

New Date for A & P Show New Dog Parade Event Something for Everyone to Enjoy



Alpaca display
Axemen competition
Balloonist and magician
Cattle competitions
Dairy goat competition
Dog Parade – enter your own doggo!
Equestrian events
Horse and Pony rides
Kids playground area with bouncy castles,
Ferris Wheel, large slide
King and Queen of the Mountain Race
Mini car display
Musicians
Rotorua Symphonic Band
Roving balloonist and magician
Rustic Charm Travelling Farm
Scouts Display
Shearing and Wool handling competitions
Sheep-N-Show racing
Sparky the Fire Engine
Te Amorangi Museum
Vintage Tractors and Machinery display
Western Riding
Wood Turners display
Food Stalls
Trade sites



The 115th Annual A & P Show is on 2
December and will be a one-day event
on the first weekend of December from now on.

It is held at 141 Western Road, Agrodome, Ngongotaha with gates open from 8.30 to 4.30.
The Association is celebrating the release of restrictions imposed 6 years earlier on cattle movement,
upon the elimination of mycoplasma bovis, with having show cattle back.
In particular, distinctive Scottish breed Ayrshire cattle will be on display.

**Admission – Adults \$20
Children 15 years & under – Free.**
**Tickets at the gate (thanks to Ngongotaha Lions Club)
or for pre-sales online go to:- rotoruashow.flicker.co.nz**

Wishing the Ngongotaha community, a happy and safe festive season.

Providing local experience, insights and practical advice to bring balance beyond the books.



Merry Xmas from

Kelly Lelieveld, CA
Financial explorer, expert navigator

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- Sunday:** 9.45am Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.
- Thursday:** 9.45am Contemplative Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.
11.00 am Bible Study restarts beginning of February 2024
- Christmas Day** 9.45 am Eucharist and Christmas celebration.

My wife took our three-year-old to church for the first time. Getting impatient while waiting for the Mass to start, he turned to her and asked, "What time does Jesus get here?"

The office Christmas party is a great opportunity to catch up with people you haven't seen for 20 minutes.

*How is the alphabet different on Christmas than any other day?
On Christmas, it has Noel.*

Have you ever heard of Randolph, the Brown Nosed Reindeer? He runs just behind Rudolph. He just can't stop as quickly!

"I tell my kids that Santa is fat because he eats the children who get up early on Christmas morning. That way, I get to sleep in."



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What not to buy at Kmart – Consumer’s guide (October 2023)

Anyone who has walked into Kmart for one thing and walked out with a bunch of extras knows there’s a lot of bargains to be found. But not everything with Kmart’s Anko brand on it is gold! Our testing has found some are duds.

Here are some Kmart products to avoid:

1. Anko 9L Twin Air Fryer \$149

This air fryer has the lowest score out of the 31 we’ve tested. It was easy to use and did a good job on chicken wings and roast pork, but was poor at cooking frozen thick-cut chips. It’s not terrible but there are models from other brands that cost about the same and are much better.

2. Anko 1.2L Food Processor \$69

Our testing team made a long list of things they didn’t like about using this food processor, although they thought it did an excellent job of chopping and emulsifying. We think you’d be better to spend just \$10 more on one that’s available at The Warehouse.

3. Anko Cordless Stick Vacuum \$189

We’ve got test results for 40 stick vacs at the moment and this one gets the worst score. There are actually cheaper vacs on Kmart’s shelves that score higher.

4. Anko 24cm Aluminium 3 Layer Non-Stick Frypan – Stone Grey \$21

Not many products get our “Don’t Buy” label – but this frying pan did so badly in the test kitchen we thought it deserved it. Its surface durability was terrible and it didn’t cook evenly.

What’s good at Kmart?

Here are 8 products that received Consumer’s “Recommended” tick.

1. Anko 20L Microwave \$69
2. Anko Layback Umbrella Stroller \$75
3. Anko 7 Cup Rice Cooker \$20
4. Anko 1.7L Cordless Kettle \$11
5. Anko 1.5L Clear Variable Temperature Kettle \$72
6. Anko SS Saucepan with Aluminium Encapsulated Base 20cm/2.9L \$25
7. Anko 24cm Frypan \$21
8. Anko 3L Slow Cooker SC-3-R001 \$35

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Kaharoa School

December 2023



Meri Kirihimete and Happy Holidays

We have had a fabulous term so far, with so many outdoor activities happening, our tamariki have been making the most of the (relatively) fine weather.



Athletics Day: Our school Athletics was held on Wednesday 8th November. It was a showcase of determination and perseverance. Our 'Can Do Kid' attitudes were certainly on show. Many school records were broken in all the various age groups. It was great to be able to have our whānau cheer our tamariki on (last year this was impacted by COVID restrictions) and I'm sure you were all proud of your children as they gave each activity their all.



