the RLC and the Mamaku Reserve Committee both of whom have striven and succeeded in the establishment of a skate-board park, children and young-people's playground and other installations on the fringe of what was, for a time, the somewhat controversial Mamaku Domain. It shows what happens when people of goodwill combine together to provide facilities for our most precious resource - Children! The village is proud of all the people involved in the implementation of this amenity - not least of all our Councillors, Mayor Chadwick, Garry and Jacqui Pavitt who along with the Mamaku Residents' Association initiated the project and the Mamaku Reserves Committee who followed through on the project and brought it back to life in such a vital and interesting manner. Fantastic job everyone!

Paddy says to Mick, "I found this pen, is it yours?" Mick replies, "Don't know, give it here" - he then tries it and says, "Yes, it is." Paddy asks, "How do you know?" Mick replies, "That's my handwriting!"

JOKE OF THE CENTURY

Two women were sitting quietly together, minding their own business.

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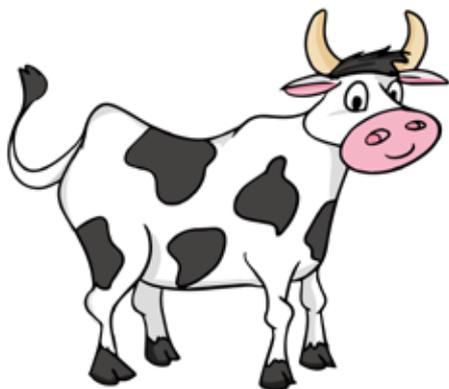
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Ngongotaha School

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

Term four is now underway with the school year fast coming to an end. Thank you to everyone who attended our production “The Migration of Music” at the end of term three. The show was a great success with an extra show performed to meet the demand. The children thoroughly enjoyed their time on stage and it was great to see the whole school taking part. I commend my staff for their dedication and enthusiasm for this activity, I am sure the children will remember it for many years to come. We also wish to thank all the community members who assisted with the costumes that various classes wore, your help was appreciated.

The end of term three was very busy. We had sports teams compete in the annual winter field day. One hockey team, two netball teams, one rugby team and one soccer team competed in a day of sport. Thank you to all the coaches and staff who attended and made the day enjoyable. The weather just held out for all but the soccer team who got drenched during their semi-final playoff. However it was great that the day was able to go ahead as the children do look forward to this event. The hockey team won their section and the rugby team came third in their section.

We now move into touch, water polo and cricket seasons through to the end of the year. The sport and physed focus at school will be athletics and the various components that make up athletics events. We have our school athletics day on Wednesday 11th November with the relays and sprint finals on Thursday 12th November. We look forward to a fun day. The interschool athletics event is planned for Tuesday 24th November.

Also, during the last week of term, we had two teams compete in the annual Rotomaths competition. This is a competition where children work together to solve maths problems within a specific time frame. A big thank you to Bonnie Rakels who spent a lot of time working with our teams to prepare them for the competition. This support added to the work they were doing in class as well.

On Wednesday 23rd September the whole school attended the Kaitao production of “Cinderella”. The children enjoyed this opportunity to watch a live show, especially after they had just completed their performances. Well done to all the cast, crew and workers who were part of the Kaitao production.

This term will also see us performing in the annual Ahurei week. This was previously known as the Rotorua Primary Schools Maori Festival and this year celebrates its 40th year. Many children will remember being on stage in this event over the years and many have gone on to perform at various levels in local groups. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our children in a non-competitive environment and for them to experience a professional stage performance. We look forward to this on Thursday 19th November.

Our property projects are almost complete at school and they certainly make a difference to a number of areas in the school environment. We also have some playground developments underway which will be completed later in the term.

Our Jump Jam team is into fundraising mode as they work towards the national competition which is being held in Christchurch in November. We will be holding a Monster Garage Sale in the community hall on Saturday 17th October from 9.00am to 1.00pm. Tables are being sold for \$25.00 and then you bring along whatever you want to sell at your table with any sales going to you.

contd overpage.....

Ngongotaha school contd...

