

NGONGOTAHA NEWS

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

Editor Philippa Wills Ph: 021 283 7006

website: www.ngongotahanews.co.nz

NEXT DEADLINE: 5 MAY 2021 10AM

APRIL 2021 ISSUE



See inside for
Carnivorous Plant Society Evening

Your Invitation to a Celebration of Kaharoa Community History: Sunday 18th April 2021 at Kaharoa Hall on Kaharoa Rd

Starting 10.00 a.m. tea & lunch provided

**2021 is the 50th Anniversary of the new Kaharoa Hall opening.
There will be speakers, displays, entertainment, lunch, meet old friends.
This is your chance to learn about the Community you live in.**

Hear from the Kokako Trust, the early days of settlement & farming.
Have a go at the surprise activities organised by seniors from the school.
Bring relevant photos or mementos your family have for others to view.

Activities provided to entertain younger children.



**Please RSVP to either Chris Paterson at chrisjam@xtra.co.nz Ph 07 3322818
or Tina Marshall at tailajane21@gmail.com Ph 073322226
or Rusty & Wendy McGowan at rusty_wendy@xtra.co.nz Ph 073323586**

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11.00am Bible Study

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1st, 3rd & 5th 1.30pm Games afternoon St Barnabas Close (Scrabble, Rumikub, 500 etc)

MESSY CHURCH: Intergenerational church

Sunday 25th April 4.00pm – 6.00pm All welcome – Come and experience this way of church

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NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

1st March Graded Triples Our new bowler Harry was back in full swing. With the comments I heard, he was playing some good bowls. Two teams had to have a play off. We had beaten this team earlier in the night. But when you have to play them again in the play off, it is anyone's game. They beat us in the last end by four points. The winners for the night were John Rayner, Grahame Turner and Bruce Mapson. Congratulations to you three players. The Runner Up team was Wayne Hitchen, Helen White and Nicole Ruthe. A good night had by all.

8th March Buttons A very warm night considering we had a cool start to the day. It is Autumn though so we can expect this. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. The Button holders were Wayne Hitchen, Grahame Turner and Nicole Ruthe. They were undefeated so they still hold the buttons till next time.

15th March Graded Pairs (Curry Cup) Tonight we congratulated Murray Harris on receiving an Order of Merit Award. This award was for all his contribution to Indoor Bowls and work he does in the community at Ngongotaha and the Rotorua Community Patrol. Well done Murray and well deserved. Our first lot of competition bowls for our club. It was a great night and some good bowls were played but there was only one winner for the night. We had two teams that had to have a play off. The winners were Murray Harris and Delwyn Hughes. Runner up Bruce Wiggins and Jan Drabble. Well done to those two teams. We had three new people, Vini Smith, Maggie and Paul Graham who came along to see how bowls are played. Look forward to seeing them back next week.

22nd March Aggregate Not a good night for me but that is the way bowls can go. Our three new members Vini Smith, Paul and Maggie Graham were back to play tonight. I think they enjoyed themselves. We also had a visitor and also playing was Nicole Ruthe's Dad, Duncan. I think he had a good challenge against his daughter Nicole and his Uncle Kevin Whyte. The winners for the night were Skip Kevin Whyte, Three Delwyn Hughes and Lead Nicole Ruthe.

29th March Whyte Trophy Was a very quiet night as lots of bowlers were away for some reason. I knew of two that were going to be on holiday. The rain may have put off some bowlers. The twelve bowlers that were there enjoyed themselves. We had two teams to play off for the Whyte Trophy. They were Kevin Whyte, Martin Burtling, John Rayner and Nicole Ruthe. The winners were John Rayner and Nicole Ruthe. Nicole Ruthe is playing very good bowls.

Anyone looking at playing bowls can contact:

John Rayner 07 5625012
Kevin Whyte 07 3574766

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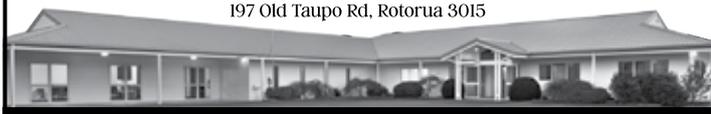
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Feelings and memories of growing up in Awahou



I must have been very young and small because I fit under the front section of my father's row boat, huddled under his jacket feeling snug and warm.

It is night. Late at night and I can hear the whisper of trout fly-fishing lines whistling through the air from my father's line and those around us. Someone is smoking roll-your-own cigarettes and the smell occasionally drifts our way mingled with the cold breeze that carried it to us. That smell now mingling with that of the trout lying not far from my feet, recently caught and still.

Other trout are splashing in the lake as they either jump to catch something on the surface or are jumping to try and get off the fly hook that has caught them. This is soon accompanied by the sound of a fishing net breaching the top of the water in search of the tiring trout, a couple of loud thwacks signal the trout was a good one before the net once again splashes into the water as the fisherman cleans his net in preparation for their next kai for the whanau. No catch and release back in these days. All of the trout ended up in a backyard smoker, a pot or an oven after spending the evening beside me in my father's boat, or next to one of my cousins lying in their fathers' boats or tied on to a wader's side.

Now and then the silence would be disrupted by someone saying they

had caught enough and were heading home, and others grunting their replies of acknowledgement. The last sound from our boat was always the links on the anchor chain rattling off their familiar beat as my father pulled up our anchor signalling our return to shore which sometimes woke me from my sleep. My first memories of trout fishing at Awahou are as clear to me now as the breakfast I ate this morning.

When you take your first dive into the Awahou river the water doesn't embrace you gently and make you snug and warm like my father's jacket used to make me. The crystal-clear inviting water seems to attack you and shock you into submission. The water is so cold that your breath is stolen from your body and you feel revitalised and refreshed. You are shocked back into life. Your body senses danger and I have seen many a person leave the water faster than a rabbit, some never to return to those freezing waters again. However, if you can get through that initial shock and return and stay in the water then the water becomes healing and awkwardly soothing for the same body that resented being there in the first instance.