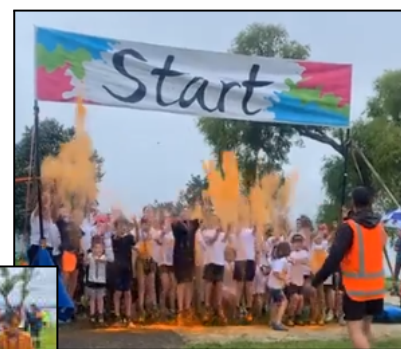
Kōkako Bush Walks: Team Tōtara had a fabulous trip down into the Kōkako Bush as part of our Kaitiakitanga - Manu Māori Tatou unit. We had 3 rotations, each run by members of the Kaharoa Kōkako Trust. A huge thank you to Carmel, Graeme, Skye and Adrienne. We learnt about local birds, their habitats, plants, and pest control measures. In the future, we hope to be able to help maintain one of the tracks we explored as part of the 'adopt a track' initiative. Thank you also to the parents who supported the tamariki on this trip, and thank you to the children for showcasing Kaharoa School in such a positive way with your excellent behaviour, manners, and curiosity about the bush.



Hamurana Flyer: The Hamurana Flyer (organised and run by the fabulous Kaharoa PTA) was held on Saturday 18th November. The Colour Fun Run involved

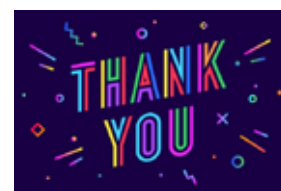


water being sprayed over competitors and then environmentally-friendly dye powder thrown at participant's clothing. Some yummy food was available throughout and the event finished with a prizegiving - lots of awesome spot prizes! Despite the wet weather, a lot of fun was to be had by all and very damp, but colourful outfits were taken home to be washed, or colours soaked in vinegar to set on the clothes.



The **Kahawrite** is our school magazine, in which each child has a published piece of writing. That's a lot of stories to enjoy! The children compete to design the front and back covers, and the winners of each age group are on display. Our tamariki eagerly look forward to these being given out at the end of the school year and seeing their own story in print! They love to share their stories with their wider whānau.

Sports Prizegiving: In December (date TBC) we will celebrate the achievement of our students at our Sports Prizegiving. Many students are involved in a variety of sports thanks to our wonderful volunteer coaches and managers, so a huge **THANK YOU!** to these amazing volunteers.



Parent Conferences, Year 8 Graduation & Prizegiving: It is nearing the time of year when we farewell our year 8s and celebrate their successes throughout their time at Kaharoa. We will be running student-led conferences for all students on Thursday 7th December, and the Year 8 Prizegiving & Graduation is on Tuesday 12th December. The last day of the term for students is Thursday 14th December.

Please refer to the Kaharoa website for further information and school newsletters. www.kaharoa.school.nz
Ngā mihi mahana - The Kaharoa Team



LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Well, it is here: the end of the year is upon us and we are just trying to work out how we got here so quickly! So much has happened this year when we reflect back so many great achievements for the club and members and even though we still do not have a finished clubhouse, we can be proud of what has been accomplished with temporary facilities and thank everyone who has supported us. It is so cool to have a connection with the wider community and we really enjoy the relationship we have with our local schools Ngongotaha (left photo) and Mamaku Primary (right photo). The club has a huge heart and awesome spirit and this is what makes Lakeview a special place. While we had hoped to be opening the new clubhouse for Xmas, this sadly will not be possible but we are optimistic that at the end of February we will be having a grand opening!

Club competition has finished for the year - closing day and prize giving is 16th December. Ham Tournaments are 2nd Dec, 9th December and 16th Dec (closing day). Competition will start up again in February.

Twilight will also take a break over the Xmas New Year period as will junior golf sessions which start up again when school goes back. Competition might be taking a break but the club and course are still open for play over the holiday period and we look forward to a busy summer. If you are looking for a great whanau activity over the holidays, come up play a few holes or hit balls on the driving range and check out the progress on the clubhouse while you are there. (Continued on page 7)



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I WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE CHRISTMAS AND AN EVEN BETTER NEW YEAR FOR 2024.



In a time when I am getting more uncertain about how to address people (you, me, he, she, they, we, koe, ahau, ia, tatou), I am even more uncertain about whether or not I should be even using the word Christmas.

I have to be honest and say that this has not been an easy year for me. Especially after losing my Papa who I thought was bullet proof and wore a red cape. He was my superman who I thought would live forever.

Other "stuff" has happened to me in 2023 which has been very challenging on many fronts but as someone once said, "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger." I have to be honest and say it doesn't feel like that to me when I am in the middle of a hiding to nothing. Many of you will know what I mean.

However, Christmas is just around the corner!

