

## Update on Housing Development at 31 Ngongotaha Road

At the end of May, Watchman Residential Ltd submitted a revised application to the Environment Protection Agency (EPA).

This revised scheme responded to consultation feedback from Rotorua Lakes District Council, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Waka Kotahi. The key changes to the proposal since lodgement in December 2023 are:

Addition of a new central neighbour park (2,000m<sup>2</sup>);

Provision of an additional intersection to Ngongotaha Road, thereby providing for two access points from SH36;

Redesign of the masterplan to make provision for a future southern connection to Bruce Street;

Remediation of PFAS contaminants on site. (This relates to a previous sheep dip, and the depositing of sludge from the Rotorua Wastewater Treatment Plant historically - Ed.)

These changes result in a number of consequential changes to the following elements of the proposal:

Revisions to the urban block layout and dwelling locations

to allow for the new road connections and park;

Reduction in dwellings numbers from 215 to 202;

Amendments to the built form and materiality, fencing and landscaping;

Revisions to the shared common parking areas on Road 2 and western end of Road 4.

(There is also provision for a turning lane into Wikaraka Street, and pedestrian refuges on the 2 intersections into the site. The ponding plan virtually restores the Te Akau swamp which had been drained earlier. Ed.)

Since May the EPA has requested further information on matters related to flooding, ecology and conditions of consent. The Panel is currently considering the information requested, and a decision on the project is anticipated in the coming weeks. Further stages are planned but are not part of this Resource Consent.

**Source:** [www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/referred-projects/ngongotaha/amended-application](http://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/referred-projects/ngongotaha/amended-application)

## Former Ngongotaha School pupil represents NZ for Crossfit in the US

Hunter Nepia, currently a pupil of Raukura is at the teen Crossfit Games in America which includes the top 30 athletes in the world. He is the only athlete representing NZ in his division.

Hunter promises to do his best to stay competitive & represent himself, his whanau and country with pride. **All the best, Hunter!**



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### St Barnabas Anglican Church, School Road, Ngongotaha

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.

*Readers are noticing rubbish and dog poo in public areas, not to mention noisy motorbikes. Please be considerate of fellow locals.*

### MAMAKU SCHOOL CALF SCHEME

Mamaku School is seeking support from our local farmers for a kind donation of a weaned calf to support our school.  
Some families choose to make a donation equal to our average calf sale price as an alternative.

Calves to be ready mid November.

Please contact Shelley if you are able to be involved - 027 472 7330



Please contact Shelley if you are able to help out with Mamaku's Home & School committee Calf Scheme Fundraiser. All funds raised go back into our kura to provide extra opportunities for all our students.

## Kaharoa School

### Tēnā koutou whānau

We are halfway through the year already, and what a busy time Kaharoa School has had.



**Ngongotaha Sports Exchange:** On Thursday 15th August a group of year 5 and 6 tamariki from Kaharoa will head to Ngongotaha School to compete in a range of different sports, including netball, soccer, basketball, and hockey. These exchanges are a fabulous way for students from both schools to connect and build friendships, with a dose of healthy competition. Many of these children will attend Western Heights High School together in year 9.



**Keeping Ourselves Safe:** Later this term, we will be teaching the personal safety programme Keeping Ourselves Safe. This programme enables children and young people to learn and apply a range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others. It will be taught by the classroom teachers, with support from the local Police School Community Officer, Constable Viv Sutton.



### House Sports and Staff vs Students!

Kaharoa School has 4 house groups: Kahu, Kereru, Kōkako, and Tui. All students and teachers belong to one of these house groups. On Friday 30th August we plan to run another house sports event - these are planned and run by our rangatira, our Year 8 House Captains and Prefects. On Thursday 19th September we will have another staff vs students event, this time netball. Both events are a lot of fun, and create healthy competition within our kura.

**School Photos:** Photolife will be here on Monday 12th August to take class, individual and optional sibling photos.

**Road Closure:** A full road closure on SH36 will be in place from Monday 5th August to Friday 16th August, and is necessary due to two sites of roadworks along SH36 between Hamurana and Pyes Pa. This is between 8am and 4pm. The work sites are (1) 'Alpaca Corner' (area with the passing lane, approximately 2km after turn-off from Hamurana Road) and (2) at the Mangorewa Gorge. The areas between those two sites will still be accessible, but during the hours of 8am - 4pm can only be reached via Central/Jackson Road or Te Waerenga Road. An exception will be made for the Kaharoa School bus only - to travel along the usual school bus route. The complete closure will be for 2 weeks, followed by a stop/go traffic management until the completion of the work.