You never forget your first swim in the Awahou river and when you return as often as my whanau and I have, your body yearns for that same refreshing cleansing healing feeling. Swimming in the Awahou river is something that should be on everyone's bucket list. I dare you to add it to yours.

The cry of the karanga still gets me. It signals that someone has come home to Tarimano marae which will be their second to last resting place before they go up to our urupa (cemetery) along Hamurana road. I have heard that piercing, loving, emotional call being made many many times to many loved ones, before a haka powhiri goes out to welcome that person home. The first karanga signals that the deceased will lay at our marae for three or four days and their mourners, our manuhiri, will be given a karanga as they come onto the marae to say their farewells to the much-loved person. My earliest memory is of my Koro Tuhoro Ropiha's tangi. I loved my koro and I remember being snuggled up under woollen blankets at his place at Awahou, listening to my parents and grandparents having a korero over beers or cups of tea before falling off to sleep.

I also remember climbing the cupboard to get down the Anchor milk powder tin and eating the powder with the scoop found in the tin. That house was also made a home for me because of the orchard out the back that was always loaded with apples, and it would take a few years before I knew the difference between a cooking apple and an eating apple. They were all the same when I was small.

There are many other memories I could share with you too, such as visits to see the famous trout Harvey up at Taniwha springs, or at least his picture, playing golf at Hamurana and catching koura at night with my older cousins, along with the many barbeques and seeing many New Years in by a bonfire beside the lake edge. Many memories of many people now long gone but always remembered. Awahou is just one of the magic spots in our region where vaults of memories wait to be opened and made. I hope this summer has seen many new wonderful memories made for you and your children, before the cold of winter sends us all indoors. Go for that swim, before you have a decent excuse not to.

Ngahi o te ra Bidois is an international Keynote speaker, businessman, author, husband, father and MBA, A Maori Boy from Awahou. See www.ngahibidois.com



Hon. Todd McClay MP for Rotorua



As your MP knowing what issues are important to our community helps me to represent you better.

Your feedback is helpful when making decisions on the future direction of New Zealand. Please take a moment to complete this survey and return to me using the freepost address.

Thank you for your feedback, and I appreciate your time.

1. There has been an explosion of homeless being housed in Motels across Rotorua. Does this worry you?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

2. There are increased reports of crime escalating in the CBD. Is this something that has affected you?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

3. TV news has said that Rotorua gangs have grown. Have you noticed an increased gang presence in our city?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

4. Rents have increased by \$100.00 per week in Rotorua over the past 3 years. Has this affected you or anyone you know?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Authorised by T. McClay, Parliament Building, Wellington

5. With Australian Tourists coming to Rotorua, do you think we have enough accommodation to support our Tourism industry?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

6. Do you think Rotorua Lakes District Council is doing a good job?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

7. What local issues would you like to see Todd work on as your elected MP?

Please provide contact details if you would like to receive updates from Todd McClay MP or National.

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

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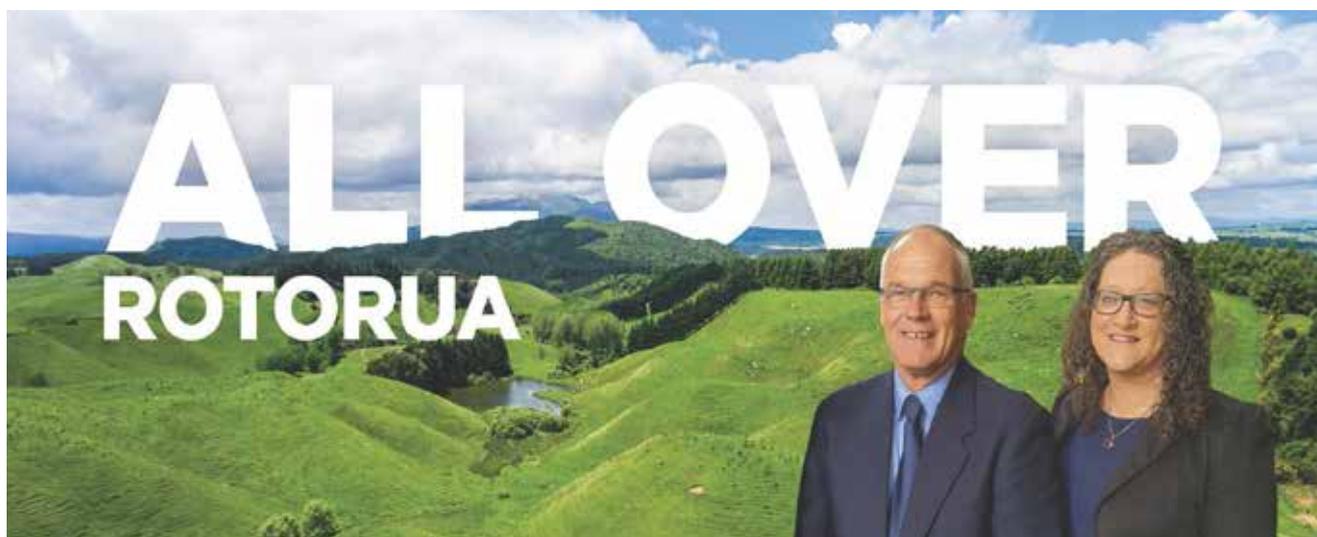
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A Phone First Acute Clinic Has Replaced Our Drop In Clinic

As previously advised, we've redesigned our traditional morning "Drop-in Clinic" to a "Phone First Acute Clinic" system. So if you feel you need to be seen the same day, instead of coming down to the Surgery, simply call our reception from 8.30 a.m. and ask to be put in our "Phone First Acute Clinic". A doctor or acute-care nurse practitioner will call you back promptly.

If we can sort your problem with a telephone consultation we will, however if we do need to see you in person we will arrange for you to come in to be seen. (Please note that there will only be a single consultation charge whether your issue is resolved by telephone consultation or face to face). **Benefits for you are:**

- No more long waits in waiting rooms with sick children
- Less exposure to waiting room bugs from other sick people
- Stay in the comfort of your own home.