Food is not included in this. So if it is time for a spring clean and you want to make some money from your past treasures ring the school and book a table. Phone the school on 3574531 or email the office at office@ngongotaha.school.nz . Alternatively come along on the day and look for a bargain from the tables. Thank you for the support that is being given to this team. Term Four: Monday 12th October to Friday 18th December – 10 weeks

2016 term dates

Term One: Tuesday 2nd February to Friday 15th April
Term Two: Monday 2nd May to Friday 8th July
Term Three: Monday 25th July to Friday 23rd September
Term Four: Monday 10th October to Friday 16th December

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

Cathryn Naera and staff of
Ngongotaha School

*No one believes seniors
everyone thinks they are senile.*

*An elderly couple was celebrating
their sixtieth anniversary. The*

couple had married as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighborhood.... after they had retired. Holding hands,they walked back to their old school. They discovered that the classroom wasn't locked, so they entered, and found the old desk they'd shared, where Jerry had carved 'I love you, Sally '!

On their way back home, a bag of money fell out of an armored car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up and then, not sure what to do with it, they took it home. Back there, she counted the money - \$ fifty thousand dollars! Jerry said, We've got to hand it back. Sally said, No ways...Finders keepers. She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic. The next day,two burly police officers were canvassing the neighborhood looking for the money, and knocked on their door. Pardon me, did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armored car yesterday? Sally emphatically said, No ! Jerry said, She's lying.She took it and hid it up in the attic. Sally said, Don't believe him, he's getting senile.....! The agents turned to Jerry and began to question him. One said: Tell us the story from the beginning. Jerry said, Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday The first police officer turned to his partner and said, We're outta here!

SCHOOL - 1950s v 2014

Scenario :

Johnny and Mark get into a fight after school.

1950s - Crowd gathers.. Mark wins. Johnny and Mark shake hands and end up best friends.

2014 - Police called, and they arrest Johnny and Mark & charge them with assault. Both expelled even though Johnny started it. Both children go to anger management programmes for 3 months. School governors hold meeting to implement bullying prevention programmes.

Scenario :

Robbie won't be still in class, disrupts other students.

1950s - Robbie sent to the office and given six of the best by the Principal. Returns to class, sits still and does not disrupt class again.

2014 - Robbie given huge doses of Ritalin. Becomes a zombie. Tested for ADHD – result deemed to be positive. Robbie's parents get fortnightly disability payments and school gets extra funding from government because Robbie has a disability.

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The Mountain News 10th November 1979

NGONGOTAHA BOWLING CLUB

This year there have been 30 men members join the club, also the ladies have had an increase in playing strength. If you would like to try the game, we are organising a Wednesday afternoon roll up beginning at 1.15pm. All we ask is that you wear flat soled shoes, long whites or white shorts not necessary and we will organise some bowls for you. People you can contact if you would like to know more about it: Keith Wright Ph 74321, Lau Sjardin Ph 74140, Jim Fleming Ph 23534, Norm Backhouse Ph 80241, George Keating Ph 25734 or ring the club house 74332. We welcome your company. If you have a carless day Wednesday, we hope that we can organise a ride for you. Last weekend the Club failed by 4 points to retain the "Pakes Cup" Congratulations to Arawa on winning.

The club triples drawn was won by: P. Nisbett (s), J. Fleming, B. Gray, runners-up B.Harris (s), K. Thurlow, B. Breach. Handicap Pairs: D. Crawford and J. Coltman from H. Tregilgas and R. Treloar.

Ngongotaha Open Fours: S. McLeod, R. Turton, J. Branch, M. Chappell from P. Nisbett, N. Doherty, D.Porter, R. Treloar. At Labour Weekend 9 teams from our Club participated in the BOP Championships held in Tauranga. The under-rated pair of Glen Morse and Bob Ashcroft made it to the final. With luck a little against them they lost 16-13, however, the winners from Tauranga played good bowls and our congratulations go to them. Don't forget Wednesday afternoons for the roll up.

Here and There by JWJL

Vandalism at the Hall We will pay a reward for information leading to the detection of the vandals who turned on the hoses in the Community Hall. The fire hoses were dragged into the centre of the Hall and then turned on, and you can imagine the resultant damage. The big problem is the floor, which could be permanently buckled. The cost of repairs of course comes out of the ratepayers' pockets and as this was done in the afternoon, someone must know who was responsible, so please ask your children if they have any knowledge of the culprits.