**The Kaharoa Cull:** The difficult decision was made by the Kaharoa PTA to postpone the Cull again due to bad weather forecast. This will likely now be happening in September. For more information please see our school website or email [pta@kaharoa.school.nz](mailto:pta@kaharoa.school.nz)



### 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).

**Kaharoa School Information Evening:** Wednesday 14th August at 6pm. Students and parents considering enrolment in 2025 are invited.

**Kaharoa School Open Day:** Friday 6th September, 9:30am - 11:15am. This day includes: school tours, information sessions, activities, and a free sausage sizzle. Interested students and whānau are welcome to attend. Any questions or queries, please contact Kaharoa School on 07 332 3444.

Please refer to the Kaharoa website for further information and school newsletters. [www.kaharoa.school.nz](http://www.kaharoa.school.nz)  
Ngā mihi - The Kaharoa Team



# Ngongotaha School

Every four years, we witness the pinnacle of athleticism and dedication as athletes from around the world compete in their chosen disciplines at the Olympic Games. For our students, witnessing these skilled athletes passionately represent their countries on such a grand stage is truly inspiring. We have been captivated by their performances and achievements. Recently, our school celebrated its own Olympics Day, where students were grouped into teams representing different countries and participated in various activities. It was a day filled with excitement and camaraderie.



Sadly, we bid farewell to Whaea Kahurangi, a cherished member of our full immersion unit for many years. Her wealth of knowledge, grace, and kindness have left a lasting impact on our school community, and we wish her all the best in her new role at Kohanga Reo.

*Ka Kiteano!*

At the start of the term, we organized a sports-themed mufti day, where children dressed up in a colorful array of costumes representing various sports, including horse riders, race car drivers, hockey players, gymnasts and there was even one student dressed up as a Marist St Michaels Rugby player. Through this event, we raised \$460 in support of Hunter Nepia, an ex-student traveling to the United States to compete in the Crossfit Games.



Term 3 is always a highlight for sports enthusiasts at our school. Our regular Saturday morning sports continue, and we're excited to include interschool competitions this term, welcoming teams from Rotokawa School, Western Heights Primary, and Kaharoa School. It's a wonderful opportunity for our students to proudly represent our school in rugby, football, netball, basketball, and hockey, and we encourage our school community to join us in cheering them on.

Looking ahead, this term promises even more excitement with upcoming activities such as a tree-planting visit to Lakeview Golf Club, our anticipated annual Tough Guy and Gal event where over 100 children will tackle mud-covered challenges, and the eagerly awaited full school production at term's end. Keep an eye on the school app for ticket details, as they'll be available for purchase soon.



Meanwhile, our year 6 students are already planning their next educational journey, exploring intermediate school options with their families—an exciting time for everyone involved.



Stay connected with all the latest updates from Ngongotaha School by downloading our app and following our Ngongotaha School Photos Facebook page. There's always something exciting happening within our school community!

*Craig and the team at Ngongotaha School.*



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# LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

Spring must be just around the corner! Daffodils are starting to appear and a few early blossom trees are putting on a show, all great signs that we are heading toward the end of winter.

The course is still holding up really well, despite the rain, and on those lovely sunny but chilly days people are getting out and enjoying the challenges of winter golf!

The Mamaku Cup competition was won by John Hodges. A big congratulations to John who braved very inclement weather to put in a card that saw him take out the win. Well done - a true all-weather golfer!

The Managh Cup and Trophy comp has started and will see us through to the end of August when Top Dog/Cat competition starts. This is a very popular event that sees teams of two battle it out for the honour of being the Top Dogs or Cats.

The weather was kind to us and we were able to host the semi finals of the BOP Handicap Pennants. Another great opportunity to show case our new facility.

Lakeview won their matches on home turf and headed to Mount Maunganui golf club to play in the finals where we triumphed and won! This is a first for Lakeview, so a very proud moment for us. CONGRATULATIONS to team captain Te Wana Maxwell and his band of merry men.

It is awesome to have Mamaku Primary participating in a junior golf academy this term! The children are loving the experience of trying a new sport which they probably would not have had the opportunity to do if this was not available through school. Thanks to Principal Peter Vos for getting on board with this initiative. He is passionate about widening the horizons for tamariki outside their own backyards. Tamariki can't dream if they don't know what there is out there to dream about!

It might be a little early to mention the word Christmas but..... it is creeping up on us and we would like to remind everyone that Lakeview is a magic place to hold your end of year work do!! So, if you are looking for somewhere different this year give Sue a call 0272010940 and start planning. The clubhouse is available for dinner and of course there is the option to include an activity in there as well with golf/driving range fun or archery.