Christmas is a special time for me as a person (he, him, me, ahau, believer) of faith. I guess another label I carry is "a person of faith", but what does that even mean nowadays?

To me, being a person of faith means it is not my job to judge people. That's the big guy's (He, Him, EVERYTHING. ALL BEING) job. It is also not my job to convict people of sin. That's the Holy Spirit's job. As a person of faith my job is to love people (everyone).

Everyone means everyone.

I must confess that it is a heck of a lot easier to like or love those who like or love me. However, everyone means everyone. Including those who don't like or love me and that's hard. Very hard.

But Christmas is just around the corner.

Christmas to me is more than a great feed of my favourite Jesus' birthday party food which lasts for a couple of days at different peoples' places, or even seeing whanau and friends or maybe getting cool stuff (presents, gifts, toys, Koha) from people who care about me.

Christmas is also a time when I can sit and chill and think about the positive people and things in my life. People like Jesus who really is superman to me. People like my wife Carolyn (superwoman, lifelong friend, fellow person of faith) who has stuck with me (I, ahau) throughout all of my 2023 trials and tribulations and indeed for the past 39 years.

People like Tom Poata who is the minister of our St Faith's congregation including other people of faith (us, we, matou). People like friends and whanau.

And of course, I remember people who are no longer with me such as my two sisters Angela and Angelina, my mum, my dad, my grandparents and many others.

He aha te mea nui? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata. What is the most important, it is people.

Positive things and stuff in my life would include my businesses, my business truck, my toys and yep, my golf clubs and fishing rod.

As far as places go, Christmas is Awahou. A place where I have spent more time at Christmas than any other.

Christmas is Hamurana golf club. A place where I have spent more time playing golf than any other during the festive season.

Christmas is also Rarotonga, a place where I have always dreamed of one day being for Christmas!

Whatever your (you all) Christmas dreams are, whatever your hopes for 2024 are, I wish you and your whanau all the very best. Bless.

Ngahihi o te ra Bidois is a Motivational Speaker, Professional Director, businessman, author, husband, father. Koro and MBA: a Maori Boy from Awahou. see <https://thefaceofnewzealand.com>

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Lakeview Golf and Country Club continued

Even though the weather did not play ball and made the native plant project extremely challenging, we did eventually get to plant 500 native plants with the help of tamariki from Ngongotaha and Mamaku primary schools. It is just so cool to have these young kaitiaki helping to enhance their community environments. Learning about the importance of protecting and future proofing green spaces in their community for their generation and future generations is so important. If you are semi retired or retired, enjoy the outdoors and would like to be involved and help with the preservation and enhancement of the environment at Lakeview we would love to hear from you!

We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. **Golf shop phone number is 07 357 2341.**

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Age Concern

What a busy year it has been for Age Concern. The continuing saga of the Tiny Homes, over 100 new members, the Positive Ageing Expo, the Staying Safe Senior Driving courses, several seminars, the Out and Abouters minibus trips, recruiting and training volunteers, Talking Tech on Tuesdays and various other events including our members.

Just when we thought we were ready for the delivery of the Tiny Homes, one arrived unexpectedly at Tally Ho Industries yard, and we discovered that the foundation plan did not align with the under – carriage plan sent to us to get our consent. As a result, we must go through the process of a further variation which could take up to 3 weeks and more money.

Our very special Chairperson Glenys Searancke resigned from her position on our Age Concern Council after 7 years of service. We held a farewell for Glenys, hosting a lunch at a local restaurant, and presenting her with some gifts as well as a short Ode about her life. One of our shopping volunteers, Diane Mitchell, has been given national recognition and recognized as a Dignity Champion. Apart from a letter and a Certificate she was also given a chilly bin full of ready meals from Tomorrow's Meats.

The Drop-in technology, free sessions with SeniorNet, have continued to be reasonably popular and because they are consistently held each week on Thursday at 10.00, people are using the service more. Our Out and Abouters are proving to be very popular, and we have also had to run two trips to the same venue to accommodate everyone who wants to be involved. During October one of our volunteers, Maureen, has been running some extra Social Connection activities: Easy Peasy Art, Media Studies Discussions on news events, Skyline coffee group, walking groups and board games. Most of these activities were carried on by interested attendees in Maureen's absence and have grown in numbers.

The dire situation with Pensioner Housing in Rotorua was highlighted when the council met to discuss the 23 units that are sitting unoccupied because they need to be refurbished. Rotorua's council is considering

spending \$1.6 million to get 23 empty pensioner units to a tenable standard before leasing its full portfolio to a community housing provider. Councillors decided whether to approve a staff recommendation to add \$1.1m to about \$500,000 available to renovate the homes, valued at \$25m. Rotorua Lakes Council says its portfolio of 152 units costs about \$1.3m a year to manage. The 23 vacant units would need a full refurbishment, costing on average \$60,000 each.

