



## **Ngongotaha Scouts first recipients of Queen's Scout Kauri Award**

In a New Zealand first, two local members of Scouts NZ have been presented with the Queen's Scout Kauri Award. This award is the pre-eminent award given to youth members of Scouts in New Zealand known as Venturers.

Kate Urquhart and Hayden Swears received their Queens Scout Kauri Award at a presentation ceremony on Sunday 5 December 2021. The two members of the Ngongotaha Scout Group were presented with their awards by the Member of Parliament for Rotorua, Todd McClay.

The award was founded in 1911 under the patronage of King Edward VII as the King's Scout Badge. In 1952 the Award was renamed the Queen's Scout Award when the current sovereign Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne.

In 2020, the award was renamed again as the Queen's Scout Kauri Award and now has a new achievement pathway. Kate and Hayden are the first two recipients of the Award in this format.

To achieve this prestigious award today, a Venturer must be able to set personal goals, plan and organise activities with themselves and others. They are required to maintain a high level of determination to reach milestones and complete attainment to the very best of their abilities.

The current requirements focus on personal development and involve achieving challenges from several areas such as community involvement, adventurous activities, personal growth and leadership development.

In Kate and Hayden's case, their achievements include flying an aircraft solo, completing 50 hours service to the community in 12 months and planning and taking part in a multi-day adventure on foot and by bike.

In New Zealand, the Queen's Scout Kauri award is gained by around 5% of Venturer Scouts each year. All Queen's Scouts are also invited to Government House to be presented with an official parchment by the Governor General, as the representative of the Queen.

Kate and Hayden spent the previous 3 years working on the milestones required to meet the Queen's Scout Kauri award standard. This was made even more challenging due to the restrictions on outdoor activities and events imposed by Covid lockdowns.

After receiving her award, Kate said "I am very proud of what I have achieved (although I am slightly relieved it's now done!). It's been a goal of mine to get this Award since I joined Scouts as a 5 year old Kea. Getting this Award is the ultimate cap off to my 14 years as a youth member of Scouts. I am a bit sad about leaving the youth section, but I am looking forward to continuing on with Scouts as an adult leader."

If you would like to learn more about Scouts, visit [www.scouts.nz](http://www.scouts.nz) or phone 0800 SCOUTS

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# The Most Versatile Recipe You Could Imagine!

At this time of year, we're all keen on tasty food that can be served piping hot from the oven, or eaten hot or cold with salad the following day, or used in sandwiches for school or work, or easily transported to the beach for a picnic, OR ALL OF THE ABOVE.

Add to this, it is flexible in ingredients and can be presented in so many different ways. And the absolute killer: in terms of money and time, it's very ECONOMICAL.

What is it.....?. MEATLOAF!

Yes, I know you are all still grieving over the other Meatloaf. What better way to remember him?

And do a huge favour for yourself and your family.

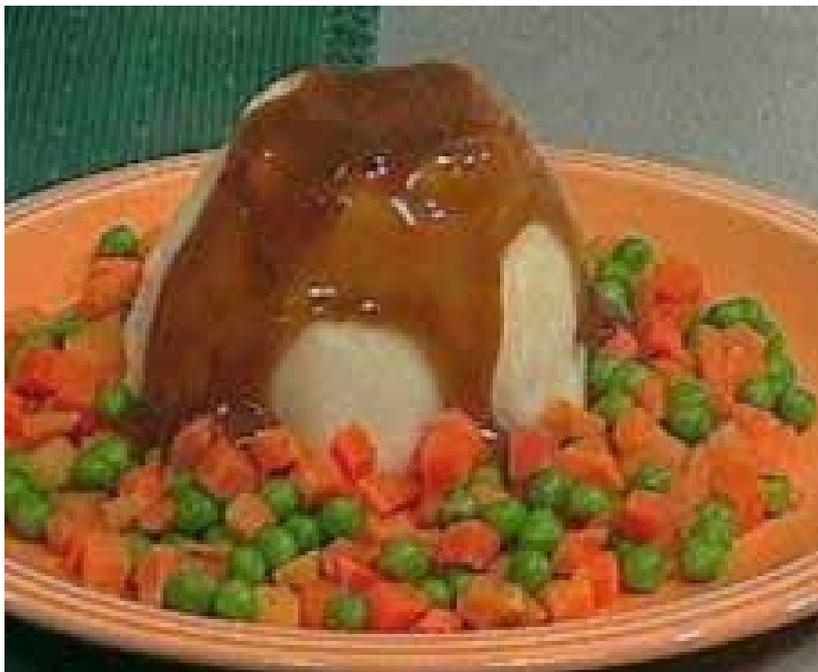
Here's a simple recipe:

## Ingredients

- 1 Large Egg (lightly beaten)
- ½ cup Milk
- 3 slices Bread (torn into pieces)
- ¼ cup Onion (finely chopped)
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire Sauce
- ¼ teaspoon Onion Powder
- ¼ teaspoon Garlic Powder
- ¼ teaspoon Ground Mustard
- ¼ teaspoon Rubbed Sage
- ¼ teaspoon Pepper
- 1 pound Lean Ground Beef (90% lean if possible)
- 3 tablespoons Ketchup

## Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, whisk egg and milk. Add bread; let stand for 5 minutes. Stir in onion, Worcestershire sauce and seasonings. Crumble beef over mixture and mix lightly but thoroughly.
2. Shape into a loaf in a greased 11x7-in. baking pan. Bake, uncovered, for 35 minutes; drain.
3. Spread ketchup over loaf. Bake until a thermometer reads 160°, 10-20 minutes longer. Let stand for 10 minutes before slicing. Serves 5.



## Nutrition Facts

1 piece with low fat milk: 226 calories, 10g fat (4g saturated fat), 96mg cholesterol, 276mg sodium, 12g carbohydrate (5g sugars, 1g fibre), 22g protein. Diabetic Exchanges: 3 lean meat, 1 starch.

## Variations

You can substitute pork mince for up to a third of the beef mince.

You can Italianize it by adding oregano, thyme, parsley and a tsp of marmite or vegemite.

You can also add crushed garlic and paprika.

It's actually been suggested you can "tidy your pantry" by using crushed left-over potato chips etc and a variety of finely chopped vegetables such as mushrooms, zucchini, carrots, corn. As long as the mixture is not too sloppy or stiff, and binds together.

You can make the easiest meal by serving with spaghetti and tomato sauce.

## Presentation

This can be an absolute winner where children are involved. You can make a tube or a layer of mashed potato and then cover it top and bottom with the meatloaf mixture.

You can wrap it or cover it with bacon strips.

You can cook the meatloaf in the shape of a volcano, or mini volcanoes (you could use muffin tins) and cover with mashed potato, and pour tomato sauce or gravy over the top for the eruption.

## Ngongotaha Primary School

Kia ora to our amazing community and welcome to 2022, a year that I hoped would be calm, incident free and return us all back to a sense of normality.

How wrong I was. Although we have spent hours planning for every scenario of what seems the inevitable, there are far more positive things than Covid happening in our amazing community so I am going to choose to focus on that for this edition of the Ngongotaha News.

School is back! And what an awesome place to be. Staff and students are refreshed and relaxed from a lovely summer holiday and teachers have been working hard on ensuring high quality, fun learning experiences are prepared for our students. The beginning of Term 1 is always spent developing routines, getting to know each other and building relationships. I feel privileged to be able to go into any of the 17 classes and see smiles and hear laughter as the children learn.

I'd like to welcome our 25 new enrolments and their whanau. Ngongotaha is a special place and I know they will enjoy it as much as the rest of us. Our school staff have remained much the same as last year which enables us to build on the growth of 2021. Numbers in our junior and middle school continue to be high this year so we will limit the number of out of zone enrolments once again. If you have a child looking at enrolling, please do so soon to allow us to predict numbers for the year.