Josh is looking to start up some ladies' golf clinics this spring so if you are looking for a way to have some fun with your mates, get some "me time" and work off some of those winter kilos, watch this space for more info!

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 which is SPRING enjoy the tail end of winter and stay safe.

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Authorised by Todd McClay,  
Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.





# Hon Todd McClay

## Member of Parliament for Rotorua



### RESTORING ROTORUA'S REPUTATION

Rotorua is a fantastic place full of amazing people and I'm extremely proud to be your local MP. Every week I meet locals who are proud to call Rotorua their home and who work hard to make our community a better place. Since the election I've been working closely with local groups to deliver for Rotorua. There's a lot to do but we've made a good start.

Over the past few years, the Labour government's policy to use Rotorua as a dumping ground for the country's homelessness has harmed our reputation and caused widespread concern in the community. We campaigned on ending the use of homeless motels within two years and that work has now started.

We've instructed government agencies to stop sending homeless people to Rotorua and announced that locals will get priority for social houses as they are built. That means local people will be looked after first and the number of people in motels will reduce.

We've also announced the closure of 4 additional motels on Fenton Street to bring the number of contracted homeless motels from 13 down to 7 – three motels were closed a few months ago -with an additional 'Covid

Motel' also due to close. Between now and the end of the 2-year period you can expect more of these motels to be closed as demand reduces.

More houses are needed but the government should not be doing this alone. We believe that the private sector and local community groups are also best placed to build affordable warm homes for Rotorua people and so we will be partnering with them to make sure that Rotorua gets the houses that we need.

Taking back Fenton Street is an important part of restoring Rotorua's reputation and attracting more visitors back to our city, creating jobs and supporting local businesses.

On a local note, Ngongotaha village is looking great. I've been doing visits in the area to Ngongotaha, Hamurana and Mamaku, checking in on local groups and talking with residents. Congratulations to all those who are working to keep the village looking clean and green.

#### Hon Todd McClay

Member of Parliament for Rotorua

Authorised by T. McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



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Congratulations to Ngongotaha School for establishing a Pataka Kai in the paved area on School Road.

#### Hunting with Eastern Fish and Game

Most waterfowl hunting has finished in the Eastern Region but you can still hunt pukeko and of course black swan in management area A1 until the end of August. Pheasant and Californian quail hunting is also open until the end of August. While there are heaps of pukeko and black swan, pheasant and quail hunting has been tough this year. **Source: Both Barrels**



Congratulations to Alana Fredericksen for setting up a Little Library at 97 South Road, Mamaku.

#### Wetlands

With Winter here, BoP Regional Council are keen to help you to find out if that soggy, unproductive piece of land on your property is a wetland – and what you can do with it. Contact Land Management Officer Heather McKenzie. **Source: Participate Newsletter, Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana**

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I went for a job interview today and the interviewer asked me, "What would you consider to be your main strengths and weaknesses?"

I said, "Well, my main weakness would be my issues with reality, telling what's real from what's not."

They then asked, "And your strengths?"

I said, "I'm Batman."

*A politician, an artist, and a statistician are out hunting. The politician shoots at a deer and misses 5 metres to the left. The artist takes a shot and misses 5 metres to the right. The statistician yells: Got 'em!"*



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FOR SALE



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For Sale By Deadline: 22nd August 2024 (unless sold prior) | Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 [tim.osullivan@raywhite.com](mailto:tim.osullivan@raywhite.com) | View [rwrotorua.co.nz](http://rwrotorua.co.nz) ROT31688

FOR SALE



## 401 Hamurana Road Hamurana

Nestled amongst a natural setting close to the lake, this picturesque haven offers serenity and outdoor adventure. Positioned on a 6,646sqm (more or less) section, the home presents sunny living & good separation between the master suite & the family bedrooms. Relax out on the deck, ramble in the fresh air, enjoy views of the enchanting pond. A short drive from Hamurana and Ngongotaha.

By Negotiation | Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 [tim.osullivan@raywhite.com](mailto:tim.osullivan@raywhite.com) | View [rwrotorua.co.nz](http://rwrotorua.co.nz) ROT31542

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FOR SALE



## 23 Beaumont Road Ngongotaha

Nestled on a spacious, fully fenced section, this charming family home offers plenty of room for outdoor fun. Open plan living has airconditioning and a wood burner. There's a double garage, carport, garden shed and spa pool. Located close to shops and schools, this property offers a peaceful and convenient lifestyle for its new owners. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make this house your new home.

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FOR SALE



## 189 Dansey Road Ngongotaha Valley

This tranquil property basks in a picturesque location with views of Lake & Mountain, stands of bush and lush paddocks that roll down to the stream. The impressive shed with its huge dimensions, soaring ceilings and office & studio areas includes a feature space that captures the sun and views.

