

Rotorua Lakes Council consults with Ngongotaha residents on Draft Long-Term Plan



26 people came to the Ngongotaha Community Hall on the evening of 17 April to meet with Councillors Don Paterson, Karen Barker, Conan O'Brien and Fisher Wang plus 3 RLC staff to present an outline of the draft plan.

It was a candid and spirited meeting with residents voicing a number of concerns:

Roading, especially repairs which don't last (described by one person as a "bandaid on a festering sore")

Elevated crime which deters people from entering the inner city

Parking concerns which prevent people from staying and supporting businesses

The plan to drop the \$105,000 p.a. Community Grants Scheme, a relatively small amount compared to the total budget for the Council, but which has a high proportionate community value.

Difficulties making satisfactory contact with Council staff – reception staff acting as "gatekeepers" for staff, rather than as customer service people.

RLC seeming to favour nice-to-have projects e.g. Aquatic Centre development rather than basic infrastructure such as water reticulation.

The proposed housing development at 31 Ngongotaha Road was also raised. Councillor Paterson explained the Council has a very limited role in this, such as suggesting suitable candidates for the decision panel to the Environmental Protection Authority, but not in determining approval.

Latest news on the development is that the design is still being refined.

More regular consultation meetings in Ngongotaha were requested.

Councillors asked for comments such as these to please be expressed on the feedback form.

The Rotorua Lakes Council website has a 25 page information document on the draft Long Term Plan, with an opportunity for your feedback on page 23.

Consultation closes 6th May 2024.



Rotorua Salvation Army Scores Big, As Kick for a Cause Raises \$10,000

Ngongotaha Football Club was home to Rotorua's 2nd annual 'Kick for a Cause' charity football event earlier this month, which raised over \$10,000 (Photos Karina at SilverMoments Photography)

Drawing inspiration from the global celebrity football match, Soccer Aid, the local fundraiser saw 44 of Rotorua's most prominent personalities step out of their comfort zones, lace up their boots, and participate in two friendly football matches.

The event attracted several hundred locals, who filled the carpark, and lined the side of the field to cheer the players on. Included in the line-up were professional Netballer Erena Mikaere, RotoruaNZ CEO Andrew Wilson, Winter Olympian and Lawyer Ben Sandford, and BurgerFuel Franchise Owner Ashleigh Nairn.

Many of the identities had never played football before - but they all got into the spirit of the day, and enjoyed plenty of friendly fun on the field. A healthy dose of competitive spirit also came out, as the identities vied for a trophy - but the real winner was the Salvation Army. Throughout the afternoon, cash and can donations were collected to the value of \$10,974. The donations will go a long way in helping the Salvation Army stock their shelves and support vulnerable whānau.

"With fun-filled kids' events, yummy food trucks, and exciting spot prizes, Kick for a Cause buzzed with joy. This joy translated into real impact, with food and money raised directly going to support whānau in need in Rotorua", says Damielle Hoods - Community Ministries Manager at the Salvation Army Rotorua.

Seeing the community get behind the cause was a stand-out moment for Alan Cobby - one of the event organisers. "The atmosphere of the whole day was special, everyone who helped with the initial set up to the end of the event. The best part was seeing everyone enjoying playing, having a laugh, and the overall positivity", says Alan. The event wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of over 50 local businesses - including many from Ngongotaha, who offered sponsorship and supplies, and all those who participated in the match or supported the event.

The organising team is looking forward to bringing the event back to the community again in 2025.

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Sunday: 9.45 am Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship
Thursday: 9.45 Contemplative Eucharist followed by coffee and fellowship.
11.00 Bible Study
All are welcome.

Correction: on page 6 we incorrectly called the 17 April meeting Ngongotaha's Long Term Plan meeting, whereas it was actually Rotorua Lakes Council's draft Long Term Planning meeting.

Local JPs

If you need a JP, we've been advised that Debbie Van Den Broek and Michelle Urquart are in the Hamurana area. Also, there's the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Library on Tuesday afternoon, and the Council offices on Thursday 11am to 1pm

Congratulations to Age Concern for having their Tiny Homes project completed to the point that tenants can move in. It has been long and exasperating, but a most worthwhile achievement!

Parenting

"I don't know why people say having a dog prepares you for having a kid because my dog has never wanted to watch Frozen 47 days in a row."

"Sometimes I like to mess with my family and hide their stuff where they can't find it. Like I put their shoes in the shoe closet, their jacket on a hanger and their keys on the key hook."



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What is Respiratory Syncytial Virus or RSV?

RSV symptoms include a runny nose, coughing or sneezing, a fever, wheezing or difficulty breathing or a loss of appetite. In very young children, they may find it difficult to feed due to breathlessness. Symptoms of RSV usually appear within four to six days after becoming infected.

In younger children irritability or decreased activity could be the only signs that your child is unwell. Shortness of breath or rapid breathing could be a sign of bronchiolitis or pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention or hospital admission.

How is RSV linked to asthma?

RSV can trigger flare-ups in people who have asthma. Recent research has also found that children who have an RSV infection before they are a year old, are at increased risk of developing asthma before reaching school age.

How can I protect my child from RSV?