Quick Guide to the Phone First Acute Clinic



- Minor issues only
- 5 minute consultation time
- Ideal for children who need to be seen at the last minute
- Renewal of scripts



- Multiple issues
- Complex problems
- WINZ Certificates, Drivers Medicals or other Medicals need to be booked with your regular Doctor



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Ngongotaha School

I hope everyone enjoyed their Easter break and managed to spend time with their loved ones. It is hard to believe that this time last year we were in the middle of a Nationwide Lockdown. It certainly has been a crazy 12 months. Term 1 has raced by at Ngongotaha School but a lot has happened in the first 10 weeks. Museum trips, Marae visits, triathlon, Country Swimming sports, redevelopment of the school office, just to name a few.

Next term will be just as busy. We will hold our annual Walk-a-Thon which turned out to be a huge success last year in promoting physical activity and thanking our essential workers. We have also planned a careers day for children to speak with various professionals as a part of our high aspirations theme. Winter sports codes will begin where our children will start playing rugby, netball, football, hockey and basketball.

Our new middle school playground is now complete and the children are thoroughly enjoying the new structure. Our student council have designed this after researching what their classmates wanted from a playground. There are some exciting new elements to use and they have selected Ngongotaha colours for the structure which look amazing.

As you may have heard, Elaine Whyte is retiring after 33 years service at Ngongotaha School. Elaine doesn't want a big fuss, but she has allowed me to organise a family dinner, staff morning tea and school assembly on Friday 16th April where we will celebrate her time here at school. If you would like to come to the assembly and celebrate 33 years of outstanding service, you are more than welcome to do so.

Whaea Tayla has returned to school slightly earlier than expected. She was scheduled to come back in term 2 but missed us so much she has decided to come in Tuesdays and Thursdays for the remainder of term. I want to publicly thank Matua Wiremu and Whaea Ana for their support over the past six weeks. Truly amazing people willing to go above and beyond for the tamariki of our school.

During Term 2, we will be conducting a review of our school. We are looking at ways we can improve our current practices. We will be holding several meetings to gain community voice. These will include meetings in the Community Hall and meetings at each of the local Marae. Keep an eye out next term for the dates of these meetings. We would love to see you all there.

Craig McFadyen and the team at Ngongotaha School.



Rural Swimming Sports

On Monday 8 March we hosted the annual rural swimming sports. It is always such a wonderful experience to see swimmers from other schools come along to participate and compete in this swimming event. What a delight seeing the can-do attitude of so many children from our Rotorua schools.



After school care

We are very excited to be able to offer before and after school care for our families. Along with the YMCA we will be providing before and after school care from term 2. Keep an eye on our school website for more details www.kaharoa.school.nz



Morning movement

With the lovely autumn weather our learners and teachers here at Kaharoa have been enjoying starting our day with movement. We spend 10 mins playing fun games that get our tamariki moving and ready for learning. Thanks to Amy Mahon from Sport Bay of Plenty for her ideas and support.



Rhythm Interactive

Our tamariki had an opportunity to discover their inner drummer today with Rhythm Interactive. The whole school played and enjoyed learning the different drums and answered enough questions correctly for Johnny B to give our school 20 djembe drums.



Ukulele at lunchtime - some keen musos along with Maria Shoebridge are learning and practising the ukulele under the guidance of Megan Kusabs.

Visit to Maungatautari Ecological Sanctuary - one of our junior classrooms visited the amazing sanctuary at Maungatautari. The tamariki saw many birds including takahe as well as tuatara up close in their natural habitat.



Radio at lunchtime

Our two new DJs Caydan and Nicholas are entertaining the tamariki at lunch time with music and news. Requests for songs are encouraged and it is a joy to see the children dancing in the playground as they listen to the music.



Parent/Teacher Interviews

Over two days last week parents were able to meet with teachers and discuss, share and celebrate their children's learning and achievements. The BOT held a sausage sizzle and welcomed whanau and were available to answer any question our parents had.

Trapping group

As a Predator Free School we have a trapping group that organises the setting of traps. This is a group of keen eco-warriors who are keeping our school predator free, working towards a Predator Free NZ 2050. So wonderful to see such environmentally minded young people.



Onesie Wednesday

On Wednesday 7 April we held Onesie Day. Tamariki and kaiako came dressed in their onesies and made a gold coin donation. The money raised went to Autism NZ. This was organised by our year 8 leaders.



Please refer to the Kaharoa website for further information.

www.kaharoa.school.nz

Ngā mihi mahana - The Kaharoa Team

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The Ngongotaha Covid-19 card trial

1191 people signed up to participate in the trial – far exceeding the expected number for a research project and supporting an informed recommendation

- Well over 15,000 card contacts (digital handshakes) were recorded on the cards during the week they were live
- 270 people did exit surveys, 22 participated in whānau interviews and 158 went through the full contact tracing investigation process – researchers had expected just 75 people to participate in this part of the trial – awesome work from our locals!
- A key learning was to have local investigators contacting local people and increase the number of Maori and other community-based people in the contact tracing workforce across the country
- Based on the feedback, we know people were willing to wear the cards, found them convenient and that they effectively recorded contacts
- The early findings indicate there are some limitations around the ability to connect with other contact tracing options that are being used right now, like the NZ COVID Tracer App.
- A big thank you to the people of Ngongotaha!

Significantly, the trial reinforced the need for alternative contact tracing options that work for everyone – the young, old and everyone in between, those who may not have a phone or those who may not be able to use the App for whatever reason.

A report is being prepared for Cabinet who will make further decisions about New Zealand's future contact tracing options.

Source: Monty Morrison: Te Arawa COVID-19 Response Hub

Seasonal Stories

A little old lady was walking down the street during autumn gales, holding on to her hat with both hands. A gentleman approached her and said "Pardon me, madam. I do not intend to be forward, but did you know your dress is blowing up in this high wind."