The recommendation was discussed at the Community and District Development Committee meeting. If approved, the work would be done over two years from 2024 and involve community and tenant consultation. The other concern would be that if the units were handed over to a Community Housing Provider there would need to be some sort of guarantee that they would remain as Pensioner Housing and not go on the open market.

Let us hope that we do not get to a situation like Hastings where rent hikes in Pensioner Units are causing much angst. A sizeable rent hike for 220 council-owned flats around Hastings will cause "a lot of hardship" for pensioners already struggling to pay their bills.

Rents are currently set between \$117 and \$178 a week, which is slightly higher than Rotorua, at the senior flats, owned by Hastings District Council. Residents were informed last week their rent would be bumped up to \$260 a week at the end of January for all flats - an increase of at least 45 per cent. The one-bedroom homes are full and there is a lengthy waitlist, as they provide an affordable housing option for seniors.

Our main event, to wrap up the year, is our Xmas luncheon to recognize the sterling work done by our volunteers who are the life blood of our charity. This year also we are resurrecting a trophy for the Volunteer of the Year which will be a hard task, given that we have so many deserving recipients who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Have a safe and enjoyable Xmas season with family and friends.

Rory O'Rourke, Age Concern



Tis the season to be jolly!
The Barrowman Goodman Team wishes everyone a merry Christmas!

We will be open our normal hours all throughout the Christmas break and only be closed on the stat days: Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th Dec and Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd Jan.

Our normal hours are:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30am – 5:30pm
Wednesday: 9am – 6pm
Friday: 8:30am – 5pm
Saturday 9am – 1pm



Hope everyone has a great break, and we can't wait to see you all in the new year

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Hon Todd McClay


MP for Rotorua

**Wishing you a very Merry Christmas
and a safe and happy holiday season**

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over the holiday period.

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 [toddmccclayforrotorua](https://www.facebook.com/toddmccclayforrotorua)



Authorised by T. McClay, Parliament
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Hon Todd McClay

Member of Parliament for Rotorua



Merry Christmas – 2024 has good things in store for Ngongotaha.

As the year draws to a close and holidaymakers make plans to visit Rotorua I want to take this opportunity to wish you the very best for the Christmas period and to say I'm looking forward to great things happening for Ngongotaha in 2024.

This year has been busy for the village and a year of celebrating for some of our retailers. Cafe Dynasti won Most Outstanding Café at the recent Rotorua Hospitality Awards, and Ngongotaha Four Square was awarded the Team of the Year at the annual Four-Square Awards, and then also won The Peoples Choice award at the Rotorua Chamber of Commerce Business Awards this month. Well done Ngongotaha – this recognition of excellence in your community is well deserved.

As we head into the holiday season, I would like to thank all the local community groups for their hard work over the past year.

A huge vote of appreciation to the principals and teachers at Ngongotaha, Mamaku and Kaharoa schools for their hard work, and thanks to the staff and volunteers at the Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigade who are always there to keep us safe over the holiday period.

For many this has been a hard year – in 2024 I will continue to support Ngongotaha and ensure that the many things that need to be done are recognised and acted upon. With Mayor Tapsell we will be working to make sure that everyone is safe in the community and that the many good things that happen are recognised. 2024 will be a year when Ngongotaha is listened to, and decisions are made together.

I want to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, safe holidays, and a happy New Year full of new opportunities. I look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Hon. Todd McClay MP

Member of Parliament for Rotorua

Authorised by T. McClay. Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

With summer getting sunnier a woman asks her husband:

"What do you think: should I go sunbathing in the nude in the backyard?"

The husband just shrugs and says: "Do as you like."

The woman replies: "What do you think the neighbours will say if they see me sunbathing like that?"

The husband replies: "They'll probably think I married you for money."

A Rabbi and a Priest were having a picnic on a really hot summer day and wanted to dip in the river to cool off. They had not thought to bring bathing suits, so decided to skinny dip instead.

The river was flowing rapidly and both clergy were washed a short distance downstream before getting out. After climbing out of the river they had just started to make a run for it to get to their clothes, when many members of their congregations came into view.

The Priest covered his privates with his hands and put on a burst of speed, but the Rabbi covered his face instead. "What are you doing?" the Priest asked. "I don't know about you," the Rabbi answered, "but my congregants recognize me by my face."

A university graduate decides to get a job at a hardware store for the summer. He shows up on his first day of work and his boss hands him a broom.

"Here, your first task is to sweep out all the aisles. After that, I'll show you where the rest of the cleaning supplies are."

The grad looks at the broom and says to his boss, "I don't think you understand, I'm a university graduate."

His boss replies, "Oh, no problem. I can show you how to use a broom."



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Our office will be closed from the 22nd December 2022 to the 8th January 2023.

We are still available by phone, so please feel free to call us on 07 348 8333.