By Negotiation | Phill Rivers 0276 109 090 & Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 | View [rwrotorua.co.nz](http://rwrotorua.co.nz) ROT31578

FOR SALE



## 9 Alice Place Hamurana

Feels like a private oasis! This leafy lifestyle property offers a Lockwood home with some nice updates, a separate double garage with a hobbies room and good space to roam outdoors. The adjoining 1 acre (more or less) section is also for sale. Close to the lake, reserve & boat ramp.

By Negotiation | Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986 [tim.osullivan@raywhite.com](mailto:tim.osullivan@raywhite.com) | View [rwrotorua.co.nz](http://rwrotorua.co.nz) ROT31380

UNDER CONTRACT



## 31 Kauae Street Ngongotaha

Beautifully presented home, substantial conservatory, redecorated over 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](mailto:john.piercy@raywhite.com)  
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## 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.

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Priced at \$324,000 [rwrotorua.co.nz](http://rwrotorua.co.nz) ROT31449

# Early History of 31 Ngongotaha Road

As part of the application to the Environmental Protection Authority to create a housing development, the following background has been recorded, which may be of interest to readers.

This site is located in an area with a long and rich history for local Māori, with numerous iwi/hapu groups having whakapapa intrinsically linked to the surrounding whenua. Ika is said to have been the first to settle in the area after arriving on the Te Arawa waka, with his descendants occupying Whanakenake, north of the mouth of the Waiteti stream. Tura, the mysterious ancestor, settled around Ngongotaha before returning to Hawaiki.

Ihenga explored the area after arriving at Maketu on the Te Arawa waka, settling at various locations along the Waiteti Stream. Ihenga discovered and named all original place names within the area including Ngongotaha itself. Waikuta, Parawai, Weriweri and Puhirua are all place names given by Ihenga during his travels throughout the district. By doing so, Ihenga claimed all the surrounding lands for his tribe and all their descendants, strengthened further by occupation of various settlements.

One such settlement that Ihenga himself first called home, is Te Motu-tapu-a-Ihenga (the sacred grove of Ihenga), 5km upstream on the Waiteti Stream that bounds the 31 Ngongotaha Road site. This site is widely revered and supremely sacred due to the presence of the sacred grindstone Hinetuahoanga, brought by Ihenga from Hawaiki and placed in Waiorotoki (Axe sharpening water) stream, the feeder spring of which is the final resting place of numerous important ancestors. This was the very stone used to sharpen the adzes that felled and carved out the great tree which formed the hull of the Te Arawa Waka.

Ihenga persuaded his uncle Kahumatamomoe to migrate inland from Maketu, which he did so, settling at Parawai, named after his gardens in Hawaiki, near the mouth of the Ngongotaha stream. Over time, the descendants of Tura, Ihenga and Kahumatamomoe became intertwined, through cohabitation and intermarriage, culminating in the ancestor Te Ngakau. The many descendants of these original ancestors are the tangata whenua of Ngongotaha and have inhabited the area including the development site for over 600 years. The central points of cultural identity for these many descendants today are:

Waikuta marae, Rangitunaeke (wharenuī) Tarukenga marae, Te Ngakau (wharenuī) and Hinetai (wharekai) Parawai marae, Whatumairangi (wharenuī) and Parehina (wharekai) Waiteti marae, Ngāranui (wharenuī) and Uruoteao (Wharekai) Tarimano marae, Tawakeheimoa (wharenuī) and Te Aongahoro (wharekai).

Source: [www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/referred-projects/ngongotaha/amended-application](http://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/referred-projects/ngongotaha/amended-application)



## Ngongotaha Medical Centre Limited

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



### Importance Immunisation Advice

The timetable of recommended vaccines is called The National Immunisation Schedule. It shows when everyone should receive each routine immunisation, starting as early as 16 weeks of pregnancy for mothers, and at least 6 weeks old for babies. For the best protection against serious disease everyone needs to be immunised **ON TIME, EVERY TIME**.

In March 2023 a new immunisation was added to the childhood schedule. BEXERO is a Meningococcal Group B Vaccine to help protect against diseases caused by the bacteria *Neisseria Meningitis Group B*. This bacterium can cause serious and sometimes life threatening infections such as meningitis (inflammation of the covering of the brain and spinal cord) and sepsis (blood poisoning).