"Yes, I know" said the lady, "but I need both hands to hold onto this hat".

"But madam, you are not wearing anything under your dress, and people can see everything" the man persisted.

The lady replied "Anything you see down there is 85 years old. I just bought this hat yesterday!"

A Canadian woman lives with her family in a forest near the border with the US. One autumn morning, her son comes home from town holding a letter. He approaches the woman and says:

"According to this letter, the United States wants to consider this area as part of Montana. The Canadian government agrees, but says that since we're the only family living here, they want our permission to sign this land over to the US."

The woman jumps out of her chair and exclaims, "Where do I sign? I don't think I can stand another Canadian winter!"

Why do leaves change color in Autumn? Because instead of chlorophyll, they chloro-empty.

Age Concern

We finally managed to get our Positive Ageing Expo off the ground and it was held at Parksyde on Saturday 20th March. Eventually we had over 25 stall holders and there was a wide variety of information on offer. Although the venue was smaller than the Events Centre, it was more intimate and adequate for the event and feedback from the stall holders was very positive with all of them indicating that they would be happy to attend again next year.

Towards the end of March, we visited WHHS to launch the Intergenerational Project book written by the students and containing the Life Stories of several prominent people who have all, in their own way, given back to the Rotorua Community. The books are available at our office free of charge as we were fortunate enough to be granted funds to produce the book from the Lakes Disability Support Trust.

At the end of March Age Concern were invited, along with five other charities who were funding recipients, to a presentation at Toi Ohomai of the proceeds from the Charity House Project. Grants were given out by Rotorua Sunrise Rotary and Age Concern received a grant which will be used to support the running costs of our minivan which is being loaned to other groups as well as the uses we have for it at Age Concern.

Our Social Connection programmes are going well with most of the Out and Abouters' minivan trips being fully subscribed. Recently the trips were to Maketu for a fish and chip lunch, Mamaku Blue and the movies. It is great to see our members out and about and beginning to enjoy life again without the worry of Covid hanging over them. The sooner we can get everyone vaccinated the better. We also loan our van to groups that have a connection to the elderly such as The Pacific Island Kaumatua group, the Kaumatua group, the Kaumatua Olympics and Fitness group and the St Barnabas Care Home.

The next big event Age Concern will be involved in will be the Charity Garage Sale. These events have taken off and big thanks must go to Tim O'Sullivan and Ray White Real Estate for their continued support of the charity sector in Rotorua. Age Concern is most appreciative



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of the fact that this is our second go at the Garage sale which will be held at the Ngongotaha Railway Park on 1st May from 8:00am. We are beginning to collect items from now on so if you have anything at all that you might like to donate, big or small, please get in touch with Age Concern 07 347 1539 and we can arrange delivery or pick up.

The latest advice we are being given is that we should consider wearing a good quality mask during this winter. It is important if we want to get through the winter without mass lockdowns. Covid, like the flu, will be a seasonal disease and social distancing alone will not be enough to stop the spread. The advice is that all New Zealanders should get a good quality mask and wear it out in public especially on a train, bus, plane or in the supermarket.

Although Age Concern Rotorua is only a small team, we seem to have several programmes on the go at once and this is due to the dedication of the 4 amazing ladies on the staff who work tirelessly for the elderly in our community.

We are always on the lookout for new members and new volunteers so if you would like to join up or you can spare 1 hour a week to visit a person identified as lonely or socially isolated please give us a ring and discuss it.

Our number is 07 347 1539.

Rory O'Rourke
Manager



Agewise
Responsibility for MY safety starts with ME

Revise the road rules and learn how to keep driving safely

Wednesday 7 April 2021
Tuesday 11 May 2021
Wednesday 9 June 2021

9.30am – 2.30pm
Parksyde Community Centre

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on 348 4199 to register

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How to heat your house without breaking the bank

Only heat the room that you are in. Try and keep the temperature between 18 and 21 degrees especially if you have babies, people with illnesses, or older people living in your home.

Dress warmly for bed and make sure your bedroom is warm enough during the night. Block up unused chimneys and stop draughts around doors and windows. You can make your own draught 'snakes' by stuffing rugby socks or pantyhose with newspaper or cushion filling. Up to 20% of heating can be lost through draughts.

Open windows and curtains on sunny days to release moisture, and close them when the sun goes down to trap heat in your home. Trim trees shading your house (but if you are renting, ask your landlord first!).

How to keep your home dry

A dehumidifier costs around \$156 a year to run and there are cheaper natural alternatives.

If you use a gas heater without a chimney, open a window and internal doors. Research has shown that they can release gases which can be particularly dangerous for anyone with heart disease or asthma, pregnant women, young children and older people. Use it only for short periods and never in bedrooms.

Drying clothes outside is free and the sunlight kills bacteria, making your clothes healthier for you and your family. Use a shed or garage if it is raining.

Always open a window when you are showering or cooking on the stove top. Keep doors to bedrooms closed as steam can make beds damp.

TEN easy ways to cut your electricity costs

1. Talk to your electricity company about which plan is best for you. Most companies provide options including direct debits at a flat rate all year round, pre-payment meters and low use rates for people who are very frugal.
2. Most of your electricity bill will go on hot water so set your washing machine on a cold wash and rinse your dishes in cold water. Take short showers instead of baths. Showers use 60 % less water than baths.
3. A dripping hot tap can cost \$80 a year but a washer to fix it costs less than \$1!
4. If your hot water cylinder is old, keep the heat in by using a hot water cylinder wrap, available from hardware stores. Set the thermostat to 55C at the tap (this will also prevent scalds).
5. Turn the lights off in rooms when you leave them. unless you are using energy efficient light bulbs and returning within ten minutes.
6. Turn off appliances that have a standby function (such as TVs, stereos, mobile chargers, computers or microwaves) at the wall. This can save you up to \$75 a year.
7. Clothes dryers can be very expensive to run so avoid using them. Ensure clothes are properly spun and either leave windows open or vent it outside. Heated towel rails also cost around \$120 a year to run.
8. Make sure there is generous air space at the back of your fridge and locate it out of direct sunlight, or in a cooler room like the laundry. Don't open the fridge door too often or leave it open.
9. Make sure you cool food before putting it in the fridge. Turn off your second or 'drinks' fridge - this could be costing you \$190 per year.
10. When cooking, keep the oven door closed. Keep lids on pots, use as little water as possible, and simmer rather than boil food. A microwave uses 30-40 per cent less power than a conventional oven. Defrost food naturally if possible, (in the fridge is best) rather than in the microwave.