RSV is highly contagious. The best prevention is to ensure that anyone with symptoms stays away from toddlers and babies until they are well and symptom-free. Children exposed to tobacco smoke or who live in cold, damp housing are more likely to become severely unwell.

Common-sense health precautions will also help stop the spread of the virus. These include:

- regularly washing and drying your hands
- coughing and sneezing into your elbow
- not sharing eating or drinking utensils
- washing toys or surfaces with warm water and detergent if they have been sneezed on or chewed

In New Zealand, the medicine palivizumab is available to young children at high risk of developing complications from RSV, who meet specific criteria such as premature babies and children with heart problems. This medicine helps reduce the risk of developing RSV and is available through paediatricians.

Research into RSV vaccines is ongoing. New Zealand researchers were recently involved with a promising trial vaccine given to pregnant women which passed on protection to their babies.

How do I treat a child with RSV?

Most older children and adults will get better on their own by staying at home, resting and drinking plenty of fluids.

Some children may become seriously ill and need to be treated at hospital. In severe cases the child may need additional oxygen or IV fluids if they have become dehydrated. You should see your doctor or go to hospital if you are worried about your child, especially if they are drinking less than half the amount they normally would.

Antibiotics are not helpful. RSV is a viral infection and antibiotics only work against bacteria. However, antibiotics may be prescribed if bacterial complications develop.

Source: Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ

Parenting continued

Me: OMG WHAT THE HELL

Child: The news said it's more sanitary to sneeze into an elbow.

Me: THEY MEAN YOUR OWN ELBOW

"My son washed his own bedding last night so I'm torn between being thrilled and mortified as to why he washed his own bedding."

Me: Oh my, you drew eyebrows on your forehead in permanent marker.

5: You look surprised.

Me: So do you.

Curiosity Blooms

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Kaharoa School

Tēnā koutou whānau

What a busy term 1 we had, and term 2 is already filling up with fun and exciting events and learning opportunities for our tamariki.



Under the Sea Disco

The PTA held a disco on the last day of the term. First, the junior students had a fabulous time dancing and enjoying pizza and other delicious snacks, then the senior children had their turn. Thank you to the PTA and the many parents who made this night possible.

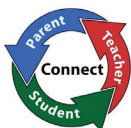
Mini-Marathon: On Friday 3rd May, the whole school will be participating in the Mini-Marathon.

As a way to fundraise for this, we are holding a **Fun Run** (postponed from the end of term, sponsorship forms were sent home earlier in the term for this). These events are a great way for our students to improve their fitness and showcase their team spirit and determination. We remind students to wear suitable clothing and footwear for both events and for the ongoing fitness and cross-country training that will continue throughout the term.



The **Rural Cross Country** event will take place in week 7 at Kaharoa School (Wednesday 12th June). All Kaharoa children participate, as well as visitors from other local schools. This is another excellent opportunity for our students to demonstrate their physical abilities and resilience while enjoying the great outdoors.

Winter Sports: This term we start winter sports and it is wonderful to see team practices happening around the school at lunchtimes and after school. Thank you to our wonderful parents who help in so many ways; from coaching and managing teams to running practices, and even turning up on cold winter mornings and evenings to help tamariki participate in weekly games.



Parent/Teacher Interviews 8 & 9 May

In week 2 (Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th May), we will be conducting parent interviews to discuss each child's progress and achievement so far this year. This is a great opportunity for our kura and whānau to work together to support every student's learning journey.

EPro 8 - The EPro8 Challenge is a science and engineering competition. Students participate in a series of events: firstly within our school (in week 1), and then the winning teams compete against other schools later in the term. Kaharoa School has purchased a new EPro8 electronics kit to practise for this, and all senior classes will have a chance to use this kit before the internal and external competitions begin.

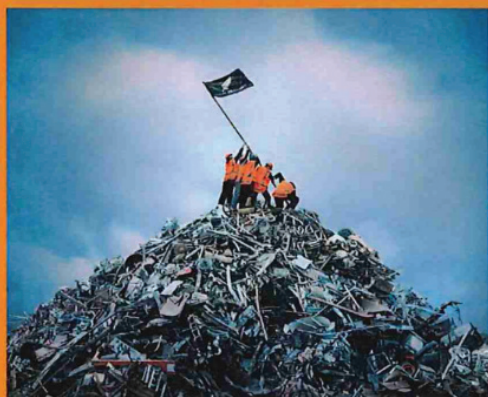


Help Macaulay Metals build a mountain of scrap for Kaharoa School

Drop off your scrap metal during the week
20-27 May 2024

@ the Kaharoa School car park

(Follow the signs and cordons and see below for what will be accepted)



All proceeds going to KAHAROA SCHOOL

What is accepted?

Aluminium, brass, cans, car batteries, cast iron, copper, electrical cable, electric motors, lead, steel, stainless steel, cars, washing machines, ovens, fridges, freezers - **METAL**

What is **not** wanted?

Tyres, lithium ion batteries, plastic, wood, household waste, glass

Term 2 PTA Fundraisers:

Scrap Metal Collection 20-27 May

Ray White Garage Sale 16 June

Kaharoa Cull (pest hunt) 21-23 June.

Keep an eye on your emails and our website for details as the events come up.



We have space for new students

Kaharoa School is 13 minutes from Ngongotaha and open for enrolments now and for 2025 for both primary and intermediate students (Year 1-8). We will hold an information evening planned for 14th of August for students considering enrolment in 2025.