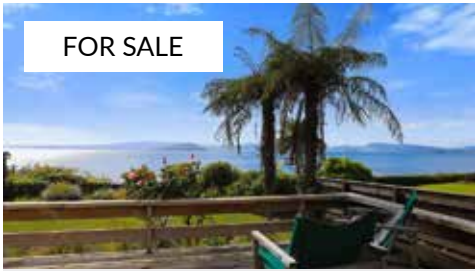
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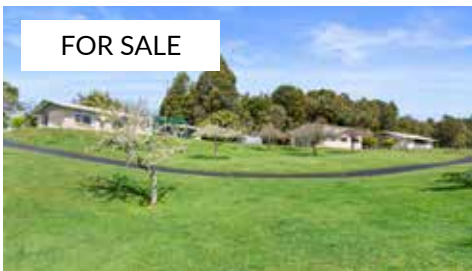
464 Hamurana Road

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Ngongotaha School - September Update



The past few weeks have been full of fun learning opportunities. Our athletics days were GREAT and it was lovely to see the sun and so many of our school whanau come and join us. We hold two days worth of events for our seniors- a track day and a field events day. Each year I am amazed by the talent and speed of our senior children.

We also hold a day for our junior school to run, jump and throw. They are so cute! As usual, we had our wonderfully supportive community come and join us and cheer on their children.



The big event happening at the moment is the preparation for the Ahurei Kapa Haka Festival. Our children, kaiako, and tutors have been working so hard in readiness for this event. By the time this goes to print, the children would

have already taken to the stage and performed. I know they will do the school, their whanau and the wider Ngongotaha community proud.



Our new entrant teacher, Whaea Mackenzie and I have recently visited The Orchard, Ngongotaha Early Learning Centre and Ngongotaha Kindergarten and had the chance to meet our future pupils. It was nice to see the younger siblings of so many of our current students and have a chance to see them playing in their

difference ECE spaces. We have invited the 4 year olds to attend assemblies, Fun Fridays, and various other events to help ease the transition for them when they officially begin at Ngongotaha School.



Recently, our junior school visited the Ngongotaha Fire Station and had the team from St John come to school as a part of their learning around keeping safe. The children loved climbing in the fire truck and learning about CPR in an authentic context.

In addition to this, the entire school have visited Tarimano Marae as a part of our localised curriculum. Many of our children whakapapa to this Marae and it is important that all of our children know the history and tikanga of our local marae.



2024 will be here before we know it and we have a few changes to be aware of. As you may be aware, we

have a new uniform from 2024 onwards. It is a lovely looking uniform in the usual Ngongotaha colours with a design on the shoulder of the polo shirt gifted to us by Ngati Tura Te Ngakau. We have a package of dozens of the old uniform items that we are sending to a school in Fiji to reduce the amount going into the landfill while also helping others in need. Keep an eye out for our children wearing the new uniform in the village early next year.



We are moving to a different Lunch supplier in 2024. There are many things to like about Libelle but it is time to make a change to reduce the wastage and number of uneaten lunches. Ka Pai Kai will be the new provider.

They operate here in Ngongotaha and employ many of our community members to prepare and deliver the food each day. I have been sampling their meals and they are delicious!

December 2023 events- 1st- Final Friday assembly of the year, 1st- Whaea Chrissy's Graduation, 4th- Library closed for stocktake, 4th- Junior choir perform at the kindy, 4th- Road Patrollers to Baywave in Tauranga, 5th- CBOP Athletics, 5th- BOT meeting, 5th- Rm 11,12,13 maze trip, 6th- Helpers morning tea, 6th- Meet 2024 teacher 1.45pm -2.15pm, 6th- Fill the Bus pick up, 8th- Whanau Mahuri Rm 14,15,16,17 trip to Hamurana Springs, 11th- Middle school choir at St Bs, 12th- Whanau Manu fun day at school, 12th- Whanau Wai to Kuirau Park and Lakefront, 12th- Year 6 dinner 5.30pm, 13th- Senior school Choir at St Bs, 13th- Junior fun day/ shared lunch, 14th- Prizegiving and last day for children, 14th- Reports sent home

I think that's it! The last few weeks at school are always so busy and will fly by in no time. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season with their families and I look forward to seeing you all in the new year! NGO 357!

Craig McFadyen and the team from Ngongotaha School
"Iti rearea teitei Kahikatea ka taea" "Aim High, Stand Proud"

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from the Zero To 100 team

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How to Save Money At Christmas - Consumer surveys its staff

Plan a day out

Tell a friend or family member to block some time out in their diary and plan a surprise day out. You don't have to do anything special – a walk, a game of mini golf or some drinks in a fun bar – but the element of surprise, the quality time, and the fact that you've taken care of all the admin will go down a treat.