Source msd.govt.nz

The Long-term Plan is being developed based on Council's key priorities and to reflect what the community has said is important to support a safe, thriving and prosperous Rotorua.

We have a lot of hard mahi to do.

- **He Papakāinga, He Hāpori Taurikura**
Housing and Thriving Communities
(including investment in the Rotorua Aquatic Centre)
- **Whanake Ōhanga**
Economic Development
- **Whakahaumarū Hāpori**
Community Safety
- **Panonitanga Āhuarangi**
Climate Change
- **Hangaroto**
Infrastructure

MAHI.
2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation

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For Sale By Auction 1pm, 24th March 2021 [View \[rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25865\]\(http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25865\)](http://View.rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25865) Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 & Julie Brake 021 110 0320



Hamurana Lot 2 Atkins Lane

Set on a section size of 3965 m2 (more or less), the property celebrates the expansive views and there are already some mature shrubs, hedges and lush green lawns in place to beautify the property. Title now issued, with some covenants.

By Negotiation [View \[rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25680\]\(http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25680\)](http://View.rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25680) Anita Martelli 027 552 6482

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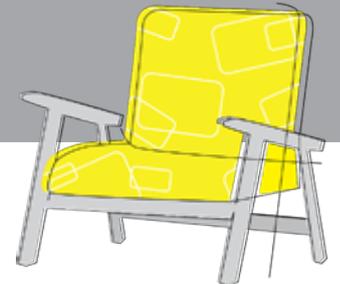
Ngongotaha Rail Park - Saturday 1st May 9am - 12pm

RayWhite

The **grand total** raised so far from the monthly Charity Garage Sales from items generously donated by the community is **\$36,913.63**

You helped The CARE Village receive **\$1,968.12** in last month's Charity Garage Sale.

This month's proceeds will go to Age Concern



Help us to help others

If you have anything to donate, please contact Tim on 07 348 6172, 0274 974 986 or tim.osullivan@raywhite.com



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Auction 1pm, 28th April 2021 View rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25941 Mandy Lee 0276 732 331

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Wills and Family Protection Act Claims

By Ros Morshead, Solicitor at Lawbox

In New Zealand, the law enables a person to largely leave their estate as they wish by will. BUT, that's not as simple as what you might think because there are a number of ways a will can be challenged and/or the provisions changed to achieve a different distribution outcome under the Family Protection Act. While the court frequently says it will not disturb a testator's wishes, it regularly does change the distribution of a will when a claim is before it.

One way provisions can be challenged in a Will is under the Property (Relationships) Act which also governs relationship property after death. Where a surviving spouse or partner does not inherit all the deceased's estate under their will (perhaps because of bequests within a blended family, or there are large bequests to charities for example), then the survivor has a window of time in which they are entitled to apply to the court for a division of relationship property. This has the effect of increasing their share of the estate pie.

Another way is by a claim under the Family Protection Act. Under this Act a person who believes the deceased had a moral obligation to provide for them (or more for them) can apply to the court for different provision from an estate. This could occur where, for example, a parent decides to disinherit an adult child for a variety of reasons (not always the child's fault), or only leave them a very small portion of their estate. These claims are often successful too.

Sometimes though, the drafting of a Will has unintended outcomes that can give rise to a claim. For example, a deceased with Māori land interests leaving their residuary (balance) estate between a few specified grandchildren, but unintentionally failing to specify proper succession of land interests earlier in their Will. Here, the effect of the residuary 'catch anything that's left' clause means the lands are also captured thus disinheriting and excluding all the deceased's own children (and their children) by default. For ever.

The Māori Land Court sadly has no jurisdiction under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act in these situations. And it is particularly difficult where those grandchildren are either minors and can't legally agree to disclaim, or the grandchildren are adult but refuse to agree to disclaim. Sadly, as occurred for one Whānau I acted for a few years back (hence the land examples), the only remedy is to make a costly and unpleasant application to the Family or High Court under the Family Protection Act and compete with the grandchildren for the rightful interest in their own whenua.

Remember, your Will is your final say. Once you die, those left have to live with the finality of your decisions written in black and white for the rest of their natural lives. Generational impact whether financial or whenua can

be enormous. Further, any dispute ultimately ends up dissipating the estate for the other beneficiaries in legal fees, not to mention fracturing family and Whānau relationships forever.

It is very important to carefully consider any bequests or provisions you may want to make in your will and get proper legal advice about your position, the validity of your reasons, and any risks to claims against your estate.



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LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Hope you are all enjoying the autumn weather with the cooler nights and lovely settled days. It is always a joy to see the beautiful colours displayed by the various trees around as they transition into winter. It is a great time of the year to be on the golf course.

The greens have recovered nicely from the maintenance they had at the beginning of March. The Match Play Handicap competition continues into April with some awesome matches being contested. The combination of ladies, juniors and men playing in the same competition made for some great interest and produced a great vibe among the membership and resulted in a real connectivity across the club. This was so cool to see and something that we will continue through the year. We have installed a purple short/junior course. This is something we have been working on for a while to make the course more user friendly for all abilities. It proved a real hit with our juniors on our junior day and gave them some confidence and success to encourage them on their golfing journey.

On Good Friday we held a tournament to raise funds for our junior programme at Lakeview. We were overwhelmed with entries ending up with 120 which was far more than expected and just brilliant. The funds raised will be used by Josh for equipment etc.