TURN YOUR UNWANTED GOODS INTO \$\$ FOR KAHAROA SCHOOL

DONATE TO OUR:

RAY WHITE CHARITY GARAGE SALE
SUNDAY 16 JUNE 8AM -12 PM
NGONGOTAHA RAILWAY PARK

Donations will be accepted from Monday 27 May - Friday 14 June.
Contact Ray White 07 348 8333 to drop off or arrange collection.

All proceeds will go toward Kaharoa School for funding of classroom equipment and learning assistants.

Email pta@kaharoa.school.nz for any enquiries.



Please refer to the Kaharoa website for further information and school newsletters. www.kaharoa.school.nz

Ngā mihi - The Kaharoa Team

Hon Todd McClay

MP for Rotorua

Delivering for Rotorua

If we can help, please give me
a call: 07 348 5871

1301 Amohau Street

rotorua.mp@parliament.govt.nz



Authorised by Todd McClay,
Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



Hon Todd McClay

Member of Parliament for Rotorua



RESTORING LAW & ORDER

As part of the restoring law and order commitment given to New Zealanders by the coalition Government, work has begun to provide Police the powers they need to stop criminal gangs from gathering in groups and communicating.

Back in 2012, I introduced a private members bill that is now the Prohibition of Gang Insignia in Government Premises Act 2013, to stop gang patches being worn in local schools, hospitals, and government buildings, reducing gangs' ability to intimidate and incite fear.

Hon Mark Mitchell, Minister of Police, will introduce further legislation to ban all gang insignia in public places and create greater powers to stop criminal gangs from gathering in groups and communicating.

It will provide our hardworking police with the powers to issue dispersal notices, which will require gang members to immediately leave the area and not associate with one another for seven days.

This new legislation will also introduce powers for the courts to

be able to issue orders that will stop specified gang offenders from associating or communicating with one another for up to three years.

We will also make gang membership a greater aggravating factor at sentencing, which will enable courts to impose more serious punishment onto an individual who has association with gangs.

For too long, gangs have been allowed to behave as if they are above the law and endanger and intimidate law-abiding New Zealanders, and these new laws will support police to stop that.

Ultimately, they will help make gang membership less attractive. Gangs serve no legitimate purpose in our society, and the public has a right to be protected from their intimidation.

The Government is expecting to have it passed by the end of the year, hopefully making us all feel safer.

Hon Todd McClay

Member of Parliament for Rotorua

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Minister of Hunting and Fishing, Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs
Authorised by T. McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



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THANK YOU ALL AND PLEASE BE SAFE OUT THERE.

By the time you read this article we all would have commemorated and acknowledged ANZAC day in some way.

Ka maumahara tonu tatou ki a ratou – we will remember them.

On behalf of the Ngati Rangiwewehi war veterans committee I would like to thank you all for your support of the ANZAC @ Awahou marae day 2024.

Whether you allowed us to put our poster up in your shop or business window or on your café noticeboard. Or whether you helped us advertise our day in another way such as the Ngongotaha newsletter, or perhaps you offered your resources, just as Kaharoa School did to make our day more enjoyable.

Maybe you contributed to our day like the Scout group did by reading “On Flanders field” or perhaps you and your whanau attended our community event.

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. We thank you all very much.

If you were unable to attend ANZAC @ AWAHOU MARAE in 2024, no worries, we are already looking forward to hosting you again in 2025. Same time, same place, same iwi.

However you spent your ANZAC day, I hope it was a very enjoyable one.

As we roll through autumn and speed towards winter I am looking forward to the hibernating aspect of this time of the year. There is nothing like a warm house heated by a blazing fire and watching a good game of rugby or rugby league or golf on telly while eating a roast meal.

Mind you, I think the bears got it right when nature decided to give them a season called winter when they did not need to eat or drink. Next best thing, let's take a nap right through winter. Unless there is more interesting stuff to do of course.

So, what gets you outdoors in our beautiful rural areas during winter?

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One feature of our Ngongotaha, Kaharoa, Awahou and Mamaku district is if there is a frost it usually means a beautiful winter day ahead. Gear on and game on!

Speaking of gear on, I collect jackets. Well, my wife reckons I do. And evidence of her truth could be a whole wardrobe full of my jackets. Jackets from Bathurst, for Ford and Holden, jackets for freezing weather, jackets for wet weather or windy weather. Long coats and short coats (still jackets). All colours, all styles and all kinds of material and purposes.

The jacket I want to tell you about though is my Mountain Warehouse jacket. There are two reasons I want to tell you about this jacket. Firstly, this jacket could save your life and secondly, a Mountain Warehouse store is opening soon near Mitre 10 in town. No, they have not paid me to advertise for them. There's an idea though!!

While driving along Hamurana road either at dawn or dusk I am continually surprised and disappointed by the number of people who walk or run or bike on the road in non-reflective gear. Some even wear black, making it even more difficult to see them! This jacket is made of reflecting material, is a great windbreaker for those icy mornings, okay in the rain, but could save your life. Take a look at the photo attached.

So, whatever gets you out of your hibernation den this winter, enjoy and be safe out there, and please get some reflective gear on. You might see us, but without the gear, we can't see you!