Use your reward programme points

You can sometimes turn points you've been collecting through rewards programmes into gift cards, which you can then take shopping for presents. You might be surprised how many you can get once you start looking around. I've just turned credit card points into Farmers gift cards and Airpoints into Mitre 10 gift cards – now I'll turn them into pressies in the sales.

Make your own Christmas cards

I'm making my own Christmas cards this year, rather than paying \$7.50 a pop. You can get 25 blank cards and envelopes for six bucks from Warehouse Stationery. I've got some cool old National Geographic magazines, so I'll be cutting out some pretty photos and gluing 'em on.

Buy online games on sale

Unlike many "sales" in this period, digital gaming stores offer genuinely deep discounts ahead of the holidays, so you can often snag a title for half price. For example, PC gaming store Steam is holding its autumn sale this week. Games can be bought as gifts and you can schedule when you want the gift to arrive, so there's no need to wait until the big day.

Get your DIY on

This is an oldie but a goodie. You can make DIY cleaning products, preserves, pickles, powders, salts and facial tonics. Just use ol' mate

Google for some inspo on what you could create based on what you have in your garden and what herbs you have on your countertop.

Make digital art

I like to make digital art inspired by the person I'm gifting it to. You can do this on Photoshop or a drawing app on a tablet device. I use Leonardo on my Surface Pro, but another popular one is Procreate on an iPad. Then your art can be put on things like cards, mugs, calendars, clothing – or just turned into prints.

Do a Secret Santa

For my wider family and my partner's family we have a big Secret Santa group. That way, we spend energy on one really thoughtful present, rather than everyone buying copious amounts of things. Luckily, kids are exempt from the Secret Santa rule, so they still enjoy a bit of a frenzy on Christmas morning.

Shop second-hand

Shopping second hand is a sure-fire way to save money on gifts this year. Whether it's instore at an op shop or online, you'll be surprised what rewards a little effort can reap. Not to mention, the planet will thank you. Unsure if something looks too good to be true? Make sure you're familiar with your rights when it comes to second-hand goods.

Put money aside each pay day

It isn't going to help with this year's Christmas budget, but since I've had kids, I've put a small amount of money into a separate account each pay day. It's amazing how quickly it adds up, so the Christmas present budget is sorted. I also have good intentions of regularly topping up my supermarket Christmas Club account, but some years I do better than others. When I do, it's great having the extra cash on the card to buy all the Christmas treats and most clubs give you a bonus on the money you've saved.

Consumer November 2023



Ngongotaha Medical Centre Limited

Doctors: Simon Firth, Jane Carman, Genevieve Matthews, Kingsley Aneke, Jorgelina Ferreira, Louisa Barter, Samantha Keenan

The Christmas Season Is Upon Us!!



We wish to take the opportunity to thank all of our Patients and the wider Community of Ngongotaha for supporting the Practice throughout 2023 and the Team wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Over the Christmas period the Surgery will be closed on the Statutory Holidays so please remember to order prescriptions well in advance or alternatively you can order your prescription by using My Indici.

On Friday 22 December, Wednesday 27 to Friday 29 December and Wednesday 3 January to Friday 5 January, we will be running all day "Phone First Acute Clinics" for acute issues. So if you feel you need to be seen the same day, don't come down to the Surgery, simply call our reception from 8.30 a.m. and ask to be put in our "Phone First Acute Clinic". We will arrange for a doctor or nurse to 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 the practice. Please note that there will only be a single consultation charge whether your issue is resolved by telephone consultation or face to face.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL - The Surgery is once again collecting food and gift items for the Salvation Army to distribute to families in need over the Christmas period. If you would like to contribute – please bring your gift items into the Surgery, and place them in the box in the reception area.



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We are open our normal hours over the Christmas and New Year period but will be closed the 25th and 26th of December, and the 1st and 2nd of January.

We wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!!



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Progress Ngongotaha – Kokiri Ngongotaha Inc.

Ngongotaha Community Collective – ‘Making a Big Difference’

Kia ora Koutou, Katoa, Hello Everyone,

Firstly, our sincere Condolences to the Staunton Family and the Kerr Family, on the recent loss of their senior family members. Both George Staunton and Bruce Kerr were supporters of the Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum.

Bob can remember playing Rugby with George and when he had the ball, he would run a straight line to the Goal Post ‘woe betide’ anyone who got in the road. Bob jogged along behind just in case he was needed. The Rule was “don’t take a kick at goal, give it to our ‘Big Man George’ and, nine times out of ten, he would just flatten the opposition players and SCORE!!!!

George’s father Jack used to deliver half pint bottles of milk to all of the Primary Schools in Rotorua, which were supplied from the Rotorua Milk Factory. That 1948 Bedford Truck showing up at school, with its milk on board, was a welcome sight for those who never had a breakfast.