This vaccine works by specifically stimulating the body's natural defence system of the vaccinated person. A common immune response for those under 2 years is a high fever, so for those children it is recommended a dose of paracetamol (pamol) appropriate for their weight is given either just before or at the time of their appointment. This vaccine is now given at 3 months, 5 months and 12 months, however please ask your Nurse about the catch up programme available for all under 5 year olds that have not started their Bexero vaccines.

Bexero is also recommended and funded for 13 to 25 year olds who are at boarding school or reside at another specified close living environment, i.e. University Halls of Residence.

[www.immune.org.nz/diseases/meningococcal-disease](http://www.immune.org.nz/diseases/meningococcal-disease)

**Please phone the Surgery for an appointment or if you have any questions**



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# Progress Ngongotaha

Kia ora Koutou, Katoa, Hello Everyone,

- Ngongotaha Emergency Response Team (creating a 'Draft Plan')
- Ngongotaha Community Defibrillator (Annual Check Aug 2024)
- Ngongotaha Stream Care Team (Ngongotaha Awa)
- Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum (Grant Application in currently)
- Ngongotaha Hall Committee (needing support with Fundraising)

First off of the block: our Ngongotaha Stream Care Team: Gavin, Ian, Keith, Murray, Lois, and friends; (You each deserve a GOLD Medal, thank you for all that you do PNKN)

Progress Ngongotaha pleaded for help controlling the blackberry infestation along the streamside walking track. The response was immediate and generous. One family donated a heavy-duty, petrol-powered scrub cutter that was now surplus to their requirements.

A second individual donated cash to purchase a new battery-powered scrub cutter from the Stihl distributor in Rotorua. (pictured). It was important to stay with that brand, as we already have Stihl equipment with interchangeable batteries and a charging system. There was more generosity to come.

When I arranged to pick up the new brush cutter, the store management team had an in-depth discussion with me and concluded that the brush cutter ordered was probably not up to the workload I described. They upgraded the equipment to a professional contractor's requirements at no extra cost. The Stream Team has already put this donated equipment to good use and made a solid start on tackling one of the bigger Blackberry patches" - Gavin  
The photo is of Ian displaying the New Battery Powered Stihl Brushcutter. Thank you Stihl Rotorua.

## Village Pedestrian Safety

Over recent weeks there has been a focus once again on Pedestrian Safety in and around the Village, more so now with the new Housing Development at 31 Ngongotaha Road taking shape (refer to Editors Article). Some of the Safety Hotspots are well known, but still nothing has been done to remedy these.

Some of the Safety Hotspots are well known:



- The crossing directly around the corner from Kokiri Street, is too close to the corner and drivers turning left onto SH36 are over the crossing before completely turning their wheels. The same can be said for the crossings outside of the Post Shop, and the one on Western Road, turning from School Road.

Progress Ngongotaha had a 'walk about' with the then Rotorua Lakes Council CEO and Staff a few years back now, this was well before the community consultation about the options to upgrade the centre of our village CBD. Remember, we had a choice of three options and from what we heard the No3 Option was the one most

The advertisement features a black and white photograph of an excavator working on a construction site. The excavator's arm and bucket are visible, and it is positioned next to a large, curved concrete structure. The background shows a cloudy sky. Overlaid on the image is a list of services and the company name.

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favoured by our community.

We pointed out several concerns during our walk, including the need to reduce the speed of the traffic through the Village, which is still a huge concern today;

- I think the biggest concern is the false sense of security/safety that pedestrians feel when faced with a crossing. We can no longer count on cars stopping, even if we are already two thirds of the way across to the other side. Option 3 covered many of these concerns and offered favourable solutions including safety cages in the middle of the road. Tauranga and other places have these and they work well.

Since then, we have heard nothing. Yes, COVID 19 brought our 'normal' lives to a halt, and we do now have our Roundabout where SH36 meets SH5 and in many ways this has been great. However, from the Roundabout head North along SH5 and for those who need to turn left onto Paradise Valley Road, it is extremely dangerous.

We have many of our local people living alongside this road, plus some very popular tourist attractions operate in the area, plus there is a sign at the beginning of the road stating that it is a 'Scenic Route to Rotorua' and yet, if a motorist needs to turn left from SH5 they have to slow right down in readiness to turn and with another vehicle bearing down at 100 km, it is a highly dangerous left turn for both motorists. A left turning lane would solve this and in our view is essential.

There is also a similar situation in Kaharoa.