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/>



Progress Ngongotaha - Kokiri Ngongotaha Inc.

Ngongotaha Community Collective - Making a Difference in Our Place

- Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum Team;
- Ngongotaha Stream Care Team;
- Ngongotaha Emergency Response Team (currently creating a 'Draft Plan' can you help?)
- Ngongotaha Hall Committee

The Ngongotaha Stream Care Team

Again for those who are new to Ngongotaha Village ...Welcome !!! If you would like to become involved in our community and like planting and caring for the environment, this may be the opportunity for you. Our Stream Team need your support Now !!! (light work is also available)

We recently put a post up on Neighbourly asking if anyone has a Brush Cutter that they no longer need, or if someone would be keen to help at the Ngongotaha Stream using their own Brush Cutter.

Blackberry and other plants have all taken off rapidly over the last few weeks. This means that our beautiful walkway needs some immediate help, to control the Blackberry before it all gets out of control. Maybe you can only offer to help for this immediate need, if you can, your help would be so appreciated by the team. Please contact Gavin 021 2263978 if you can help the Team, or if you have a spare Brush Cutter.

One of the main groups that help our Team are the Rotorua Anglers Association Inc. if you go to [Youtube.com/watch?v=pSsKgO8iGtE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSsKgO8iGtE) you can have a sneak peak at some of the work being carried out by them. Please phone Gavin if you or your group would like to help at the Ngongotaha Awa/River.

RLC Long Term Plan 2024-2034

Thank you to those who attended the Long Term Plan Meeting on 17th April.

Tell it like it is...



Crs Don Patterson, Conan O'Brien, Karen Barker, Fisher Wang and three staff members attended. The Consultation Period is open now.....Have your Say !!! Consultation closes 6 May 2024.

Council Confirms and adopts its Long Term Plan 26 June 2024; Long Term Plan takes effect 1 July 2024

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to give us a call or email progressngongotaha@gmail.com ph Lynn 3574565 or 022 1404391

Take care out there until next time;

Nga mihi nui

Lynn, Bob, Heather and Lee



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LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

This year seems to be racing by a bit like last year and the year before. Not sure if this is a sign of anything but rumour has it as we get older the years go faster! The course is looking fantastic at the moment with Autumn colours and bird life in full song. Kelvin and Duncan, our green keepers are doing a great job and we thank them for their passion and dedication to making our course look beautiful.

The Match Play finals were on April 13th and a huge CONGRATULATIONS to our winners: Francis Lockwood – Senior, Kuru Whiston – Intermediate, Kingston Maxwell – Junior and Sona Jacobs – C Grade. It is great to see some of our younger players coming up the ranks and also good to see our more “experienced” members still laying their claim to these trophies. May competition comprises of the Vice Captains Trophy over 3 rounds and then we swing into qualifying for Handicap Match Play.

After four plus years of blood sweat and tears we can finally say we have opened the NEW CLUBHOUSE!!! Thanks to John Reid one of our life members for organising the blessing of the building on Saturday 20th April. This took place before dawn and was a very moving and emotional

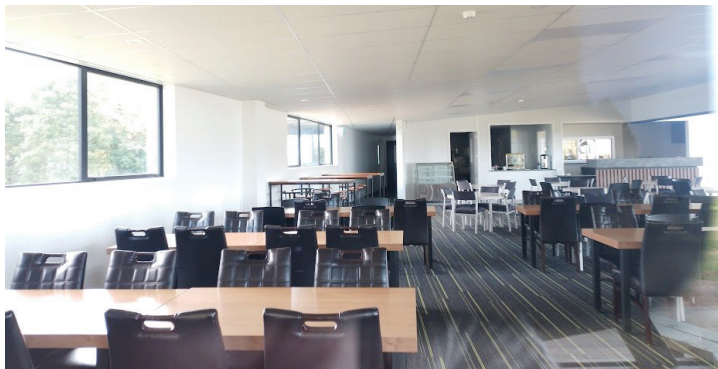
ceremony. We had our first event on Sunday 21st April which was the grand finals of the BOP Pennants competition. This was an awesome opportunity to showcase the new facility to a wide section of the golfing community.

As mentioned in one of the speeches at the blessing this clubhouse is a hub for our communities to connect, something which many communities are losing as sports clubs in particular struggle to remain sustainable. The space that a club can provide where people can come together and unite is such an important aspect of any community.

We are now planning for a grand opening to show our local communities what an amazing facility is available for their use. We have two meeting rooms as well as the large main lounge. The outlook from the decking is beautiful. We remind everyone that you do not have to be a golfer to make use of the space the Archery Club is an example of that. Rotorua Archery Club hold their club days on Sundays from 9.30am – 11.00am. Set up is from 9.15am so come up and give it a go - everyone is welcome!

Until next month enjoy the last month of Autumn.

Golf shop phone number is 07 357 2341.



Colder weather is near!

This means our older pets start to have more aches and pains, especially those with arthritis. Come see us to find out how our class 4 medical grade laser could benefit your pet and help keep them doing everything they love this winter.