We have purchased some possum traps and installed these on the course to add to our rat trap line and have had great results! We would still love to hear from someone in the community who is keen to help us check and monitor the traps. So, if that is you please contact the shop. We are always keen to share our beautiful course with the community so if you are a keen walker or group of walkers and are looking for a change of scenery again please contact the shop to arrange a walk or walks.

The information boards designed by tamariki at Ngongotaha Primary are nearly complete. The signs are being printed at present and we can't wait to see them out on the course being enjoyed by everyone. They will display some great snippets of information and I am sure those that read them will learn something new!

The last quiz night held was super fun with a lot of laughs and brain strain! Unfortunately we had to change the date advertised in the last Ngongotaha News to Friday April 23rd so get a team together register with Josh and we will see you there.

As always, we welcome everyone to Lakeview whether it is to play golf on the course, hit balls on the range or maybe just a visit to see our beautiful environment!

Until next month enjoy the autumn and stay safe.

Golf shop phone number is 07 357 2341.

Ngongotaha Roundabout News

NZTA/Waka Kotahi have trialled manual traffic controls during peak hours, which has seen a positive impact on traffic flow. At the time of printing, the SH5/SH36 free flow (slip) lane remains closed to westbound (Tirau/Hamilton) traffic leaving Rotorua, and all westbound traffic is using the existing roundabout for this turn.

During April, a diversion will be put in place for vehicles travelling north from Rotorua towards Ngongotaha, Hamurana and Tauranga. The detour consists of turning westwards (towards Hamilton/Tirau) at the roundabout onto SH5 and then turning right into Western Road before Dansey Road to resume travelling on Ngongotaha Road. Southbound traffic (Ngongotaha to Rotorua) will not be diverted.

The slip lane will remain closed until this detour via Western Road is put in place. The road layout change and manual traffic controls are expected to be in place for up to three weeks.

The good news is that the roadworks on the roundabout have been sped up by using a new product which requires less curing during the winter months. NZTA/Waka Kotahi are at this point hopeful of a completion date in late July, depending of course on the weather.

A plan of the new roundabout is on our website, www.ngongotahanews.co.nz under newsletters.

A REMINDER: HAVE YOU CHECKED THE BATTERIES IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD SMOKE DETECTORS?

Seasonal Stories continued.....

A Native American man lived in the big city all his life. Then one day his father dies. When he goes home to the reserve for the funeral, the people all nominate him to be the new chief, since he was a successful businessman and his father was a good chief. He accepts.

But then that autumn, they people come to him and ask him if it will be a cold winter that year. The man has no idea, since he was raised in the city all his life and doesn't know any of the people's traditional teachings. So, to be on the safe side, he says, "Yes. Better start gathering firewood." So, they do.

Later that week, he decides to call up the national weather service and ask them what the forecast is for that winter. They say, "Apparently, it's going to be pretty cold this year." So, he orders his people to gather twice as much firewood.

The next week, he calls the weather service again to ask if there are any updates on the forecast. They say "Yes! Apparently, it's going to be even colder than we previously thought." So, the chief tells his people to gather three times the firewood they normally would.

He calls the weather service one more time, and the man tells him it's probably going to be the coldest winter in history. The chief asks how they know that. And the man tells him, "I have no idea, but the Indians down at the local reserve have been gathering firewood like mad!"

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Happenings

- 10 April Ngongotaha Domain Rugby Round 1, 11.00 Premier Mens Development 2.45 Premier Mens Rugby
- 16 April Elaine Whyte farewell
- 18 April Kaharoa Hall 50 year celebration per front page
- 23 April Rescheduled Quiz night at Lakeview Country and Golf Club
- 27 April Carnivorous Plant Society performance 7.30 at St Barnabas Church – see article
- 1 May Ray White Charity Auction at Ngongotaha Rail Park 9am to 12pm Proceeds to Age Concern
- 11 May Free Road Safety Update at Parksyde 9.30 to 2.30. Register with Rotorua Lakes Council
- 11 May EPIC Share Club Annual Meeting. Information available from Ngongotaha-residing Secretary and Treasurer at epic@onthe.net.nz

Regular Events

Ngongotaha Indoor Bowls
Ngongotaha Friendship Club
Age Concern Intrepids
Age Concern Breakfast Club
Age Concern Skyriders

Every Monday night 7 pm at Ngongotaha Community Hall
2nd Wednesday of the month 9.45 at St Barnabas Church Hall
Last Thursday of the month
Last Monday of the month at the Arts Village
Last Wednesday of the month at Skyline

PLUS! DOES NGONGOTAHA NEED A YOUTH CENTRE?

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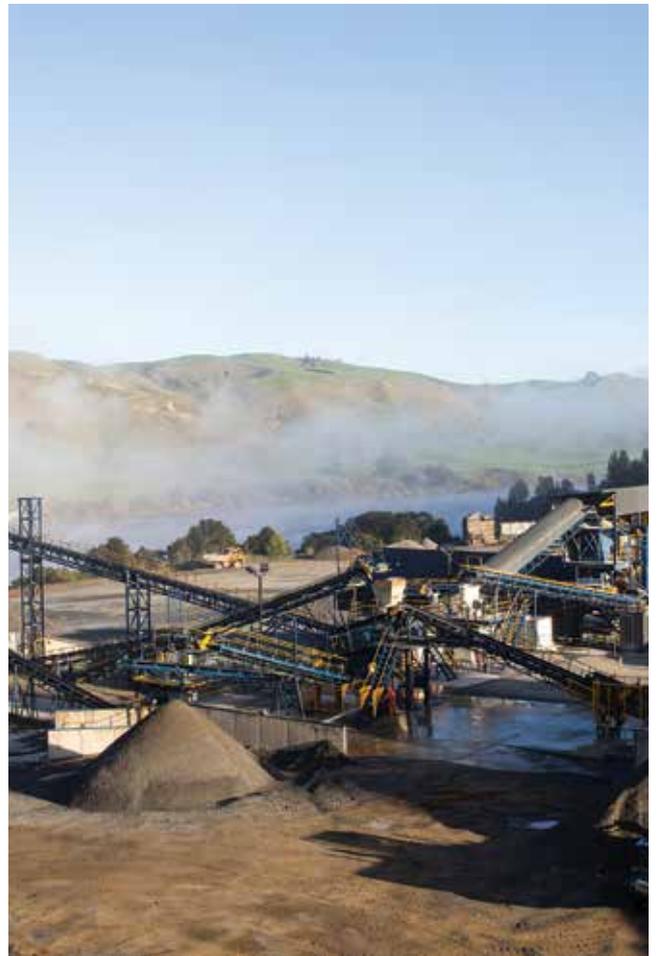
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Credit checks