We want to take this opportunity to ask you about any safety concerns that you have, relating to both general & pedestrian safety in and around Ngongotaha. Please email [progressngongotaha@gmail.com](mailto:progressngongotaha@gmail.com) or ph 3574565 or 022 1404391

We would recommend that readers stream the RLC Infrastructure Meeting Live Streamed 7 August 2024. Cr Conan O'Brien has raised the concerns regarding Ngongotaha and Safety through the Village and questions to Stavros Michael RLC Infrastructure General Manager after the presentation of his Report. Stavros's Report is very concise and informative. You can find this anytime at [https://www.youtube.com/@](https://www.youtube.com/@RotoruaLakesCouncil/streams)

RotoruaLakesCouncil/streams

Facebook page, Yes we did (do) have a Facebook Page, but our lovely Host Heather, sadly (for us) moved away from Ngongotaha to be closer to family and we no longer have anyone to manage this for us. If you can help with this, please let us know.

The Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum has been in hibernation over winter, however we are still working towards a new place to set up our museum/office and community space. We are so encouraged by the support that we are receiving from you. Thank you so much for your emails, phone calls, donations and offers of help.

We recently received an email with some great information relating to the Fletchers Mills, a dominant feature in our landscape dating back to the 1960's. Thank you Alan from Hood Street, we will be following this up with great interest.

In support of Martyn's historic research in the last Ngongotaha News Can you help Martyn? (p 15 July 2024). Martyn Evans asked for help. He is interested in gathering any details to do with the planting of the Olive Trees above Dynasti. If you can help with further information, please phone Martyn Evans on 0273540079 All the best Martyn.

Thanks everyone !!

Until next time stay safe out there, keep warm and continue to enjoy Our Place !!


**Lynn, Bob, Heather & Lee email: [progressngongotaha@gmail.com](mailto:progressngongotaha@gmail.com)**

### **Work humour**

*To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.*

An engineer's perspective

Some people say the glass is half full. Some people say the glass is half empty. Engineers say the glass is twice as big as necessary.





# Age Concern

Our tenants are in, and most of them moved in during the last week of July, although we have not yet got our full Code of Compliance. There are still some items to attend to but since they have been waiting so long now, I thought it best they at least have a roof over their head.

The planned working bee never eventuated because of the bad weather and a shout out to Ngongotaha Landscapes for their kind donation of a truck load of topsoil. We still need to have a working bee to get the grounds tidied up, so this will be advertised on Facebook as to when it will be, probably in the next two or three weeks. If anyone has some stones or suitable ground cover they could donate, they would be gratefully accepted. Please phone 07 347 1539 and we will send someone around to collect them.

A Rotorua food rescue charity has added extra hours for older customers to come and get food, as demand surges. With so many people queuing up for Rotorua Whakaora's free supermarket, older people are finding it hard to get what they need amidst the rush for kai. The foodbank is now dedicating Fridays to people aged 60 plus. (Located at 57 Depot St - Ed.)

There is a long line of people waiting to get access to food. Some of them can bully to try to get into the front of the line, probably in the fear that they're going to miss out on something. Elderly were complaining about the behaviour of others, so they gave them their own day. The supermarket operates two days a week, Fridays from 10.30am to 12pm, being their day for people 60 years old and over. For the public, the supermarket is open on Sundays from 10.30am to 12pm.

The demand for food had been increasing. Feedback from people standing in the line was taken very seriously. It is meant to be an accepting place, a place where there is no judgement. Where you can feel safe and secure and being able to access the food that you need or whatever we can provide. The way that they operate is that they are a top up, and not like you get your weekly shop there. What they encourage people to do is shop for what they can with what they can afford and then top up with what they have.

This week the Taranaki Daily News published an article about New Plymouth District Council's \$12 million commitment to grow the number of Housing for the Elderly units that they have operated for more than 40 years. That investment was almost unanimously supported, and it is really pleasing that the council was taking action to help house more of our most vulnerable



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community members. However, there are plenty of other opportunities we as a wider community can explore to address the huge increase in housing need across Taranaki and many other centres. The need is significant and growing. Since 2019, the number of people on the public housing register (the official wait list for public housing) in Taranaki has increased by 260%.

Grey Power, Taranaki have come up with a scheme, like Age Concern Rotorua when we first had the dream, to provide several Tiny Homes in a Pocket Neighbourhood for the elderly and Grey Power provide the land and the Government the funds for the houses. Good Luck.

Events that are coming up in the next few months are The International Day of the Older Person in October, a recruitment drive day for Age Concern Volunteers and the Age Concern AGM on the 24th of October.

Although it is a way off yet, we will be having a Car Boot Sale for our members in the carpark of Parksyde to coincide with a Xmas Fair they will be having. How this will work is that our members will pay \$25.00 for a carpark and sell their products, either from their boot or by setting up a trestle table and any money made will be for them for Xmas.