Our swimming program has started and the children have enjoyed getting into the (slightly) heated pool each day and working alongside Mrs Ngatai developing confidence and swimming ability. We see this as vital in the children's development as many of our kids spend time swimming and fishing around our local waterways. Teaching them to be safe around water is as important as learning to read or write.

We have also connected with the Ngongotaha Rugby Club who use our pool and turf for fitness sessions. By the looks of the players they have swimming around in the evenings, they are going to have a strong season

this year, they'll probably only be beaten by Marist St Michaels!!

Our Mountain Biking group organised by Dan and Amiee Christie has continued this year. They spent time last year learning skills and bike safety and this term they plan to head into the forest. The group is being supported by MTB Rotorua and Phil Wilson who have offered to transport them using the MTB Rotorua bus and trailer. The children will then be able to put their new skills into action zooming through the tracks at the Redwood Mountain Bike Park.

We are in discussions with Lakeview Golf club to develop a Ngongotaha School Golf Academy. The plan is to take a small group to the Golf Course each week to work with Josh and the team developing our skills. I know we have several amazing golfers here at Ngongotaha School already who will really appreciate this

Keep an eye on our school app for updates on all the fun things we have planned for 2022. Fingers crossed we can continue the year on as positively as it has started without too much interruption.

As always, I like to finish by thanking our local businesses who continue to support the school. Kurt and the team from WideSpan sheds are always looking for ways to help out, Dan and Ashley From No Limits Slope Mowing have ensured our lawns are looking beautiful for the kids and Rotovegas Roofing have helped out with new clearlights above our sandpit. Please support these businesses who continue to help our children.

Sadly, my father in law Steve Smith passed away on 7th of February. Steve was a life member of Lakeview Golf Club, owned Steve's Meatland for many years and loved everything about the Ngongotaha Community. We held a private service for him on the 10th of February. He was an amazing father, grandfather and mate. Rest easy, Steve.

Ngā mihi

Craig McFadyen Principal, Ngongotaha Primary School

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# Happy New Year!

**Nga mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou katoa. Happy New year everyone. I wish you all the very best for 2022 and hope it is your best year ever!**

**My wife and I decided to have a staycation over the past Christmas holidays. I did get in a dive off Whakatane with my brother Morgan, my son Eruera and our mutual mate Patches, but otherwise I was at home the whole time. Well, if I wasn't at Bunnings.**

I spent way too much time at Bunnings Rotorua. I was reflecting on why I spent so much time there and came up with a few reasons.

Firstly, the hours at Bunnings are awesome for keeping safe during these unpredictable Covid and Omicron times. They open at 6.30am and close at 9pm which means I have lots of time to get there while others are not in there. Most of the times I was in there between 6.30am and 8am or 7.30pm and 9pm.

That increased the possibility to distance myself from others and more freedom to go down more aisles that were not crowded with people. The purpose of having a staycation was to lessen our risk of catching any form of sickness especially since we had not received our booster, so I wasn't going to stuff that up by going to places that were full of people.

The second reason I spent so much time at Bunnings was because I needed to. Well, that's what I told my wife anyway. I told her I really needed more nails and screws and I really needed the new pruner and the new whatever I came across while I was shopping in Bunnings. My justification for spending being that I wasn't wasting it on beach accommodation or any other holiday accommodation, I was spending it on our home during our staycation. She seemed happy with that. At least some of her high priority jobs finally got done.

I shouldn't tell you this next one, but another reason I went to Bunnings so much was because they were giving away lots of free stuff. They were doing renovations at their store. So, if you knew where to go, Bunnings gave away lots of free stuff like plywood and particle board shelving. This all found a home in my new sheds which I also built from other materials Bunnings gave away such as timber and pallets. Lots and lots of cool stuff. Free stuff.

The other reason I went to Bunnings so much on my staycation, which I am starting to realise now I should probably call my Bunningscation, was because some of my mates also went there and it seemed like a good place to catchup with mates I had not seen for ages.

**Ngahihi o te ra Bidois is a Motivational Speaker, Professional Director, businessman, author, husband, father and MBA.:Maori Boy from Awahou. See [www.ngahibidois.com](http://www.ngahibidois.com)**



Mates like Gordon Acres who was also a Head of School at Waiariki Polytechnic when I was there many moons ago, now known as Toi Ohomai. We had a good old catchup (with our masks on) and talked about the good old days as well as getting updated with each other's whanau. One of the funny things being he and his wife now have horses whereas my wife gave hers away a few years ago. Great guy is Gordon.

My good friend Jamel was also there and it was good to catch up with him and talk stockcar meetings as well as catch up with Brett Jefferies who I had not seen for ages either.

In fact, I spent so much time at Bunnings that I thought I should recognise their awesome service and took them a box of chocolates for their staff which was very well received. However, I had to humbly receive something they gave me in return on my way out. I find it easier to give than to receive, but hey, it was more free stuff!

So, I wish you a Bunnings 2022. A year where you receive lots of free stuff that is very useful in your life. A year where you build new stuff and do jobs you always wanted to do including those jobs your partner has been requesting for a while. A year where you enjoy your staycation mahi even if it is at home and not at the beach.

May you also have a year where you catch up with lots of friends you may not have seen for a while and finally, I hope it is a year where you give to others freely. Because the universe seems to have this thing that when we give, we also receive.

Have a good one everyone, especially you folks at Bunnings Rotorua.

In case you are wondering, this is not an advertisement for Bunnings and I did not receive anything to write about Bunnings, well not yet anyway! Lol.

# I-N-F-L-A-T-I-O-N

When economist Tony Alexander set out to collect inflation-busting tips for households, among the more extreme suggestions he received was for people to ditch their most spendthrift friends. The interested, older, better-off, educated people who subscribe to his economics newsletter suggested people trying to trim their budgets cut their ties with big-spending friends who put them under pressure (unconscious or not) to spend.

A strong jobs market means more inflation-pressured households think they can negotiate pay-rises to preserve their standards of living than in previous inflation spikes, according to independent economist Tony Alexander. "Usually, wages grow 2 per cent more than our cost of living each year," Alexander said.

"Now, the opposite is happening, and a lot of people, faced with rapidly rising prices for most of the things we buy, will be thinking about how to make savings and budget better." For (most households), cutting back, bargain hunting, training the kids not to ask for new stuff, buying more stuff second hand, and finding ways to lift their incomes are the strategies households use in times of high inflation. For parents, it means retraining the children to expect less: fewer new clothes, fewer outings and treat food, less pocket money. "We can't afford that. Those four words came out a lot," Alexander recalls.

Traditional cost-cutting suggestions involved budgeting, paring back lifestyle, cutting discretionary spending, and doing everything for yourself, from mowing the lawn, to preparing all your own food and coffee. They also included shopping around for deals on all big-ticket services like power, insurance and telecoms.

Creating the systems to make it easy or automatic to stick to a financial plan is essential. It could be setting up a separate food account, so you

know when you're overspending; using a meal kit service to avoid buying so many takeaways; establishing direct debits so you always get the prompt payment discount; or even downloading a parking app so you never get stung by parking tickets says Hannah McQueen, a financial adviser, chartered accountant, personal finance author and the founder of enable.me .

There can be an initial stimulus from high inflation. If you expect prices to go up, you might bring forward spending. One person suggested an "investment" for bringing down costs was to buy a big chest freezer, and become a bargain-hunter. "Chase the specials on poultry which can be ridiculously cheap," said one.