Now, Bruce Kerr is a Life Member of the Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum and holds that status for all time. Bruce’s father Frank, owned the Blacksmiths Shop where the Gull Station is today. The Kerr Family are a very old and respected family in Ngongotaha. Our Museum has a photo of Frank at his Blacksmiths Shop taken in the 1930’s and many tamariki /children waiting for the bus outside the Blacksmiths would keep warm in the winter by staying near the forge (fire). Kia Kaha to both Whanau.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Charity Garage Fundraiser on the 11th November 2023 held at the Ngongotaha Railway Park, it was such a wonderful atmosphere. Progress Ngongotaha Inc. was gifted just under \$2,000 for our Ngongotaha Stream Care Team Equipment and for our Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum. Please support these Charity Garage Sales if you can, as you will be supporting many worthy community groups. Thanks again to Ray White for this initiative.

Our rural neighbours have just received a flyer about the forthcoming A & P Show, to be held on 2 December 2023, at the Western Road site. This sparked the following 1960’s memory for Bob Martin. There was much laughter as we recorded this.

The Day the Farmers Came to Town

Back in the day; the A & P Show was held in Rotorua at the end of Uta Street (then farmland) opposite the Boys High. It was quite a stately occasion for ‘Country to come to Town’. This is the day that the Farmers polished their cars, and the ladies wore their best ensembles, WOW!!! The Grand Parade: Normally led by the A & P Chairman of the Association and accompanied by the beat of the Highland Pipe Band which would be up front and they would be lead by their Parade Commander.

On this particular day the Parade Commander was absent and the cattle & sheep which were being led by their handlers were up front. The Pipe Band not being organised due to some members being late, waited for the other Band members to arrive and this positioned them (continued on page 19)



(Progress Ngongotaha continued)

at the Rear of the Parade instead of being with the Parade Commander at the front. The Farmers and their entourage of helpers, many of them children, would normally lead their sheep and cattle at the rear, showing off their ribbons of First, Second and Third class to the public. BUT !!!!! as the Highland Band was late the Farmers and helpers were the first to march off with the Band behind on a nice steady drum beat...bom...bom...bom ..you get the picture.

Halfway around the arena the Bag Pipers had now finally got themselves sorted out and were 'In Step' with everyone else. BUT !!!!!They were behind the cattle and not in front of the cattle....When the BAG PIPES squealed into action the cattle BOLTED.. dragging their handlers along the ground, jumping over the fences and disappearing into the car park, running between the parked cars and off down Uta Street towards Rotorua.

Mothers were trying to save their children, farmers were trying to stop the cattle from heading to town, and the one and only Policeman left the scene and went off down Uta Street to close the gate, but there was no gate to close. The pipers were left sitting on the ground, dodging the cattle, and Bob told his Dad "you can stick your cows": he was 14 years old at the time.

All Stock were found grazing on the arena grass and no ambulances were called and no arrests made and no one was hurt.

The End of a very good day and the Farmers left the town.

What a Great Wasjig this would make!

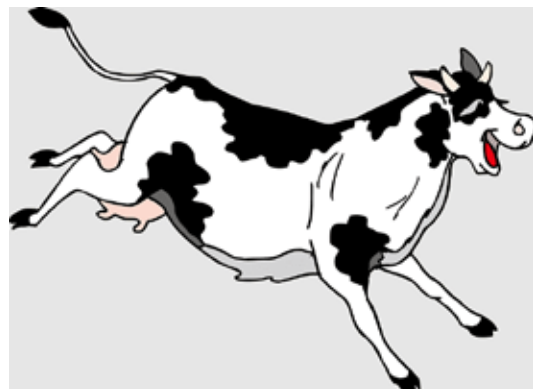
The Moral of the Story: Make sure the Highland Pipe Band is always up the front.

Lets all support our A & P Show happening here in Ngongotaha on the 2nd December 2023

Until next time stay safe

Lynn, Bob, Lee, Heather and Team

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MERRY Christmas

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Should you be interested what's happening in today's market don't hesitate to contact me!

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Happenings

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3 Dec Axemen Competition, Western Riding 141 Western Road

9 Dec Mamaku School Fair

9 Dec Rotorua Collectables Club garage sale: Collectables, household goods, antiques etc. Ngongotaha Community Hall 8.30 am to 1pm

18-22 Dec Mamaku School Happy Kids Club open to children outside Mamaku. Contact rachel@mamakuschool.nz or ph 027 356 9542.

21 Jan EquiSucceed Horse Trek Fundraiser on the Holdem farm. Registration by 8th January. Go to finance@equisucceed.co.nz or phone Paulette 027 662 8817.

Regular Events

Monday Indoor Bowls 7.00 pm Ngongotaha Community Hall (off season now)

2nd Monday Mamaku Garden Circle 1 pm at Fire Station. New members welcome.