As already mentioned, we will be holding our annual Positive Ageing Expo on 21st of September at Parksyde. We already have 15 organisations registered and we expect to double that by the time we start. It is an opportunity to ask all those questions that you have wanted to ask for a while. There will also be an opportunity to join Age Concern and we will have a welcome goodie bag for new members and volunteers.

**Keep safe, Rory O'Rourke, Manager**



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# Ngongotaha Indoor Bowls

John Rayner, filling in for Helen White, advises that their latest tournament was the Championship singles where there were 5 Qualifiers: Bruce Mapson John Rayner, Richard Mills Chris Mc Goon and Martin Bertling. The winner was Bruce Mapson and Runner up was Chris Mc Goon

## More Work Humour

*How to get a payrise*

*Bill walks into his boss's office one day and says, "Sir, I'll be straight with you. I know the economy isn't great, but I've got three companies after me, and I'd like to respectfully ask for a raise.*

*After a few minutes of haggling, the boss finally agrees to give him a 5% raise, and Bill happily gets up to leave.*

*"By the way," asks the boss as Bill is leaving his office, "which three companies are after you?"*

*Bill replies, "The electric company, water company and phone company."*

I will now be signing all emails with this disclaimer: On average it takes me two days to overthink the best response to your email. You can be assured that I will reply to you in my head and forget to send you an actual reply. In the future, please save us both the stress on our mental health and avoid sending me any emails.

*When my boss asked me who is the stupid one — him or me — I told him everyone knows he doesn't hire stupid people.*



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To make an error is human, to blame it on someone else shows management potential.

*My boss told me that there's no such thing as problems, only opportunities. I said: "That's great. Well, I have a serious drinking opportunity."*

When an employment application asks who is to be notified in case of an emergency, I always write, "A very good doctor".

*The workplace from hell*

*HR manager: "Just go to hell!"*

*Me: "So, should I stay or leave? I'm confused."*

I don't mind coming to work; it's the eight-hour wait to go home I can't stand.

*Middle age is when work is a lot less fun, and fun is a lot more work.*

How many programmers does it take to change a light bulb?

None. It's a hardware problem.

*AutoCorrect isn't always write.*

Did you hear that Larry got a new job working for Old Macdonald? He's the new CIEIO.

*The proper way to use a stress ball is to throw it at the last person that upset you. Instant de-stress.*

Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.

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# Building Connected Whanau

On 30 July Jase Williams was invited by Te Maru o Ngongotaha Kahui Ako to share his experience as Principal of Henry Hill School—a decile 1A Primary School in Napier, Hawke’s Bay and Winners of the 2021 Prime Minister’s Education Excellence Awards, Wellbeing category.

Many NZ families experience high levels of stress, insecurity and uncertainty for a range of reasons. Students are impacted by this in different ways. Many schools and ECE centres are seeing increased levels of dysregulated behaviour and anxious or stressed ākonga/students.

Henry Hill School in Napier faced more than its fair share of challenges in 2020. In addition to dealing with Covid-19, the school experienced flooding in November. Jase says Henry Hill School is one of the few in Napier that does not have an enrolment zone. They enrol a large number of students from local schools who leave their school before a stand down or suspension is formally recorded, or are asked to informally try another school.

“Many students who transitioned here were also more impulsive than others and lacked age-appropriate social skills,” he adds. He believes his school’s key purpose is to be a welcoming and safe space for ākonga and the community around them. The Wellbeing@School survey revealed that almost half of the children felt unsafe in a range of contexts.

The school recognised there was a clear link between wellbeing, hauora, learning, behaviour and attendance, so they worked to target those areas directly.

“Our staff needed to understand the reasons for both our personal and student behaviours and dysregulation from a neuroscience perspective. This would help change our practice to applying a social, emotional and trauma-informed lens to each situation or scenario, to better support our students and community,” says Jase.

By 2017, data showed a marked progress in students’ achievement in areas such as reading. It wasn’t long before they could see other tangible differences in the



school and community too. The roll increased, transience went down, and data showed that fewer children were leaving. “Wellbeing was improving too,” says Jase. “Kids were happy being at school, and there was more of a sense of belonging.”



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“Relationally, we can regulate and calm kids just by being ourselves,” he says. Small adjustments to the school day have helped to make their approach practical. Starting each day with mindfulness exercises led by ākonga in te reo Māori, helps the team to reset and focus on the day ahead, says Jase. “And for our kids, it provides them with an opportunity to be present in the moment and enjoy a calm start to the day, alongside their peers and their teachers.”

Social and emotional skills can be taught and supported. Students need the vocabulary and language to engage in social and emotional learning, so they can identify how they are feeling, in order to develop the strategies to stay calm. “The ultimate outcome is that these skills and strategies help calm and regulate them across situations and scenarios outside of school too,” says Jase.