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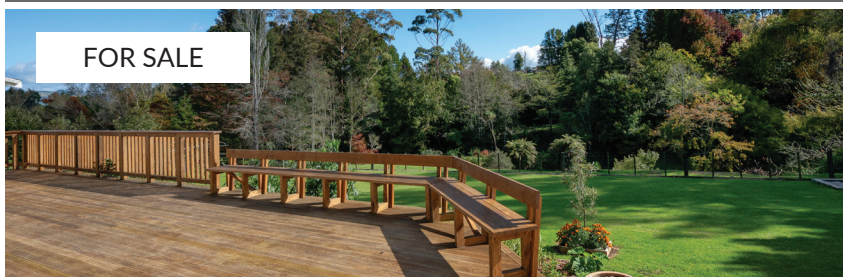
Ray White Ngongotaha on Hall Road, next to the Four Square.

Ray White Rotorua & Ngongotaha

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Ray White

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For Sale By Deadline: 23.05.24 (unless sold prior) | Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 tim.osullivan@raywhite.com | View rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31542

FOR SALE



16 Dawson Drive Ngongotaha

Charming 3-bed, 1-bath home set on a spacious 1032sqm section. Three bay garage, carport, cozy fireplace, well insulated interior, with open plan kitchen and dining. Lovely deck area, fully fenced yard.

Phill Rivers 0276 109 090 phill.rivers@raywhite.com

By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31517

FOR SALE



17 Leonard Road Ngongotaha

Offering the luxury of space, this two acre haven is just minutes from the shops and cafes in the village. Blending its rustic charm with the potential to add value with updates. Create your dream lifestyle!

Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 tim.osullivan@raywhite.com

By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31493

FOR SALE



19 Mohi Crescent Ngongotaha

Sophisticated, low maintenance living. 3 bedrooms, open-plan living, dining, kitchen, an ensuite, and a bathroom on one wing. The other wing features 2 bedrooms, lounge, kitchenette, and bathroom.

Chander Sandhu 027 516 1260 chander.sandhu@raywhite.com

BEO \$1,199,000 rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT31392

FOR SALE



18 Okona Crescent Ngongotaha

Peaceful haven nestled on the banks of the Waiteti Stream. 2 bedrooms with a single garage on a 966m2 (mol) with direct access to the stream. A fishing enthusiasts paradise or avid artists dreamy retreat.

Chander Sandhu 027 516 1260 chander.sandhu@raywhite.com

For Sale \$607,000 rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT31439

SOLD



196 Parawai Road Ngongotaha

Modern and private with a rural atmosphere. Great entertaining areas, spacious section, double internal access garaging plus a standalone workshop/garage plus a substantial Vortex Swim Spa.

John Piercy 027 446 4549 john.piercy@raywhite.com

SOLD rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT31327

SOLD



12 Fryer Road Hamurana

Visual excitement alerts your senses into taking action. A golden opportunity provides approx 5094sqm for your family. The home gives a nod to a delightful ambiance, with splashes of colour

Jodi Ratahi 021 159 7132 and Kerif Smerdon 0210 233 8882

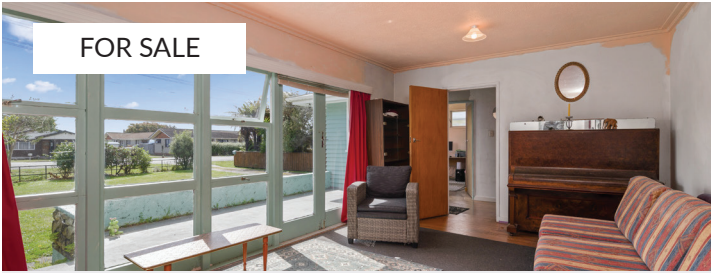
SOLD rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT31436

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Ray White

FOR SALE



11 Beaumont Road Ngongotaha

Three bedroom home in need of love. Great do-upper for investor or first home buyer. Set on a flat approx 1105m2, walking distance to the Village shops, school, trout streams and public boat ramp.

John Piercy 027 446 45 49 john.piercy@raywhite.com
By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31518

FOR SALE



21a Beaumont Road Ngongotaha

Set on a lovely flat easy care section, this really cute one bedroom cottage will prove ideal for those seeking that little Rotorua retreat.

John Piercy 027 446 45 49 john.piercy@raywhite.com
Priced at \$324,000 rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31449

FOR SALE



31 Kauae Street Ngongotaha

Beautifully presented home, substantial conservatory, redecorated the years, including new carpets. Rear gardens are private and the section is beautifully manicured.

John Piercy 027 446 45 49 john.piercy@raywhite.com
Sale By Deadline: 15.05.24 (unless sold prior) rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31533

FOR SALE



34 Kauae Place Ngongotaha

This beautiful home boasts a modern kitchen, open-plan dining, and a family room for entertaining. Brick exterior and fenced yard. Features a double garage with offstreet parking.

Phill Rivers 0276 109 090 phill.rivers@raywhite.com
By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31419

FOR SALE



9 Alice Place Hamurana

One Acre Paradise - Double Glazed - Log Burner - Heat Pumps
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Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 tim.osullivan@raywhite.com
By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31380

FOR SALE



32 Maraeroa Road Mamaku

A delightful lifestyle property set on approx 2504m2. Double internal access garage, a dedicated study area, heat pump, woodburner on wetback plus front and back decks with picturesque rural views.