Another advocated for investing in an electric vehicle to get a return on lower maintenance and fuel costs. "We've switched to an electric car, and we've switched to an EV electric plan, and incidentally put a timer on our hot water cylinder too," the subscriber said. "The savings from doing this are \$65 per month in electricity, and simply not buying any petrol at all, which is huge."

ANZ economist Finn Robinson said long-term data showed lower-income households had the hardest time coping with inflation.

"Higher-income households may be able to more easily absorb price rises by simply cutting back on non-essential spending, but for poorer households, there's simply not much fat to trim." 63.5 per cent of expenditure went towards food, housing, and transport for lower-income households, compared with 51.2 per cent for the highest earners, he said. It could take some time, but wages would adjust, Robinson said.

One survey respondent even suggested some people might need to shop around for cheaper friends. You can either change your friends or tell them that you are doing it for the planet," said one. "Then go and buy your clothes from op shops."

According to Rob Stock in Pressreader, an idea that's gained prominence in the age of social media is that savings has a visibility problem. Spending is visible, people at concerts, restaurants, carrying their branded hand bag, wearing their new Nikes, sitting on their new lounge suites, or at the wheel of their new cars, are all the stuff of social media.

Viewing all this evidence that all this spending is normal, desirable and expected, works on us at both conscious and unconscious levels, making it easy for us to be sucked into patterns of spending and saving that are not good for us.

What we don't see is the flipside of spending, which is the debt people have taken on to live their lifestyles, or at the very least, their lack of savings.

If saving, spending and debt all had the same visibility, we might take a more critical view of people's spending decisions.

Plenty of things stop people from sharing their net wealth, KiwiSaver balance, or despite being well paid, they still have car and credit card debt. But that does not mean we can't talk to our friends about our ambitions and strategies, including the desire, or need, to spend less. This gives it visibility in our friendships, and helps to establish why we are making certain choices: not to accept an invitation to a fancy restaurant, or to invite your friends to picnic at a beach instead.

## GOLDEN RULES

- Budget
- Track your spending
- Your employment skills are your best defence

Acknowledgement: Stuff.co.nz and Tony's View



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## Todd McClay Member of Parliament for Rotorua

### Big Spending Lacks a Long-Term Vision

New Zealanders are feeling the pinch right now. If you're noticing that the price of pretty much everything seems to be going up, you're not alone. The cost of living is certainly rising, and wages are not keeping up with inflation. It's a picture that looks set to stay under this Government's approach to spending.

The statistics show pretty clearly what we're all noticing on the ground. Wage growth figures are at 2.6% growth, while inflation is increasing at a rate of 5.9%. People's pay packets simply aren't keeping up with the rising costs of everyday essentials like groceries, petrol, and rent.

It's not as simple as blaming our rising cost of living on international factors. In the last quarter, domestic inflation grew faster than what we saw at an international level. Many of our economists have pointed out that there are significant domestic factors in our level of inflation.

Economists are also predicting that high inflation is likely to be around for longer than many of us originally expected. Inflation is already at a thirty-year high, and we can see this reflected in the price of everything across our economy. The Reserve Bank has said that a number of interest rate hikes will be required this year in response to rising inflation.

This government can't do a lot to affect wages in the short term. But a crucial element in this whole scenario is the rate of government spending, which is something that they can control. Grant Robertson's spending has been 40 per cent higher during his time as Finance Minister than the rates of spending under National. This year, he's due to increase that to an alarming 68 per cent - or \$128 billion - with \$6 billion in new spending.

It's essential that the government reins in its big spending, which will ease pressure on high inflation and rising interest rates. The OECD's Economic Survey of New Zealand, released in early February, backs up National's call for the Government to decrease its spending.

The consequence of continued big government spending is that the Reserve Bank will be forced to keep raising interest rates, which will add even more pressure to the budgets of ordinary Kiwis trying to get by.

There is one key message here: this Government needs to get its spending under control. New Zealanders cannot continue to absorb rising inflation and higher interest rates with wages that are just not keeping up. We need to see a Government that shows far more disciplined spending, and a greater capacity to work to a long-term financial plan.

**Hon Todd McClay**  
**Member of Parliament for Rotorua**  
**Authorised by T .McClay, Parliament House, Wellington.**

## Hon Todd McClay MP for Rotorua

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## Waka Kotahi/NZTA Abridged Report

### At the SH5/SH36 Ngongotahā roundabout

We're pleased to see road users getting used to the new layout of the roundabout. Our team will continue to monitor the traffic flow as people become more familiar with it.

Minor works are currently underway, including landscaping. The new traffic lights are expected to be installed this month. They will be operating on SH5 for traffic approaching the SH5/SH36 Ngongotahā roundabout from Tirau/Hamilton. The traffic lights will be phased to ease queues on SH36 when it is busy – predominantly during the weekday morning peak. We are also looking at improving cycling signage and line marking at the roundabout to increase visibility of the new cycle lanes.

### Works along State Highway 5

The remaining SH5 safety and surface improvements, between the SH5/SH36 Ngongotahā roundabout to just north of the golf course, are underway. These include road widening, barrier installation and landscaping. These works are expected to take until the March 2022 to complete.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact Andres or Allen with any questions you may have.

Kind regards

Andres Bejarano

Senior Project Manager – Waka Kotahi NZTA

Mobile: 021 107 6274 Email: connectrotorua@nzta.govt.nz

Allen Scholtz

Engineers Representative – Waka Kotahi NZTA

Mobile: 029 227 1913 Email: allen.scholtz@nzta.govt.nz

## Ahh Travel!

My friend went on holiday to Havana.....and asked me what gift I would like him to get for me. I said get me "something Cuban", but he got me a Che Guevara t shirt. Clothes, but no cigar.

*Donald Trump goes to a fortune teller and asks "When am I going to die?" The fortune teller replies: "you will die on a major Mexican holiday." Trump asks: "Which Mexican holiday? Cinco de Mayo? Dia de los Muertos?"*

*The fortune teller replies: "ANY day you die, Donald, will be a major Mexican holiday!"*

Some of us live thousands of miles away from most of our relatives and can't be with them this holiday season..... Please don't be jealous

*I told my suitcases that there will be no holiday this year....*

*I am now dealing with emotional baggage.*

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

*Novak Djokovic is the first person to be knocked out of the Australian Open. He only missed two shots.*

*Three flatmates were discussing their last holidays. One raved about his crazy nights cruising in the Caribbean. Another had a wild time on a beer tour of the Baltic states. The third said, "Actually I was bored to tears here in the flat with you guys, but I didn't do any of those drugs".*

# Kia hiwa rā! Kia hiwa rā!

## Get prepared for COVID-19

**Now is the time to kōrero and plan so you and your whānau can be safe through COVID-19.**

### Write down:

- Names and contact details of vulnerable whānau and assign someone to regularly check on them
- Essential tasks and details, so anyone can pay the bills or do the shopping
- How to notify whānau, friends and neighbours if someone in your whare tests positive, so they do not visit

### To do:

- Prepare an isolation room
- Shop for kai and hygiene items
- Restock your prescription medicines
- Get vaccinated. More than 3 months since your last vaccination? You're due for your booster now!

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## Romance

"Why doesn't your mother like me?" a woman asks her boyfriend. "Don't take it personally," he assures her. "She's never liked anyone I've dated. I once dated someone exactly like her, and that didn't work out at all." "What happened?" "My father couldn't stand her."

*I was supposed to go out with this guy on Friday night. On Friday afternoon he called and said that he didn't think it was a good idea, because he just wanted to be friends. So I hung up and called him back. He was like, "Hello?" I said, "Hey, friend, it's me. Want to hear what this jerk just did?"*

It's cute when a boy carves your name into a tree..... Until you wonder why he brought a knife on a date.