Tuesday Vets Golf 9.30am, Junior golf after school during school term at Lakeview

Talking Tech on Tuesdays at Parksyde

Tuesday Twilight Golf at Lakeview 4.00 to 6.00 pm

2nd Tuesday of the month: Lions Club of Ngongotaha Business meeting at 5.30 pm in the Ngongotaha Hall.

4th Tuesday of the month: Lions Club of Ngongotaha Social meeting at 5.30 pm at venues to be advised.

Contact person: Jamie Ph: 07 3322818

2nd Wednesday Friendship Club 9.45 am St Barnabas Church Hall

4th Wednesday Ngongotaha Garden Circle at Ngongotaha Hall

Every Thursday Junior Golf after school during school term at Lakeview Golf and Country Club

Drop-in technology 10 am with SeniorNet: Age Concern 5 Tarewa Place

Thursdays 5pm Twilight Lawn Bowls, Clubhouse Domain Rd

Last Thursday of the month 2.00 pm Poetry Appreciation Society. Contact Kay myfairykay@gmail.com or 0274 982 787

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Everything has a consequence

As the year draws to a close and I find myself acting in bitter court disputes between parties about estates, inheritances, and division of relationship property matters, it is my observation that there are two common denominators to them all: 1.) money and 2.) that for every action there is always a consequence – even if not immediately foreseen.

Take, for example, an estate or inheritance dispute between beneficiaries. One party claims certain assets either are, or were to be, theirs and produces a document purporting to confirm that position (signed letters by the deceased are a classic!). ‘Hmmm’, says other party, ‘except over here is this other document which doesn’t align with what you claim’.

Even worse when it transpires the first document had quite a bit of the original content omitted by the claimant, or other less-favourable documents were conveniently not produced either. Readers won’t be surprised that half-truths and antics like cherry-picking supportive evidence will eventually be found out. And it looks even worse reputationally when the matter is already before the court.

How are things found out? Because just like a plagiarised essay, the plagiarism usually stands out because it doesn’t make sense in the surrounding context. In more common division of relationship property proceedings, the same applies. For example, a dispute about whether there was a 3-year relationship in the context of a house bought together and disagreement on separation about how long the relationship was, and who contributed what financially. One party claims the relationship only began barely 2 weeks before the house contract was signed. The other party claims they lived in a rented house for several months before buying and produces dated supporting screenshots of them together and other houses they were looking at. Clearly the first claim doesn’t make sense in the first place.

Another example, a couple separate, and one produces documents to show that their small business was constantly in the red and now has creditors and accrued tax arrears. The other party claims funds were diverted from the business with ‘cashies’ and believes they can identify those people (people turning up to the former family home and handing over cash is always a reasonable starting point ...). Trust me, a review of bank account transactions and/or business financials always tells the story, even if one party decides to hide chunks of income by operating in cash.

Meanwhile, vindictiveness sets in, all trust between the parties about what the other has been hiding goes out the window and a dispute arises about who’s paying for what post-separation until things are sorted out. One party often doesn’t have the means to meet the payments (usually the party with the lesser income and/or greater childcare responsibilities), and so mortgages and hire purchases etc go into default often just to pressure the other into a quick settlement, unfortunately.

What can we learn from this? That all actions have consequences, good and bad, and people can find themselves impacted in ways they hadn’t contemplated much later down the track.

Credit ratings can be affected resulting in the inability to obtain credit after separation. Other documents will always find their way into the process, and the truth will eventually come out.

And there is also the uncomfortable reality that people who pay others in cash can inadvertently get dragged into third party disputes even though they’ve not done anything wrong themselves...

This article was written for Ngongotaha News by Ros Morshead, Solicitor at Lawbox Solicitors.



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A businessman went into the office and found an inexperienced handyman painting the walls.

The handyman was wearing two heavy parkas on a hot summer day.

Thinking this was a little strange, the businessman asked the handyman why he was wearing the parkas on such a hot day.

The handyman showed him the instructions on the can of paint. They read: For best results, put on two coats.

You're on vacation, and you've arrived at your hotel. The elevators in the lobby are numbered, from left to right, 1, 2, 3, 5, and 4.

Curious, you try to enter elevator 5, but are stopped by the staff. "You can't use that elevator," he says.

"Why not?"

"It's out of order".

A Man Vacations in Spain

While he's there, he decides to get a tattoo to remember the trip by. Just his luck, though, the tattoo get infected. The local who has been showing him around notices the next day and offers to lend a hand.

"I know a guy who specializes in this exact thing," the local says. "He's a friend of mine and I'm sure he'll help you out."

"Really?" the tourist asks. "I would never expect you to know someone who specializes specifically in tattoo related medical issues."

The local turns to him and simply says, "Of course, nobody expects the Spanish Ink Physician."

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