Phill Rivers 0276 109 090 phill.rivers@raywhite.com
Priced \$660,000 rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31456

FOR SALE



14/60 Tauranga Direct Road Hamurana

Where contemporary living is nestled amongst a countryside setting, this exceptional property offers a wonderful lifestyle with the appeal of space, expansive lake vistas and a luxurious feeling of freedom.

Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 tim.osullivan@raywhite.com
By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31422

FOR SALE



89 Fryer Road Hamurana

Lifestyle property with lake views and potential to add value. Featuring some updates and some elements are a work in progress, here's an opportunity to complete the work and reap the rewards. Set on just over an acre.

Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 tim.osullivan@raywhite.com
By Negotiation rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31353

Parenting continued

"My daughter was wearing a flannel hoodie so I said "hey, the 90's called" and she replied "yeah 'cause they couldn't text" and god DAMMIT I'm getting really tired of my kids owning me.

"There weren't any swings available at the park so my daughter yelled, "SOPHIA, EMMA, OLIVIA, AIDEN, YOUR MUM SAYS IT'S TIME TO GO!" and now the park is empty."

"My kid lost a tooth and plans to put it under her pillow on Easter night so the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy can meet and hopefully make a love connection and I am HERE FOR IT."

"My 3 year old daughter threw a tantrum and started throwing things and stomping her feet. I started stomping along until she started laughing. Then she said "okay I'll pick all this up" and cleaned up her mess. I feel like some sort of champion."

METH OR WHANAU

What's more important?

"I just had to tell my 5-year-old not to walk down the stairs with a bucket over her head, so I think we can stop saving for university."

"When a kid asks a sibling to play a game of tag, they're basically asking if their sibling wants to take a jog that ends in a fight."

"Dad isn't it weird that the word chicken can mean an animal or a type of food?" - my son, on the verge of making a horrific realization.

"Grandmas are like gonna stay for a few days and reset your children back to factory settings."

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"I couldn't decide if I wanted a fringe or not so I cut a fringe for my daughter and she looks awful. Dodged a bullet there."

Me: Yes, you were in my belly. 3 yr old: Why... (tears in her eyes), why did you eat me?

6YO: Can I eat a biscuit?

Me: Finish your dinner first.

6YO: My stomach is full except for a circle shaped space.

"I ate the last Magnum and left the empty box in the freezer. I think it's time my kids learn how that shit feels."

5-year-old: I'm going to be so good tomorrow.

Me: What about today?

5: I have plans.

"My kids were screaming at each other. I told them to stop fighting. They said they weren't fighting. They were playing "Karens." Now everybody is grounded."

6-year-old: Do you have lots of money?

Me: I'm rich in other ways, like family.

6: So, you're broke?

Me: I'm really proud of you for keeping your hands to yourself today. What would you like to do as a reward?

Son: Hit my brother.

Ice cream employee: I didn't know you had kids! You always come in by yourself.

Kids: WHAT?! MUM!

It's like she didn't want me back.



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The Steve Smith Rangatahi Scholarship

Steve was raised in Ngongotahā & completed his schooling at Ngongotahā Primary & Western Heights High school before returning as a teacher at both schools. An important part of his life was his passion for rugby, particularly rugby at Ngongotahā Sports. Steve played & coached rugby for the club and also went on to become President of the club for a period.

After many years of coaching at Ngongotahā, he then spent some time coaching the Western Heights 1XV, where many of those players he once coached now play at Ngongotahā or have previously played for Ngongotahā. Unfortunately, Steve's life was suddenly cut short in December 2019, leaving behind a huge legacy in the Ngongotahā community and also the wider Rotorua community.

The Steve Smith Rangatahi Scholarship is a scholarship to honour Steve & his involvement within the club but to also invest back into Ngongotahā Rugby by supporting up and coming talented rangatahi playing Rugby for Ngongotahā. For two years the individual will receive up to \$500 per year to go towards things such as club & team fees, training gears & boots, travel costs, rep team costs, contributions to gym memberships, physics, mental health costs etc.

Congratulations to Fakalelei Palelei who was selected by Team Rugby as the first recipient of the scholarship. Fakalelei attended Rotorua Boys High School & has since been a loyal, humble & committed member to Ngongotahā Rugby playing in the Premier Men side. Fakalelei is the first person to receive this scholarship & it couldn't have gone to anymore more deserving.

There will be an official presentation at the Senior Prizegiving later in the year between Fakalei & the Smith whānau.

Pictured at the Ngongotaha Sports Club season opening are Ana Smith representing the Smith whanau, with scholarship recipient Fakalelei Palelei, and local sponsor Kelly Lelieveld with Leroy Wrigley and Devon Wrigley.



Ngongotaha Medical Centre Limited

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



2024 – FLU VACCINATIONS

The Flu Vaccine for 2024 will be available here from 2nd April

- ❖ We are holding Flu Clinics on Tuesdays & Thursdays throughout April and May, between 9.00 a.m. and 12.00 p.m. and again from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- ❖ If you meet the following criteria, a FREE flu vaccination may be possible.
 - ❖ You are 65 years of age or older
 - ❖ You are pregnant
 - ❖ You have a chronic condition; Including Heart Disease, Chronic Respiratory Disease, Diabetes or another specified conditions (check with the Surgery)
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Age Concern

With daylight saving finished it is beginning to feel more like winter although it is still very mild and us oldies can look forward to the power subsidy starting up again.