*Dating these days is complicated. Here's some examples:*

*Right after we broke up, my ex-girlfriend called to ask how to change her relationship status on Facebook.*

*I got into a 90-minute argument with my girlfriend because she was adamant that Moby Dick was a true story. I finally let her win so I could go to sleep.*

*My now ex-girlfriend and I were in my room one day, and the internet was particularly slow. After I complained, she suggested that I untangle my ethernet cord so that more internet could get through.*

*I recently joined an online dating site, and one of my matches was my first cousin.*

Wife: "How would you describe me?" Husband: "ABCDEFGHGIJK." Wife: "What does that mean?" Husband: "Adorable, beautiful, cute, delightful, elegant, fashionable, gorgeous, and hot." Wife: "Aw, thank you, but what about IJK?" Husband: "I'm just kidding!"

*My wife says I'm unsophisticated and uncultured, so to prove her wrong, guess where I'm taking her. Hint: It starts with "B" and rhymes with "wallet."*

"That's a nice plant," said a woman at the florist's shop, pointing to the flower I was buying. "Yeah, my wife and I had an argument," I admitted. "I was going to buy her a dozen roses, but I don't think she's that mad at me."

*I was in line at a restaurant. In front of me was a mother with her college-age son and his girlfriend. It was the middle of the dinner rush, and many customers were restless at the long wait, but the young couple, holding hands and kissing, were oblivious to everything around them. Although clearly not approving, the mother was silent, until one prolonged kiss when the young man had his face and hands buried in his girlfriend's long, curly locks.*

*"Do you have to do that here?" the embarrassed mother asked.*

*"I'm not doing anything, Mom," came her son's muffled voice. "My earring's caught in her hair."*



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# Kaharoa School

We welcomed our school community back to 2022 on Tuesday 1 February. Students (Yr 4-8) and staff wearing masks and having specific areas to eat and play in, plus having to negotiate our 'nearly ready' front basketball court made it a very different look and feel to any other year. Despite this smiles were 'seen' via the twinkling eyes and happy laughter was heard around the school.



...to our many new students joining us throughout the school we are looking forward to getting to know you and your whānau!

It is with much pleasure that we welcome Mrs Nicky King, Mrs Stephanie Keepa, Miss Rachel Seamer and Miss Shinade Picard (class teachers) and Kylie Johnston (Learning Assistant) to the Kaharoa staff. We are looking forward to each of them

sharing their wealth of knowledge and experience to our kura.

We say farewell and sincerely thank Mrs Robin Larcombe, Learning Assistant who has been with us for 8 years. Now that her children have all graduated she is looking forward to other pursuits.

## Learning at Kaharoa

We continue on our journey of best practice in teaching literacy with Emma Nahna as our facilitator thanks to a successful Ministry of Education grant. We began the year with a Teacher Only Day learning about Cognitive Load Theory. We have been extremely fortunate to have also received funding from Ngati Whakauae which has built up our resources for Structured Literacy.

## Term focus:

**Key Competency: Self Manager/Thinker-** Ready! Organised! Raring to go!

**Cornerstone Value: Obedience - Aronga Taringa** - 'Willingness to obey rightful authority.'

This means doing what you are asked to do by those who care.



**Meet the Teacher:** Because of current red traffic light status each teacher recorded their information for Meet the Teacher afternoons and this will be sent to respective parents/caregivers of each class.



Our triathlon became a Duathlon this year. Again, this was in response to the constrictions of Covid and always with the aim of keeping our school students safe. This event will be held on Friday 14th February. Look out for the photos which will be posted!

**Camps:** The middle and senior school teachers have planned their camps for Term 1 2022. Some classes may have already sent home information as their camp will be held early in Term 1. Camps are always looked forward to with great excitement. An opportunity to experience the outdoors and be involved in activities that are usually not the norm. A great time to exercise the 'Can Do Kid' Key Competency!



## Buses

A reminder to parents; with roads getting busier it is important to ensure children are met at the bus stop before and after school and children are supervised at bus stops. Please stand clear of the bus as it comes to a stop.

Our timetable times are approximate. As you can appreciate slower traffic, being behind big trucks and/or road works can cause delays. However, your bus driver will never leave a stop earlier than stated. Our objective always, is to have the children safely transported to and from school.

**Continued on page 12**

**2022 staffing is as follows:**

Mr Lynden Cook	Principal	
Mrs Rose Powley	Deputy Principal/Share Rm Rimu teacher	
Mrs King	NE& Yr 1	Room Kauri
Mrs Leanne Hale	Year 1&2	Room Kōwhai
Whaea Lucelle Cook	Year 2&3	Room Mātai
Whaea Lisa Fell	Year 4&5	Room Rata
Mrs Stephanie Keepa/Mrs Rose Powley	Year 4&5	Room Rimu
Mrs Maria Shoebridge	Year 6&7	Room Rangiuira
Miss Rachel Seamer	Year 7&8	Room Rakau
Miss Shinade Picard	Year 7/8	Room Whakairo

Kaumātua-Te Rangikaheke Kiripatea

Learning Assistants: Mrs Heather McDonald, Mrs Jackie Cowie, Mrs Sarah Noel, Mrs Melanie Allcutt, Kylie Johnston

Caretaker: Mr Vance Shoebridge

Office Administrators: Mrs Susanne Irwin, Mrs Sarah Noel

Librarian: Mrs Sarah Noel

Cleaner: Oliver Bridge

We look forward to a productive year full of fabulous learning and fun.

**Term Dates for 2022**

Term 1 - 1 February - Thursday 14 April

Term 2 - 2 May - 8 July

Term 3 - 25 July - 30 September

Term 4 - 17 October - 15 December

Please refer to the Kaharoa website for further information. [www.kaharoa.school.nz](http://www.kaharoa.school.nz)

**Ngā mihi mahana - The Kaharoa Team**

## Rotorua based weed spraying service

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[www.goodsonspraying.co.nz](http://www.goodsonspraying.co.nz)

# Red Knights Ride into Ngongotaha

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® New Zealand Chapter 3 in conjunction with the Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Ngongotaha Bowling Club will be hosting the 2022 New Zealand Gathering on the weekend of the 18th – 20th March. Brief history, New Zealand joined the Red Knights International Fire fighters Motorcycle Club ® in 2001 and celebrated our 20th anniversary last year in Paihia. New Zealand was the 3rd country in the world behind USA & Canada to become part of the biggest firefighter motorcycle club in the world, which now spans 24 countries and over ten thousand members.

The weekend involves Friday night get together, followed by a controlled ride on Saturday showing off our beautiful Bay of Plenty. Saturday night, a formal dinner and awards evening is held, a memorial held to our fallen brothers and sisters. Sunday morning farewells said and planning starts for the next Gathering in 2023.

We would ask for a little patience from the community on Saturday morning at 9:30am as we depart from the bowling club and head towards Hamurana with approximately 70 motorbikes.

We welcome the community to watch as we leave, but please keep clear of the bowling club as we have strict covid-19 protocols in place to protect all those that attend and helpers.



Last Year's 20th Anniversary Gathering at Paihia. A wide range of cruisers, classic, adventure and sports bikes with a big range of makes and models will be represented at the Gathering in Ngongotaha.



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# Ray White Rotorua & Ngongotaha

Amtos Realty Services Licensed REAA 2008 [www.rwrotorua.co.nz](http://www.rwrotorua.co.nz)

Ray White

FOR SALE



Ngongotaha 9 Egmont Road

Stroll to the lake edge and the picturesque stream, this property nestles amongst an iconic kiwi lakeside community. World class trout fishing, swimming, scenic walks and adventure out on the water are all close to your doorstep. Brunch at the café, shopping and village life is a walk away.