At the party. Had a good time at our Chairman's son's 21st birthday the other Saturday night. This was the first time I had been in the Soccer Club's building, and although it's not quite finished yet, it is a credit to them. This hall is a wonderful addition to the amenities that we have available in Ngongotaha. Back to the party - incidentally also an Engagement party as well, as young Stewart had also encouraged the fair daughter of Jim and Shirley Duigman to say 'well I take the first step, but look out, I will be keeping my eye on you'

Naturally half of Ngongotaha was there, but look out if you are attending functions, as one person found out when he went out to start his car he found someone had forced the window and ripped off the back of the ignition, but apparently must have been disturbed as he was joining up the wires. The moral of the story is if you are at a function similar to this, go outside occasionally to check you vehicle and others at the same time.

To fly or not to fly: Imagine the surprise of a young Ngongotaha girl who was visiting home from Australia, and who booked and paid for a return Air Ticket last August, intending to return to Australia in October, when arriving at the Airport was told her ticket had been re-sold. It appears that Airline companies cannot keep records that last longer than a month, and you're supposed to ring up the local office and confirm your booking. This is all very well, but surely someone should tell the would-be

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Blast from the past contd.....

passenger about checking in again because once upon a time, a ticket purchased and paid for was a guarantee of a seat, but I guess times are changing.

Home Help available: Don't forget you older people if you need a hand around the house give me a yell so the High School Children will have something to do.

What next? I believe the Telephone Directory is to be computerised next time, and all the towns in the BOP will be lumped together regardless. If you want B.Smith's number, it will be among all the other Smiths in the Bay from Katikati to Opotiki all the way across to Turangi.

I was informed that this is the way it's done overseas. Is nothing sacred from our Bureaucracy? They argue that it will be cheaper, it will be quicker, it will provide a better service, it will be modern. My opinion anyway is that if they were not so inefficient, and bogged down with so many rules and regulations, and if they'd only let the people who do the work get on with the job, there would be no problems. I sometimes think it would be a good idea if we gave the top boys in the Bureaucracy a permanent holiday, we could run the Country on half of what it costs now.

Stock figures: Did you know that in January 1979 in the Rotorua area we had over 66,000 dairy cattle, just over a million sheep, 2619 pigs and over 71,000 beef cattle. We also docked over half a million lambs so you can see the docking chore can be quite something.

Mountain news 21st June 1980

Kakahi Village: Met a lady the other day who was shifting from Hamurana to Kakahi Village. Well, for a start, where the blazes is Kakahi village? It appears that about a hundred years ago, it was someones intention to set up a small township on the old road to Tauranga just past the Roy Road turnoff. apparently there are several small plots situated there which were subdivided at the time, given their own titles, and some are still in existence. Later on, our Bureaucrats amalgamated a lot of these titles, so my informant tells me, but the few left seem to be popular with certain people who like country life with a city only 15 minutes drive away. So there you are, and when you next drive over the direct road to Tauranga, remember to slow down when going through Kakahi Village.

Bridge over the River Ngongotaha: Heard a whisper that because money has been saved on another bridge under construction in the District, the widening of our notorious bridge is almost certain this year. What a difference this will make to the appearance of the town.

Election Time: It is not too early for some of you to give some thought to putting your names forward for election this year in November. Ngongotaha people can vote for 6 people for the Community council who, in turn, elect one member to the District council. This is the last time you will have this opportunity because after 1983 the Ngongotaha Community Council will be abolished and will become part of the city or urban area and you will only be able to vote for a Central Council the same as any other city ratepayer. More about this later.

Two blondes were going to Disneyland. They were driving on the Interstate when they saw the sign that said Disneyland LEFT. They started crying and turned around and went home.

A girl was visiting her blonde friend, who had acquired two new dogs, and asked her what their names were.