It has been a hive of activity around at the Tiny Houses and I get the feeling that at last we are nearing the finish line. One of our prospective tenants has had to withdraw from taking up the offer so we are going to go through the ballot process again and the criteria are the same, which is being a member of Age Concern, not owning your own home, paying rent, or living with a relative.

What has been achieved recently, which is encouraging, and should see our tenants in by the time this goes to print, is ; decks complete, flat pack wardrobes and bathroom cabinets completed, califonts installed, heat pumps installed, stoves installed, cleats welded and bolted to the foundations, electricity on, plumbing done, under floor insulation installed, spouting installed on back side of units and the grounds prepared for the concreting.

We have partnered with Parksyde to present a series of Seminars, once a month for 9 sessions:

Scamming, Coping with Dementia, Enduring Power of Attorney, All you need to know about Funerals, Keeping your Independence, Health and Disability Advocacy, Keeping Yourself and your Home Safe, Grief and Loss, Elder Abuse. Experts from the various organisations will be invited to present. It is gratifying to see that banks are beginning to take the initiative when it comes to scamming and offering sound advice on how to recognise and avoid scams.

One of the major projects that we have on at the present time is the creation of a cookbook in which we will have interviews with some of our members who will share their favourite recipe from their childhood or a recipe that has been an integral part of their life. Unlike our last intergenerational book which we gave away free there will be a cost involved as it is more of a fundraiser.

Lyn Rasmussen has taken over the completing of the book after Yana (social worker work experience person) left at the end of her work experience with us. Lyn has also been gathering recipes from people who would like to be part of the final book, which will be like our other inter-generational book. If someone who is

elderly is reading this and would like to be involved, by providing a recipe and the story behind it, please email me and I will forward it to Lyn. manager@acrotorua.nz

An event we have coming up in the next couple of months is on Thursday 30th of May we will be holding a PINK RIBBON HIGH TEA at 11:00am at the St Johns Church at 44 Victoria Street. My staff do a wonderful job of catering for this event and the High Tea is really something special. Tickets are just \$25.00, and all profits go to Breast Cancer Society. Tickets are available at the Age Concern office or call 07 347 1539 to book. RSPV by 23rd of May and all are welcome.

It is great to see our major banks getting behind scammer prevention and warning people of the danger of losing everything if you are vigilant and have your wits about you. The latest warning comes from the Police. Phone scammers are posing as police officers in a bid to get financial information out of Kiwis, police have warned.

According to police, they've had at least a dozen reports of scammers who have posed as officers in a bid to steal money from the person, by taking their financial details. The officer will claim to be from a particular department, before telling people that they have been a victim of fraud or a scam. They will then try and obtain further financial information from their victim. These scams were being done mostly over landlines.

There have also been reports of an email scam. Police will make some enquiries into these calls, but our experience has shown that often phone-based scammers will be operating from overseas. Scammers are opportunistic and thrive off your trust and goodwill.

NZ Police would never contact people seeking their bank details, card numbers, pin numbers or passwords. People need to remain vigilant, as there were also occasions where police would contact people as part of their duties. Police said if people were uncertain, they could ask for the officer for their details or call 105. Police aren't in the business of offering prize money.

Stay Safe
Rory O'Rourke
Manager, Age Concern



Ngongotaha Garden Circle

This was begun 70 years ago by a group of keen gardeners and over the years has provided learning and friendship to many members of the local community and beyond.

On the 22nd May the Garden Circle is celebrating the 70th anniversary with a luncheon for members, Life Members and invited guests. This celebration is kindly supported by local Ngongotaha businesses through donations. Local schools are also involved, with artwork and speech competitions. Artwork and club photos will be on display during May in some retail outlets in Ngongotaha Village.

Raffles will also be on sale in the village for the community to help support the celebration, and to enable to continuing existence of the club and the fostering of a new generation of gardeners. We are grateful for the support of our community as a whole.



NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

17th March Championship Pairs An apology to Bruce for not putting this in last month's newsletter. So sorry. The composite team of Kevin Birch, RSA, Skip and Bruce Mapson, Ngongotaha, Lead successfully defended the Rotorua Indoor Bowls Association Championship Pairs at the Ngongotaha Hall on Sunday. This is the second time for both players. Well done!

8th April Championship Fours Some close games tonight, Bruce Wiggins was on fire and playing very well. Their team has two lives. Play off next week.

15th April Play Off Championship Fours The champions tonight were Bruce Wiggins, Robin Campbell, Cheryl Wiggins and Chris McGoon. Bruce and Cheryl were on fire, and played very well. I am sure Bruce had a smile on his face all the way home. Well done! I think our team was having an off night. Runners up were Richard Mills, Helen White, Bruce Mapson and Nicole Ruthe.

17th April Owata Triples Tournament Three teams from Ngongotaha played and our team of Greg Chase, Helen White and Bruce Mapson came 2nd equal. Very pleased with that. Great night and great supper.

22nd April International Pairs There were some very good games played tonight. The winners were John Rayner and Greg Chase.

Anyone looking at playing bowls can contact:

John Rayner
Kevin Whyte

07 5625012
07 3574766

"Hats off to the waiter that kept a straight face as my 5yo ordered the vagina for lunch instead of the lasagna."