By Neg View [rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25958](http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT25958) Tim O'Sullivan 027 497 4986

FOR SALE



Ngongotaha 34 Kinder Place

Situated off the road at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, this solid brick and tile home oozes easy functional living. Generous sized bedrooms, master with ensuite, plus a walk-through office nook. The open plan living and dining areas open out to a private full fenced patio area.

By Neg View [rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT30324](http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT30324) Julie Brake 021 110 0320



Ngongotaha 47 Kingsley Drive

With everything taken care of, the only thing to do is unpack your bags! This Three double bedrooms and a spacious bathroom with a wet shower and a bath, all add to the features of this home. The large north-facing deck is accessible from the kitchen and the open plan living areas.

View [rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT30347](http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT30347) Phill Rivers 0276 109 090



Ngongotaha 18a Dawson Drive

This super-tidy home is nestled privately down its own driveway. There's such a relaxed feel here, within a neighbourhood that's an easy stroll of the sandy shore and reserve, a quick pedal from the cycleway and close to Village life.

View [rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT30199](http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT30199) Phill Rivers 0276 109 090



By John Piercy  
56 Hall Road



By John Piercy  
33 Landscape Drive



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# Ray White Rotorua & Ngongotaha

Amtos Realty Services Licensed REAA 2008 [www.rwrotorua.co.nz](http://www.rwrotorua.co.nz)

Ray White

FOR SALE



## Ngongotaha Valley 759 Paradise Valley Road

This rare piece of paradise nestles amongst a natural backdrop with the Ngongotaha stream at the foot of the property. Positioned on almost 14 acres, this exceptional lifestyle includes nine paddocks and an architecturally designed home that offers three bedrooms plus a fourth bedroom or third living space and an office. Featuring rimu highlights and a fully-equipped deck for entertaining all year round. Enjoy the space and privacy, raise some farm animals, fish for trout. This spectacular property needs to be viewed to be fully appreciated.

**Deadline Sale** 10.03.22 (unless sold prior) **View** ROT30342  
**Contact** Anita Martelli 027 552 6482 & Phill Rivers 0276 109 090



## Hamurana 1468 Hamurana Road

This rare and idyllic property rests on the very edge of the Ohau Channel, halfway between lake Rotorua and Lake Rotoiti. The property offers riparian rights, a blend of relaxed living and an opportunity for adventure. Featuring a large 3 bedroom homestead and a separate 2 bedroom cottage, all set on 6990 m2. The special microclimate of the property lends itself to diverse varieties of fruit, producing all year round. This much loved legacy is now ready to become another family's paradise.

**SOLD AT AUCTION!** **View** ROT30304  
**Contact** Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986

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really well informed."

"Mandy has gone beyond  
our expectations."

"Mandy is very down to  
earth and has a lot of  
respect for her clients."

"Mandy was super  
helpful and always  
willing to go the  
extra distance for us!"

"Mandy is approachable  
and really easy to deal  
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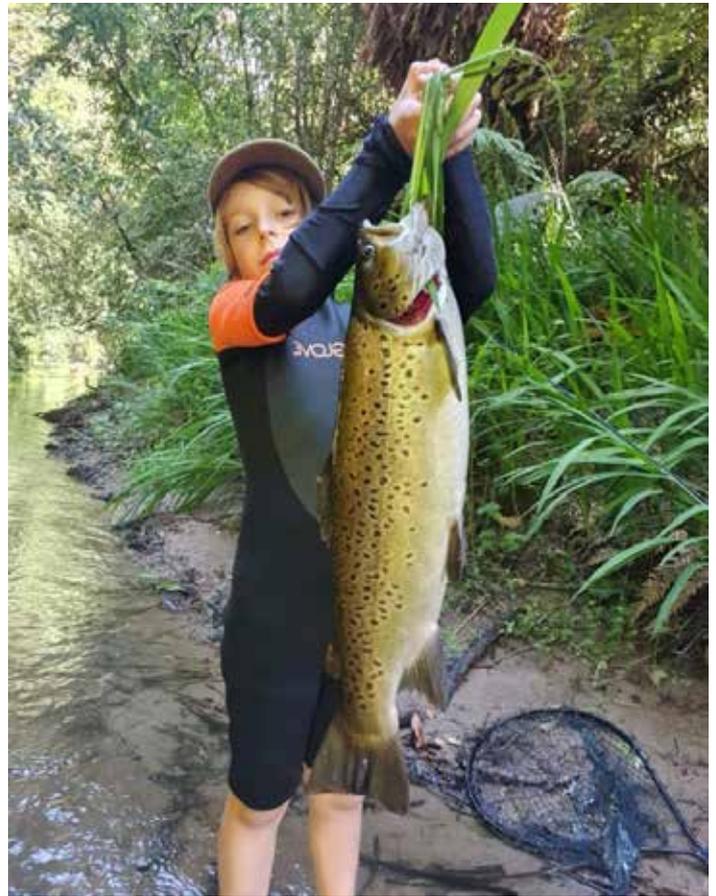
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*7 1/2 year old Liam, a very keen young fisherman from Hamilton was on holiday in the Rotorua area and caught this beautiful brown trout in the Ngongotaha Stream with the help of his friend Daniel.*



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**REMEMBER**

A heart attack or stroke may not be as dramatic as you think

**Heart Attack**

- Chest discomfort- could feel like heaviness, tightness, pressure, pain
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea/ sweating



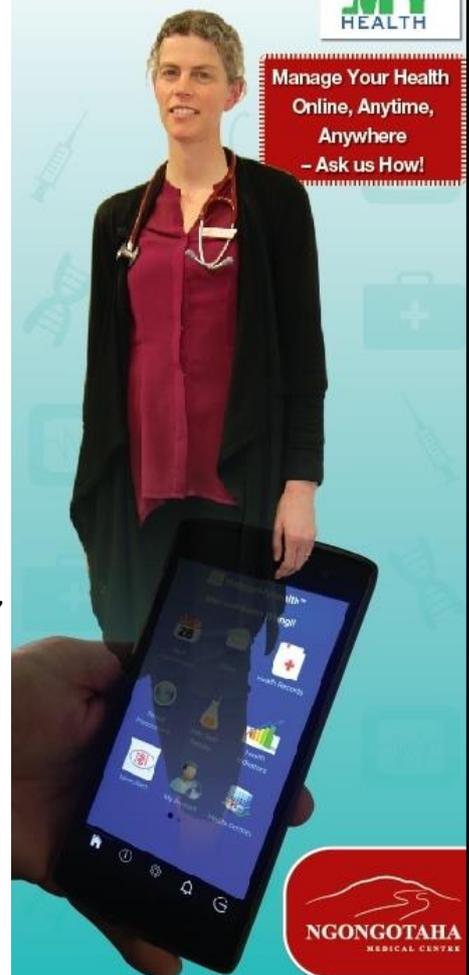
**Stroke**

- F- Face - does the face look even?
- A -Arm - one arm hanging down?
- S - Speech - slurred speech??
- T - Time - call 111 now

The longer you wait the greater the risk  
 Call 111 immediately



Manage Your Health  
 Online, Anytime,  
 Anywhere  
 – Ask us How!



# Yes, it's okay to buy a cross-lease. No, they're not worth less.

The very words 'cross lease' seems to provoke a reaction in most people for no reason other than they've 'heard about them' and 'how bad they are'. So, what is a cross-lease and are they really all that bad?

The cross-lease was a popular 'paper subdivision' concept until phased out by the Resource Management Act 1990. The concept enabled cost-effective shared legal ownership of the underlying land and each 'owner' agreeing to notionally use their part of that land with an agreed delineated area for building a house, garage and so on (called a Flats Plan).