In recent years they have added to their support for students with a sensory garden. Te Āhuru Mōwai – a calm place or safe haven – is one of Henry Hill School’s most significant assets. The garden supports the school’s approach to helping students feel calm and connected with their peers. Te Āhuru Mōwai has become a central part of life at the school, and ākonga use the space to self-regulate. Jase tells the story of a boy who got into a conflict on the rugby field and needed time to cool off. “Although nothing outside the school gates is calm and consistent for him, he had a place where he could go to calm himself at school,” says Jase. “He told me later how he appreciated having somewhere quiet in the school he could hang out in.”

Trauma-affected students can often experience emotional dysregulation at school, which can affect their learning and the learning of others. In a trauma sensitive school, teachers understand the impact and prevalence of trauma, are aware that students and their whānau need to feel safe, welcomed, and included. This understanding leads to reflection, an attitude shift and willingness/knowledge that changes they make, can make a difference.

Source: [Whatumanawa.co.nz](https://www.whatumanawa.co.nz), Education Gazette June 2021

## Happenings

5 to 16 August Road closure of SH36 between Hamurana and Pyes Pa  
15 August Kaharoa and Ngongotaha Schools sport exchange  
23-25 August NZ Fishing, Hunting and 4x4 Expo  
30 August Kaharoa house sports event  
September 5-12 Conservation Week: Theme - Take Action for Nature. Forest & Bird Calendars are \$18 at <https://forms.office.com/r/vAYYg6ENUP>  
21 September Positive Aging Expos at Parksyde  
1 October International Day of the Older Person  
24 October Age Concern AGM

## 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  
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 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 myfairkay@gmail.com or 0274 982 787  
3rd Saturday of each month The Care Village Market Day Taiui St  
Sunday 9.30 to 11.00 Rotorua Archery Club at Lakeview.

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# When companies go bust

There's been a few media articles recently of high-profile businesses collapsing and going under owing millions of dollars, so I thought I'd write a bit about what it all means at a very broad level.

When it's boiled down, the phenomena of a formal company structure is to shield people from the personal liability of trade and financial risk. Directors are the people who run the business of the company to make money for the shareholder financial owners who have invested in the company in the first place. Sometimes the directors and shareholders are the same people who also work in the company day to day, other times it might be a combination of people who do or don't work in the company day to day.

All companies are bound by the Companies Act 1993 rules and any company constitution (additional operational rules). This means a company (which is operated by its directors) is required to trade and conduct itself within the parameters of the rules, regardless of the company size. Importantly, the company concept means that with few exceptions, shareholders are only liable for the company debts up to the value of their shares which are generally accepted as \$1.00 per share.

One of the key legislative linchpins controlling every company is a thing called the 'solvency test'. This test imposes on every company a statutory obligation to ensure it's able to pay its business debts and liabilities when they fall due and not enter into transactions it doesn't have the reasonable financial means to meet.

At a basic level this means the directors mustn't allow the business to continue to trade or rack up more debt if it doesn't have sufficient funds or assets to meet all the company financial obligations to its creditors (who it owes money to).

A creditor owed money can apply to the Court to put a company into receivership. This means the company can still operate albeit under the management of a receiver to try and reduce financial losses to creditors

by trading out.

Other times a creditor can apply to the Court to put a company into liquidation. When this occurs an insolvency accountant or the Official Assignee is appointed by the Court to shut the company down and stop it trading, gather in all money owing and sell all the assets to recover as much as possible for creditors.

Where this all links back to the obligations of the company directors is that the directors manage the company day to day and are statutorily liable to ensure the company trades solvently, which is balanced against risk management.

Risk can be internal poor management, theft, or bleeding the company dry of money impacting operations. Or it could be external risk such as government policy changes or factors impacting overseas suppliers and cost of goods sold and so on that have a flow-on financial or operational effect.

The importance of this point is that company directors can sometimes be held personally liable for failing to trade solvently and liquidators can trace and recover assets and 'claw back' any irregular transactions back into the company to meet its obligations. In some situations, those directors can also be criminally liable, too, such as for some taxes.

It's common to read media reports of businesses having accrued hefty tax arrears and other debts over quite a long period of time while the business has continued to trade before they're put into liquidation, yet some of them incorporate new companies straight away leaving those to whom they owe money to sort out the financial mess and bear any losses.

Is that wrong? Morally, perhaps. But legally it's not - until they're formally banned from running a company or bankrupted, often years down the track.

**Article prepared by Ros Morshead, solicitor at Lawbox, for Ngongotaha News**

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