Most adults have a credit history, even if they've never borrowed. A credit report covers your history of bill payments and use of credit. And businesses, employers, and landlords may do a credit check on you when deciding whether to offer you credit, a job, or a tenancy. Your credit report contains your personal details (name, address, birthdate etc), details of any credit inquiries, and any recorded negative or positive data.

When a third party checks your credit, it will show on your credit record, so think twice before letting anyone run a credit check on you - too many on a credit file can look bad, even if you were just shopping around for credit.

Negative information includes details such as court judgements or payment defaults. A default is a missed payment that has been overdue for more than 30 days where the lender has tried to recover the money owed. Even when paid in full, a default can stay on your credit report for five years! Positive information can include details of your regular repayments – e.g. mortgage, credit card, hire purchase or loans, what types of credit you currently have, the credit limit, and the name of the lender.

What is a credit score?

Your credit score relates to your credit history. Essentially, your credit score is a number between 0 and 1,000 that estimates your ability to keep up with bills. The higher the score, the better – it means you're seen as low risk by lenders. Between 500-600 is the norm and scores in the 700+ range would be considered above average. Your credit rating can change over time depending on factors like how often you've moved house, how short your credit history is and your payment history. Also, your score can vary between different credit agencies.

Why having a good credit rating is important

Lenders typically do a credit check when you apply for credit – that might be opening a new account with a bank, finance company, or even a phone or power provider. If you've got a clean repayment history there won't be any issues, but a bad credit rating can make it hard to get approved for finance or result in being charged a higher interest rate. So, it does pay to keep your record clean by making payments on time.

How do I check my credit rating?

Everyone can legally request information held about us by credit reporters by contacting them directly: Equifax, ilion and Centrix. Selecting the regular application option will take longer than an express service but there's no charge. Scores are not part of your free credit report but you can now check your credit score online for free at Credit Simple.

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Yet Another Genie Story

A man was walking along Mission Bay when he saw a bottle floating in the water, he waded in, picked it up and upon unscrewing the cap a genie popped out! “

Gosh, am I glad to be out of that bottle, I have been bottled up here for years” he said . “I will grant you any wish you want”.

The man thought for a while and then asked “I’ve always wanted to have a holiday in Fiji, but I hate flying and by sea I always get seasick. Can you build me a bridge to Suva so I can drive?”

The genie looked at him and said “ Good god man, do you realise how deep the ocean is, all the concrete and steel it would require, please give me something easier”.

The man thought for a moment again then said” I’ve never had luck understanding women. Could you help me with that?” The genie looked at him and sighed, “How many lanes do you want?”

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture.

‘Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, ‘There’s Jennifer, she’s a lawyer,’ or ‘That’s Michael, he’s a doctor.’

A small voice at the back of the room rang out, ‘And there’s the teacher, she’s dead.’

Important Vaccine Info for Over 65s

A friend had his 1st dose of the vaccine at the vaccination center after which he began to have blurred vision on the way home. When he got home, he called the vaccination center for advice and to ask if he should go see a doctor, or be hospitalized.

He was told NOT to go to a doctor or a hospital, but just return to the vaccination center immediately and pick up his glasses....

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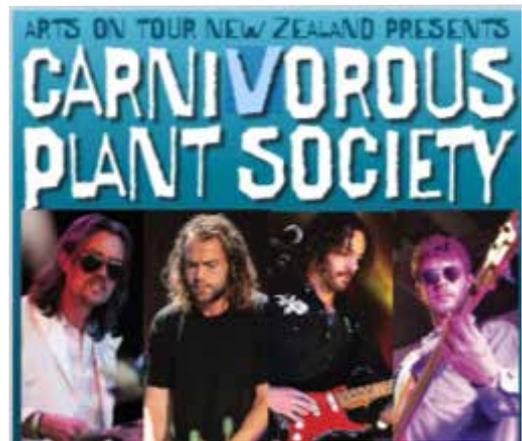
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**Wednesday 21 April 7:30pm St. Barnabas Church,
Ngongotaha \$30 Book: Telephone (07) 347 6275**

Race Talk

It is not every day that a race as prestigious as the Auckland Cup is won by a small trainer from Rotorua. What a thrill for Bill Pomare and his wife Suzi, and part owner Peter Ludgate and his wife Elaine who were both glued to the TV watching the big event. Ocean Billy and Johnathan Parkes ran the race to perfection to blitz their opponents by a healthy 21/4 lengths.

Special congrats must also go to Laura Bellamy and Suzi Pomare who ride Ocean Billy at our local track. There is a whisper that Ocean Billy could very well be going to try his luck in the Melbourne Cup. How exciting is that? So, keep everything crossed and watch this space.

One of Bill's other charges Call Me Evie ran a very nice 3rd, first up in the R74 1200 at Tauranga with Jasmine Fawcett onboard. Other than that, it has been fairly quiet on the Rotorua front, but I am sure that will change in no time.