Historically, and for no good reason, cross-lease properties were considered to have less value than a freehold title. This narrative is most often supported by anecdotal stories about fighting with neighbours and so on, or unnecessary hype made about the 'horrors' of cross-lease flats plan footprints being 'defective'.

Defective flats plans occur where previous owners have made improvements outside the footprint of their agreed house area over the years such as with a garage, carport, deck, or extension etc. The reality is cross lease properties are pretty much ALWAYS defective these days! I don't recall the last time I saw one that wasn't. In practice it's no big deal: they get bought, sold, and bank-mortgaged, just like any other and legal correction of a cross lease almost NEVER happens. Why not?

Firstly, because there's a housing shortage, and people only care about buying the best house in their price range. Secondly, plan correction is a long and expensive legal and surveying process that rarely adds any value to the property, so where's the benefit? Thirdly, so what if there's improvements such as a garage, carport or deck, or house addition causing a technical 'defect'? Is the other cross-lease neighbour going to go to court later to make you remove the 'defect'? Probably not, unless it materially alters use and enjoyment of their part of the property. And if the 'defect' has been built for years without any issues, it's my view the neighbour's arguably given implied consent to whatever has been built.

The reality is cross-lease properties have functioned perfectly well since the 1960's and shouldn't be overlooked when buying. Sure, neighbour disputes sometimes crop up, but so they do with neighbours on any adjoining boundary too. But we recommend you always seek your own legal advice about buying a cross-lease property or get in touch with us to help.

**Article supplied by Ros Morshead, Solicitor at Lawbox.**

.....

## LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Happy New Year to all! We hope you got to spend some quality time with friends and whanau and enjoyed some down time over the holiday period. Under the red Traffic Light System we are staying with our Vaccine pass policy. We feel with all the uncertainty around at the present time this is the best way to keep our members, staff, visitors and wider community safe.

Over the holiday period Lakeview has been extremely busy which is just fantastic! Plenty of visitors and there have been noticeably more people taking up the sport of golf and we have benefited from this with a lot of new members. Competition starts up again in February with the Vice Captains Trophy and Bill Mettam Memorial cup being contested. Vets golf is a great way to spend a Tuesday. If you are 50+ for ladies or 55+ for men and are looking for something to do that involves exercise and fun come and join the vets! Tee off is from 9.30am.

Twilight has started again. Tuesdays from 4.30pm for the ladies and Wednesday from 4.30pm for everyone. A reminder that the ladies Twilight is specifically for those new to the game or for those ladies who have never played before. It is a friendly supportive environment with the emphasis on fun not ability. So come on ladies if you are keen to get some exercise while having fun with your friends come and have a go! Junior sessions have started up again on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. If you have a child looking for a new sport to play, bring them along. All equipment is provided.

It is now 2 years since the clubhouse was razed to the ground by a devastating fire. We are nearly to the point of sending plans to the Council for consent! It has been a very long and frustrating process to get to this point but we are excited to finally be at that stage and fingers crossed 2022 is the year of the clubhouse!

Quiz nights are on hold under the red TLF setting given our limited space in the temporary clubhouse. Hopefully we can start these up again in the near future.

Until next month stay safe and enjoy the last month of summer! **Golf shop phone number is 07 357 2341.**



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## News from Progress Ngongotaha

Kia ora Koutou. It is great to be back with you all for another year in our Village.

What a whirlwind of a time we had just before Christmas. You may not be aware, that Progress Ngongotaha Inc. and our museum had to suddenly leave our special place at 180 Ngongotaha Road, it was a really sad time.

The packing down of our whole place took about ten days, from start to finish. A huge 'shout out' of thanks to all of our families and friends who assisted and shared their Aroha at this very difficult time. We could not have done this without your help and support.

However, you will be pleased to know that we have "PIVOTED" (Covid speak) and we are more settled with where things are now and also, we are more excited for the future of our very special museum.

So, from this you can tell that although we are not in a 'place' in the Village any longer (temporarily), we are still keen to hear from you, we are really keen to have you stop us in the street for a chat, or receive an email from you:

Ngongotaha Life Memories (Museum)  
homengongotahamemories@gmail.com  
Progress Ngongotaha-Kokiri Ngongotaha Inc.  
progressngongotaha@gmail.com

### Now for some news from Progress Ngongotaha Inc.

Several people have been asking about the Justices of the Peace Clinics (JP's) that were held in our shop.

#### Memo from our JP's

"In these COVID times it is important both that JP's are safe and that people in need can access services. To do this in Rotorua we have

done the following: from the week starting 7th February there will be a Service Centre at the library, on Tuesday (10 am to 4pm), Thursday (10 am to 2pm) and Saturday (10 am to 12 noon)."

Progress Ngongotaha does have some contact details of local JP's if you need to organise an appointment, outside of the above times. Please be aware that you need to comply with COVID requirements. Also, some of these people work during the day, or do shift work, and you may need to fit around their availability.

We Draw Attention to the following: Neighbourhood Matching Fund Putea Whakakaha Hapori

We have received the following information from Rotorua Lakes Council.

Large fund applications Open 1 February 2022 (\$5001 to \$20,000) and will be accepted until 21 March 2022

Small Fund applications of \$5,000 or less are accepted all year round.

Application forms and guidelines are available on the Rotorua Lakes Council website, or from the Civic Centre at 1061 Haupapa Street.

Potential applicants must make contact with Mihi Morgan on 07 3484199, or email: [communityfunding@rotorualc.nz](mailto:communityfunding@rotorualc.nz) before considering an application.

Thank you to all who volunteer in our community. A big shout out of thanks, to people such as John, & Gavin and friends who are volunteers working at our Ngongotaha stream. There are also many others of you who are helping quietly and selflessly in our community, we thank you as well. There is a group of residents who have regular Working Bees, down by the Lake.

If you have a project that requires some help, please consider putting the details up on Neighbourly. We now have close to 800 Neighbourly members who live in and around Ngongotaha. Your project could be ideal to receive support via the Neighbourhood Matching Fund (RLC) and there could be people who would be willing to help.(Cont'd pg 19)



## Stay safe Ngongotaha x

Shop local. We have all your gift and plant needs right here in the village or we can courier to you !

- |                 |                |                 |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ✓ Great Gifts   | ✓ Throws       | ✓ Hand Creams   |
| ✓ Books         | ✓ Art          | ✓ Candles       |
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DON'T FORGET VALENTINES DAY FEB 14<sup>th</sup>

CURIOSITY BLOOMS ~ OPEN Tue to Sun 9am - 4pm

176 Ngongotaha Rd ~ Phone 020 40759825

(From page 18)

Quick Question from the Ngongotaha Life Memories (local Museum) team; do any of you have any photos of Fanny Marsh's Haberdashery Shop? Later known as Burwoods Bakery run by Jossie Simpkins (nee Rika), this was once situated between Ocean Seafoods and The Sports Bar and Cafe, where the cobblestone walkway through to the carpark is today. Please email ngongotahamemories@gmail.com or contact Bob Martin on 3489864.

PS: We miss Arthur our 'Bicycle Man' heaps. He provided us with repaired bikes to sell or give away to children from our Museum premises. We'll catch up soon Arthur.

**Bye for now Progress Ngongotaha -Our Place.**

## Valentines Day

Advice for married men: The best way to remember Valentine's Day is to forget it once.

More advice for young people:

*Never test the depth of the water with both feet.*

*Never laugh at your girlfriend's choices. You're one of them.*

I went to my favourite restaurant on Valentines day but it was full and the wait was over an hour..I took out my phone, placed it to my ear, and said loudly, "Hey, get over here! She's here with someone else!"3 couples quickly left.