The blonde responded by saying that one was named Rolex and one was named Timex. Her friend said, 'Whoever heard of someone naming dogs like that?' 'Helllooooo. . . , ' answered the blonde. 'They're watch dogs'



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Ngongotaha Early Learning

A big happy hello from Ngongotaha Early Learning! We have had a few fun filled busy few months. Our tamariki have been busy sowing vegetable seeds for the summer veggie garden, which we will use in our delicious lunches. To support 'Bee Awareness' month we have also been sowing many varieties of flowers to encourage bees, and children are learning and discovering just how important bees are to us. We are all excited about watching our seeds sprout and how beautiful our gardens are going to look (and how happy the bees will be). We fundraised for Red Nose Day and Daffodil Day with dress up days – always a favourite, our efforts raised \$190 towards cancer research and support, and Loud Shirt Day, we raised \$79, to support deaf children. A big thank you to whanau and friends who generously donated a gold coin towards these charities. Yesterday we successfully participated in National Shake Out Day – where we all practiced what to do in the event of an earthquake – drop, cover, hold. More information can be found at www.shakeout.govt.nz.

With the warmer weather arriving it has been great to get out and about more in the community; we are enjoying playing in the fields, parks and wooded areas alongside the Ngongotaha stream, and learning about local myths and legends. Give us a wave if you see us out and about!

Upcoming events: We will be having 'Grandparents Day' and inviting our grandparents to share the day with us. Walking Stars, Auckland, 28 November, a team of teachers and parents from Ngongotaha Early Learning will be participating in the 21km walk. The event raises funds for research, and also to support families affected by cancer. Good luck everyone participating! More information and details on how you can support us can be found at www.walkingstars.org.nz
Many of our toddlers have celebrated their second birthday and moved into our 'overs' classroom. Our popular infant's room has a few spaces if you are needing care for your baby. We welcome visitors in to have a look around in our unique setting for our infants. As always we wish you a happy and safe month, from the team at Ngongotaha Early Learning Centre.



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Two businessmen in the centre of Weybridge Surrey. were sitting down for a break in their soon-to-be new shop... As yet, the shop wasn't ready, with only a few shelves set up. One said to the other, "I bet any minute now some old pensioner is going to walk by, put their face to the window, and ask what we're selling." "You know these senior citizens are nosy parkers" No sooner were the words out of his mouth when, sure enough, a curious old woman walked to the window, had a peek, and in a soft voice asked, "What are you selling here?" One of the men replied sarcastically, "We're selling a\$%se-holes." Without skipping a beat, the old dear said, "Must be doing well... Only two left."

A Catholic Priest, a Baptist Preacher and a Rabbi all served as Chaplains to the students of Northern Michigan University at Marquette in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. They would get together two or three times a week for coffee and to talk shop.

One day, someone made the comment that preaching to people isn't really all that hard, a real challenge would be to preach to a bear. One thing led to another, and they decided to do an experiment. They would all go out into the woods, find a bear, preach to it, and attempt to convert it to their religion. Seven days later, they got together to discuss their experiences. Father Flannery, who had his arm in a sling, was on crutches, and had various bandages on his body and limbs, went first. 'Well,' he said, 'I went into the woods to find a bear. And when I found him, I began to read to him from my Catechism. Well, that bear wanted nothing to do with me and began to slap me around. So I grabbed my holy water bottle, sprinkled him and, Holy Mary Mother of God, he became as gentle as a lamb. The Bishop is coming out next week to give him first communion and

confirmation.'

Reverend Billy Bob the Baptist spoke next. He was in a wheelchair, had one arm and both legs in casts. In his best fire-and-brimstone oratory, he exclaimed, 'Well, brothers, you know that we Baptists don't sprinkle holy water! I went out and I found a bear. And then I began to read to the bear from God's Holy word! But that bear wanted nothing to do with me. So I took hold of him and we began to wrestle. We wrestled down the hill until we came to a creek. So I quickly dunked him and baptised his hairy soul. And just like you said, he became as gentle as a lamb. We spent the rest of the day praising Jesus. Hallelujah! The Priest and the Reverend both looked down at the Rabbi, who was lying in bed in a body cast and traction with IVs and monitors running in and out of him. He was in really bad shape. The Rabbi said: "Looking back on it, circumcision may not have been the best way to start.'



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