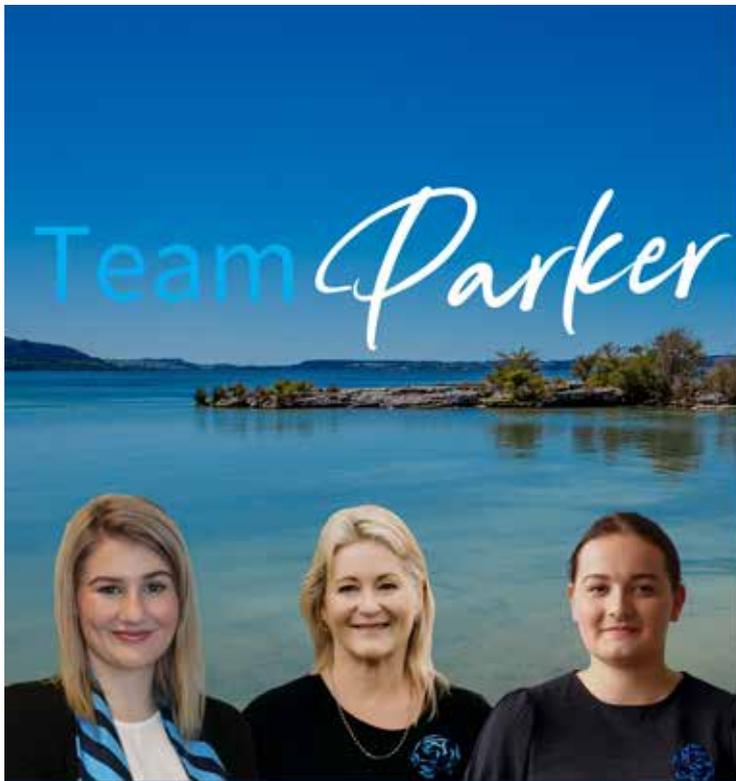
A special note must go to locals Brownie and Cilla Brown from Oturoa Road. A horse they have shares in, "Isla Jay", was nicely ridden by Sam Weatherley to take out the maiden 1200 at Matamata recently. Isla Jay is trained by Matamata's Wayne Hillis, who has a long-standing association with the Browns, so it was nice to be able to help them celebrate their win on the day.

Don't forget if you have a keen interest in racing you can join our Facebook Group "Rotorua Racing" for more up to date info of what is going on with the Rotorua teams.

Local Winners!

Laura Bellamy, Bill Pomare and Johnny Hingston





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Food storage tips continued from March

Meat

Meat needs to be kept cold at all times – so either refrigerate it and cook it before its use-by date or freeze it.

Milk

Milk is sensitive to temperature fluctuations so it needs to be kept in the fridge at all times. Try to avoid storing it in your fridge door.

Nuts and seeds

Nuts and seeds have a shorter shelf life than you might think as they contain unsaturated fat, a type of oil, which makes them highly prone to going rancid. Storing your nuts in the fridge or freezer minimises their exposure to light and oxygen and will make them last much longer. If using the nuts for baking just defrost and they are good to go. If using in a salad, toast in a fry pan for a couple of minutes once defrosted to renew their crunch.

Onions

Onions should be stored in a cool, dry, dark place away from potatoes.

Oranges

Store oranges loose in the fridge. Put them in your fruit bowl before eating so they can come to room temperature.

Potatoes

Potatoes should be stored in a cool, dry and dark place, like a cupboard. They should be stored away from onions, as they both release moisture which causes them to sprout faster. Unwashed

potatoes last longer than clean potatoes. If your potatoes have sprouted they are still ok to eat, just chop the sprouts off. If your potatoes are going green, you need to cut off the green areas, or if they are really bad, then you should discard them. The green can indicate natural toxins that may not be destroyed by cooking. Freezing: Raw potatoes don't freeze well, but you can freeze cooked potatoes.

Pumpkin

The best way to store cut pumpkin is to wrap it tightly in cling wrap and place it in the fridge. It doesn't matter if you leave the seeds in or take them out. If you don't want to use cling wrap, you can wrap it in a beeswax cloth, but you will need to take the seeds out first. Cut pumpkin will gradually develop a thin film of white mould, and if left even longer, some black or grey mould. If the pumpkin is still firm, the mould can be cut off (make sure you cut off about a centimetre extra of flesh beyond the mould) and eaten safely. If the area around the mould is soft or wet, typically occurring when there is black or grey mould, this indicates that the mould may have penetrated into the flesh of the pumpkin. In this instance it is not safe to consume the pumpkin, regardless of whether the mould has been removed or not.

Here's what you need to know about storing whole pumpkins. They should be stored in a cool place, such as your garage, upside down (so the stalk is on the bottom). Don't place them directly on the floor – use a piece of cardboard as a mat for the pumpkin. Stored this way, pumpkins can last up to 3-4 months.

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Food storage tips continued.....

Rice

Store uncooked rice in a sealed container in your pantry. White rice should last indefinitely if stored correctly, while brown rice may go rancid (due to the oils in its outer hull) so should be eaten within 12 months. Store cooked rice in the fridge and eat within a few days, or freeze it and eat it within a couple of months. To ensure your leftover rice is safe to eat, cool it as quickly as possible after cooking. To cool your rice quickly, take it out of the pot or rice cooker as soon as you can and spread your rice on a tray or place it in shallow containers.

Stone fruit

If your stone fruit is ripe, store them in the fridge to make them last longer. If they need to ripen, keep them at room temperature.

Sweetcorn

Refrigerate sweetcorn in its husk to keep it fresher for longer.

Tomatoes

Store tomatoes at room temperature – refrigerating them affects their texture and flavour. If they have gone soft, use them for cooking.

Yoghurt

Store yoghurt in its original container in the fridge. We often throw away yoghurt because it has gone watery. This process is the whey separating from the solids, which happens over time. Give the yoghurt a good stir to incorporate the whey and it will be fine to eat again.

Yoghurt can still be eaten after its best before date – just use your senses to make sure it looks, smells and tastes ok. Yoghurt can be successfully frozen, just be aware that it will expand when it is frozen so make sure there is enough room in the container.

Source: lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz





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