*Remember proper protection this Valentines day*

*Ensure your safeword is at least 8 characters long and has a fair mix of uppercase, lowercase and digits*

**Valentines special! \$500.00** We arrest you in front of your wife and release you on Sunday. It includes fishing license, poles, boat fees, tent, beers and all necessities for the whole weekend. We come in full police uniforms and blue lights.

*I received a bunch of flowers for Valentines day, with the heads cut off I think I was being stalked*

Dear men,:"I don't want anything for Valentine's Day" is the same as "I'm fine." You're welcome.

*My wife told me not to get her anything for Valentine's day and I didn't .....She's so proud of me, she's taking me for a walk in the forest. Wonder what the pistol and shovel are for though....*

For Valentine's day, I got a new car for my wife. I thought that was an awesome trade

I bought my wife a new puppy for Valentine's Day! She's such a beautiful dog! Unfortunately, I forgot my wife is allergic to dogs... so I have to find her a new home. Can anybody help me out? She's 5'5", 125lbs, and blonde. Free to good home.

A man asks his wife what she wants for Valentine's Day. "I want you to get something that will make me look sexy," she says. So, he goes shopping and returns home with a case of beer. What is Valentines Day???

When married men or women are reminded what a poor shot cupid really is.

*I'll be spending Valentines night with my ex.....box360.*



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Lara if you want to be a part of this  
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**OPENING HOURS**

Monday-Friday  
10am-4pm

Saturday  
9:30am-12pm



# Ngongotaha Pharmacy

You are not alone, we are here to help.

Our team will be here for you throughout this pandemic to offer any advice or help you may need.

- We are happy to deliver prescriptions if you are unable to get to the pharmacy.
- We will continue to open normal hours. Monday to Friday 8.30am until 5.30pm throughout all traffic light settings.
- We can help get you prepared with advice on which products to have on hand, to help with Covid 19 symptoms.
- We currently have pulse oximeters for \$55 (while stocks last)
- We have thermometers, and a range of masks including

KN95 masks for adults and children (while stocks last)

• We have a variety of lozenges and cough mixtures to suit all the family.



Please reach out to our friendly team, we are here to help.

Ngongotaha Pharmacy 17 Tauī St.  
Ph 3574240

## Age Concern

It was gratifying at the end of 2021 to be the recipient of 3 different organisations fundraisers. Firstly, we received a donation of \$450 from Rotorua Rotary Sunrise which was a complete surprise, secondly, we were the recipients of 70 beautiful, handmade, bars of soap from the Sulphur City Soapery, and thirdly we were the lucky recipients of the proceeds of the Markets Twelve 21 Santa Photo Promotion which amounted to well over \$200. How lucky are we?

It has been quiet on the Age Concern front with all our members, seemingly enjoying the fine weather and high temperatures we have been experiencing lately. It has been great to see a resurgence of Ngongotaha locals and visitors taking advantage of the warm temperature in the lake and families using the reserve walkway for their daily exercise. There has not been so much activity since the first lockdown in 2020.

Age Concerns around the country are classified as Healthcare organisations and as such are required to remain open and do not require a vaccine pass to come in but are expected to follow the Red traffic light protocols of signing in with the QR code, masks, social distancing and screening questions. For us there is little difference between orange and red traffic lights so it is business as usual.

In a recent article The Staying Safe National Course Coordinator for Age Concern, stated that she would like to see financial literacy lessons for all Māori and in particular

Māori women who face far too many hurdles in saving for their retirement, and financial literacy is something they didn't understand until later in life.

Government policies and social attitudes all play a role in the discrepancies between men and women's savings for retirement which depend on your career path, how much you earn and how much you can put away.

Barriers can include time out of the paid workforce to bring up children or care for others so there is little money left over once all the bills have been paid.

Less than 30 per cent of Māori now own their own homes, a result of both the housing crisis and the impact of Covid-19 and this statistic is not set to improve while banks are being so tough on people trying to get loans. More and more people are living in intergenerational homes which is helpful for those who are retiring as well as the younger generation who are finding it difficult to buy a house.

As we age it is also important that we make provision for someone to look after our financial affairs in the event of us not being of sound mind or perhaps even passing away whether it be sudden or expected. Being locked out of the bank account of a family member, even when you have permission from the account holder, is a reasonably common complaint to the Banking Ombudsman Scheme.

This is an example of the fine balance between convenience and protection. Banks are obliged to protect customers' privacy, keep bank accounts secure, and look out for scams and financial abuse. However, they are also obliged to support older customers and those with disabilities. The cautious approach to providing access to another customer's account can sometimes cause frustration and stress. *(cont'd on page 22)*



(from page 21)

Setting up an enduring power of attorney (EPOA), and providing your bank with all the necessary documentation well in advance, is a sensible way to ensure your family can support you if you become ill or lose capacity. You can use an EPOA to appoint a trusted friend or family member as your attorney, giving them the authority to manage your property and affairs.

Problems arise when the bank does not have certified copies of the relevant documents. Even if you have a signed EPOA, before you can access another customer's account you need to prove you are who you say you are, and that you have permission from the customer. The bank will usually need to see the original, or a certified copy of the EPOA, plus a copy of your attorney's ID. A certificate of non-revocation, a legal declaration that says there has been no change since the power of attorney was put in place and there is no intention to revoke it, may also be required.

Last financial year the ombudsman received 32 complaints relating to EPOAs, including 12 complaints where family members were having difficulty accessing the customer's accounts using an EPOA. Since July last year the ombudsman received 22 complaints. When bills and expenses are left unpaid, problems can escalate.

For example, Jacquie's father appointed her as his attorney under an EPOA, so she could manage his property. In early 2020, he had a serious accident and was unable to manage his finances. Jacquie, who was living in Australia and unable to travel due to Covid-19 restrictions, needed access to her father's bank accounts to pay urgent expenses.

The bank told Jacquie\* she'd need to provide ID and a certified copy of the EPOA at a branch. Due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, she had no way of getting home to New Zealand. Jacquie contacted us and we discussed it with bank. The bank contacted Jacquie again, and was able to arrange access to her father's accounts. A good outcome after a stressful time for Jacquie.\* (Not her real name)

## Rory O'Rourke, Manager, Age Concern

## NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

This is just a reminder to all bowlers that our club will be opening on the 7th of February for a roll-up night. It will be a fun night to get everyone back into bowling after a long break due to covid. We look forward to seeing you all and new members but the NIBC rules are that a vaccine passport must be shown on entry to the hall. For new members the first three nights are free then a \$3 fee is to be paid on entry each night thereafter. Bowls are on Monday nights in the Community Hall starting at 7.00 p.m.