Me: *on the toilet*

2yo: *banging on door* Daddy!! Daddy!!! DADDY!!!!

Me: I'm downstairs!

2yo: Oh... *runs off*

Me: Why have I not tried that before?

"Somehow I've lucked out and have an 8yo who thinks secretly reading under the covers past her bedtime is an act of rebellion, and it hasn't yet occurred to her that her flashlights never seem to run out of batteries."

8-year-old: *fights with her sisters*

Me: All right, who started it?

8: You did when you had so many kids.

4

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Mamaku's Marsupial Madness Challenge 2024

16th May (Noon) - 19th May (10am)



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Happenings

8 May Rotorua Collectibles Club St Barnabas Hall ph 0272923579 for more info

8-9 May Parent interviews Kaharoa School

11 May Forest & Bird with Kiwi Conservation Club are holding a Fungal Foray event that will be held on the Mt Ngongotaha Nature Walk track in the afternoon. Further information is available from the Forest and Bird committee member Linda Johnson at seeking_linda@hotmail.com

12 May Rural Cross Country at Kaharoa School

20-27 May Kaharoa Scrap Metal Collection

30 May PINK RIBBON HIGH TEA at 11:00am at the St Johns Church at 44 Victoria Street. Tickets are \$25.00 and all proceeds go to Breast Cancer Society. Tickets are available at the Age Concern office or call 07 347 1539 to book. RSVP by 23rd of May. All are welcome.

16 June Ray White Garage Sale for Kaharoa School

21-23 June Kaharoa Cull (for pests)

Regular Events

Monday Indoor Bowls 7.00 pm Ngongotaha Community Hall

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

Tuesday Vets Golf 9.30am, Junior golf after school 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 of the month Rotorua Collectibles Club: Do you collect anything ie marbles tools, cars, China bottles you name it. Come and share your passion with a friendly group at St Barnabas hall next meeting ph 0272923579

2nd Wednesday Friendship Club 9.45 am St Barnabas Church Hall

4th Wednesday Ngongotaha Garden Circle at Ngongotaha Hall 1 p.m.

Every Thursday Junior Golf after school at Lakeview Golf and Country Club Drop-in technology 10 am with SeniorNet: Age Concern 5 Tarewa Pl.

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

3rd Saturday of each month The Care Village Market Day in Taiu Strett

Sunday 9.30 to 11.00 Rotorua Archery Club at Lakeview.

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Real Estate Frustration

I don't have anything lawyery to write about this month, so I thought I'd talk about some of the frustrations I'm seeing relating to real estate contracts at the moment ...

The first is when deposits aren't properly clarified or explained to buyers and sellers. To a buyer, **'deposit'** means their overall deposit (or deposit percentage which is what the Bank is interested in). To a real estate agent, **'deposit'** means the specified figure paid to the agency recorded on the front of the contract because that usually covers their sales commission and other costs of sale. To a seller the **'deposit'** forms the strength of the contract and means they'll hopefully receive at least some money before settlement (after sales commission etc).

Why this is important is that if a buyer is using Kiwisaver as part of the deposit payable to the agent on the front of the contract, both the buyer and seller need to understand that any Kiwisaver money must be held by the vendor's solicitor by law until settlement.

This is hugely problematic if a seller had intended to use the deposit to pay off a big bill or put a deposit down on another house, and it also places the buyer at risk of potential cancellation. This situation can change the whole nature of the deal from a seller's perspective and results in lawyers trying to sort out contractual issues behind the scenes.

Another frustrating scenario across my desk recently was a client in her mid-20's buying her first home with pre-approved lending on minimum cash deposit. All was good until the contract comes in with a residential tenancy in it that's remaining after settlement. It was to be a rental property investment, not an owner-occupied first home after all, even though from my client's perspective she was just buying her first house. I admire her strategy for sure, but first home vs rental investment are different things entirely from a lender's point of view.

It's been well publicised that the Reserve Bank currently has restrictions imposed on certain types of bank mortgage lending and deposit ratio requirements etc. It's also been well publicised that pretty much no one is buying rental properties at the moment because of current lending restrictions and other tenancy law limitations on landlords. I could already foresee that a young person borrowing hundreds of thousands of dollars for a rental investment without ever having had the responsibility of a mortgage before is unlikely to get lending approval. Even if the agent didn't know the buyer's financial situation, the tenancy meant a rental investment so that a young age should have raised some queries first up, too.

I immediately recommended my client check with her lender whether they'd loan for a rental investment before she proceeded any further. Secondly, to hold off paying for LIM and Building reports (a thousand bucks in the shade) until she had that confirmation. As it turned out the agreement was able to be amended to be vacant possession (no tenant) and my client decided to take in a flatmate to help her pay the mortgage etc.

These things are all common industry knowledge. It makes no sense to me when a situation isn't clarified or explained properly at the outset because sometimes contracts can't be changed and they end up tipping over and everyone's time and money is wasted not to mention being embarrassing and annoying for everyone involved. If you're buying or selling a property, I recommend you have your lawyer look over the agreement first to check for any fishhooks before signing.

Article prepared for Ngongotaha News by

Ros Morshead, Solicitor at Lawbox.

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