**Anyone looking at playing bowls can contact:**

**John Rayner 07 5625012**

**Kevin Whyte 07 3574766**



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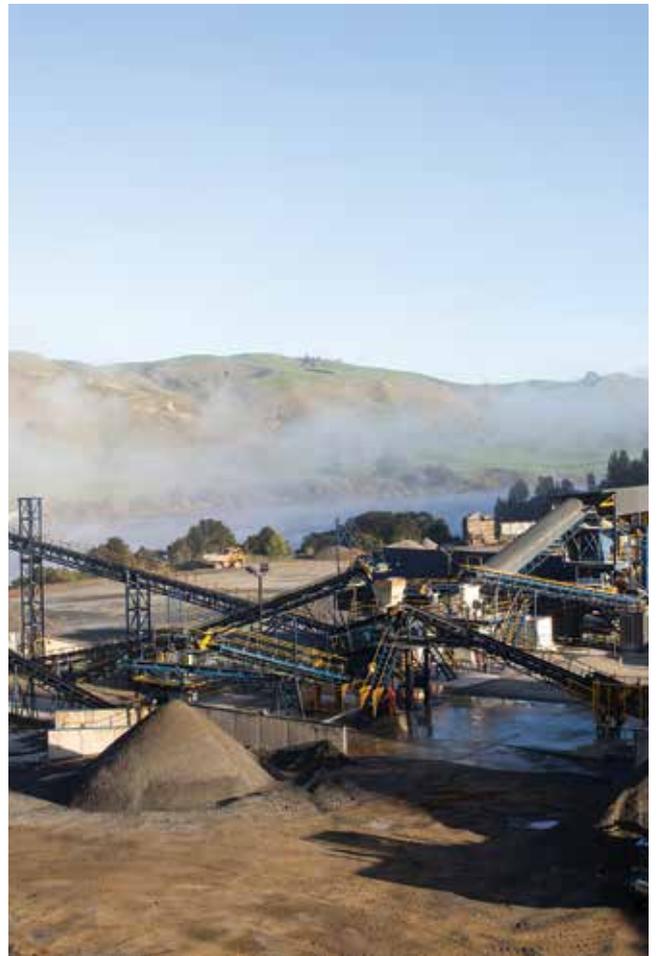
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## ROMANCE AGAIN

What is Valentines Day???

When married men or women are reminded what a poor shot cupid really is.

*What do online dating and online shopping have in common?  
Sometimes you don't get what you ordered.*

Before marriage, a man will lie awake all night thinking about something you say.

After marriage, he will fall asleep before you finish.

## INTERESTING VARIATIONS ON AN OLD ROMANTIC RHYME

Roses are red, violets are blue.

*Vodka costs less than dinner for two.*

Roses are red

Violets are blue

No, they are violet

Roses are gray. Violets are gray. I'm a dog.

Roses are red

Violets are blue

Whitney Houston is dead

and iiiiiiiiiiiiiii will always love yooooouooooou

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## *Happenings*

14 Feb Duathlon Kaharoa School  
23 Feb. Ngongotaha Garden Circle,  
meet at Community Hall at 11.00  
am for car pooling. Bring sunhat,  
sunscreen, lunch and a drink.  
Ph 027 435 703 or 027 271 2883.  
26 Feb Dahlia Show Ngongotaha  
Hall 11.30 am Children's classes from  
9.30am- 11.00am prizegiving Classes  
include: dahlias, sand saucers and  
vegetable animals.  
6 Mar Mamaku Crop Swap 1 pm  
Mamaku Memorial Hall, 63 Mamaku  
Street  
8 Mar 7.30pm The Alpaca Social  
Club with Cousin Alice- Arabic,  
Celtic, Funk, Soul and Gypsy Jazz  
\$30 at St Barnabas Church Ph 07 347  
6275 Presented by Arts On Tour NZ  
20 Mar 9.30 Red Knights Cavalcade

## *Regular Events*

Monday Indoor Bowls 7.00 pm  
Community Hall  
Tuesday Vets Golf 9.30am , Ladies  
Twilight 4.30 pm  
Junior golf after school at Lakeview  
Tuesday 7 pm Waiteti Stream Mouth  
Wetland Project ph Martyn 027  
3540079  
Every Wednesday Twilight Golf for  
everyone 4.30pm at Lakeview  
2nd Wednesday Friendship Club 9.45  
am St Barnabas Church Hall  
4th Wednesday Ngongotaha Garden  
Circle meet at Ngongotaha Hall  
Every Thursday Junior Golf after  
school at Lakeview

## *Covid Vaccination % by suburb at 9 February*

<i>Hamurana</i>	<i>Tui Ridge</i>
<i>Dose 1: 95</i>	<i>Dose1:94</i>
<i>Dose 2: 95</i>	<i>Dose 2:92</i>

<i>Ngongotaha Valley</i>	<i>Ngongotaha West</i>
<i>Dose 1: 89</i>	<i>Dose 1: 92</i>
<i>Dose 2: 87</i>	<i>Dose 2: 90</i>

<i>Ngongotaha South</i>	<i>Ngongotaha East</i>
<i>Dose 1: 90</i>	<i>Dose 1: 90</i>
<i>Dose 2: 88</i>	<i>Dose 2: 87</i>

Source: [vaxtarget.nationalmap.co.nz](http://vaxtarget.nationalmap.co.nz)

*Well done Ngongotaha!*



## **Annual Show Saturday 26th February 2022**

**Do you love Dahlias?**

**Come along and see some amazing blooms.**

**Plants and bouquets for sale**

**Ngongotaha Community Hall, School Rd.**

**Open to public 11.30am \$2 entry**

**If you are interested in showing  
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**Covid pass  
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# Waiteti Stream Mouth Wetland Project 2022

The wetlands at the mouth of the Waiteti stream did not exist in 1988 when Joy and I moved to Operiana St. They have appeared in the last 20 yrs. In 2017 myself and other neighbours arranged for a group of volunteers, including Stevie our mayor, Jaap and Sue, Charles and Karen Hunt, to help “dig in” 600 wetland plants, flax, sedges and reeds on the reserve edge, to create undergrowth for birds to hide, if necessary, from dogs. The wetland plants were a gift from EnvBoP.

Nowadays, every ‘wilding’ under the sun has joined in the development of the wetlands. Willow and alder, wattle, bramble, thistles and broom have taken up residence as well as a whole host of wild flowers. Last year we had quite a few community meetings of people who use the reserve, at Matthew’s place, to discuss what to do, if anything. Before Christmas, John Pakes and I met with Robert of EnvBoP and on his advice, we decided the easiest approach was to cut and poison the willow and alder with a paste that EnvBoP gave us, taking a “one bite at a time” approach.

We started on Saturday, January 8th at 10.30 a.m. We divided into teams of two or three, one person cutting, one person clearing and the other wearing gloves, poisoning with the paste. Our first session started at 10.30am and was very hot and lots of slashing and cutting and poisoning took place. Our second session was an 8.30am start, and that was very hot too. Third and fourth times were 7pm, much cooler, a better time. Once the teams knew the routines required, it became easier for them to work independently when it suited them. There was much excitement when on one occasion of cutting down the willow stems, the team had to back off rather sharply as there were wasps nests getting angry with us for interfering in their lives.

It is now time to give the poison a chance to work, we will soon know if we have been effective. We will be back in action on Tuesday Feb 1st with a 7pm evening session to assess the effectiveness of the poison paste and to decide what to tackle next.

The benefits of the wetland include a pair of kahu, harrier hawks, gliding around looking for kai. The bird life is prolific, from swallows, piwakawaka-fantails, tui, sparrows, blackbirds, minahs, kotuku, herons, kingfisher and all the varieties of ducks, swans, seagulls and pukeko.

The volunteers include Graham, Petra, Phil, Craig, Ken and Colleen, Barry and Eileen, John, Susan, Keith, Anita, Lynn, and I am sure there were other volunteers who came and helped as well. I have arranged to meet with Guy Ngatai of Ngati Ngararanui to look over the groundwork we’ve done to promote the natural vegetation at the wetlands to provide the very best cover for the birds. Our current routine is to meet Tuesday evening at 7pm.

Martyn Evans 31 Operiana St 027 3540079

## Happy New Year Gardeners.

No doubt your gardens are all suffering in the heat, but produce will be ripening ready for eating now or preserving.

The first meeting of the Ngongotaha Garden Circle for 2022 will be on Wednesday 23rd February. We will be out and about on garden visits so will meet at the community hall at 11am for car pooling.

New members are welcome to come along - remember to bring a sunhat and sunscreen as well as some lunch and a bottle of drinking water.

Contact Jane Moore 027 4735708 or Christine Johns 027 2712883

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