

Tiny Homes Officially Opened

Age Concern were finally able to celebrate with a ribbon cutting ceremony conducted by our local Member of Parliament, Todd McClay and he was supported by our mayor, Tania Tapsell.

Everyone that was present could see that the model for elderly housing was excellent and the tenants that spoke were very happy in their homes which were warm and safe. All the units have passed the Healthy Homes Standard for renting, and, although they still have not got a CCC, are very liveable.

The homes have had their final inspection but there are still up to eight areas that need to be addressed so the CCC is still a way off and non-compliant buildings cannot be insured which is also a major issue. See page 4.



Whaka 100

Ngongotaha School had a number of riders who took part in the Whaka 100 mountain biking event. Dozens of students rode various distances, and all did extremely well. Well done to Maddie Oswald, who placed 1st female in the 10km race! See page 17.



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11.00 Bible Study
All are welcome.

A Dog Park for Ngongotaha?

A reader was recently impressed by the Dog Park at Lawrence Oliver Park in Te Puke, and suggested using the area north of the Rail Park in Ngongotaha Road for our own facility.

There seem to be complications with the ownership and parking arrangements at that site, so we are seeking suggestions from residents as to the usefulness of such a park, and possible locations.

Te Puke's Dog Park was part of a commitment made by Western Bay of Plenty Council in their Long Term Plan. Progress Ngongotaha is currently seeking feedback for Rotorua Lakes Council's Long Term Plan which locals are encouraged to make input to on this or any other topic. See the report by Progress Ngongotaha Kokiri Ngongotaha on pages 20-21 and you can have your say by emailing progressngongotaha@gmail.com.



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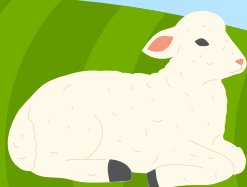
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- Western Riding
- Shearing & Wool Handling
- Dairy Cattle Events
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- King / Queen of the Mountain Race
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Age Concern

We finally had our official opening of the Tiny Homes Project and the ribbon cutting ceremony was conducted by our local Member of Parliament, Todd McClay and he was supported by our mayor, Tania Tapsell.

Everyone that was present could see that the model for elderly housing was excellent and the tenants that spoke were very happy in their homes which were warm and safe. All the units have passed the Healthy Homes Standard for renting, and although they still have not got a CCC are very liveable.

We have had our final inspection but there are still up to eight areas that we need to address so the CCC is still a way off and of course we cannot insure non-compliant buildings which is also a major issue.

On the 24th of October we had our Annual General Meeting, and it resulted in several members putting themselves forward for the Trustees. This was unusual as we normally have difficulty finding people to volunteer to be on our Trustees. A new Constitution was passed prior to the AGM, and we are going to renew, and stay as, an Incorporated Society. The Membership fee increase was also passed at the AGM and had not increased for several years. The new cost to join is \$20.00 with \$30.00 for a couple and extra if you want the newsletter posted out.

I was a guest Panellist at the Second New Zealand Hindu Elders Conference at the Hindu Heritage Centre in Rotorua and spoke about the variety of programmes that Age Concern have running at present. We are encouraging different ethnic groups to join us as members. We also met with the Ethnic Council to discuss how we could develop more of an on-going relationship and pool resources. The different ethnicities were unaware of the many programmes they could access as members. New programmes that we have started up recently with funding from National office are the Steady as you go which is a balance class, Just Cook4 Healthy Ageing and Walkers with Walkers for Social Connection.

We were fortunate to get some funding from the Charity House Project at the Toi Ohomai Institute and we were able to produce and print a Cookbook with a difference. The recipes all have a story with them about why the recipe was chosen and the reasons for the selection are varied. The finished product is for sale for \$25.00 at our office and it is a limited edition as we only have 100 printed.

New Zealand's retirement system was ranked as a B in a new report, while Australia received a B+. New Zealand's retirement system - made up mostly of KiwiSaver and NZ Super - was ranked 14th out of 48 around the world.

The ranking, by Mercer, looked at schemes' adequacy, sustainability and integrity. It ranked New Zealand a B overall. Australia received a B+. The New Zealand system scored more poorly on adequacy - which covers the income people receive in retirement - slipping from 25th to 28th place or a C+ by that measure.

The Netherlands took the top spot, ahead of Iceland and Denmark. KiwiSaver is the fastest growing invested asset in the country, having surpassed \$100 billion. As the KiwiSaver system matures, and we are starting to see the benefits play out for retirees through a supplemented retirement income, we now need to ensure that savers of all ages understand the importance of retirement planning and decumulation strategies.

The success of a long-term savings plan will be boosted by additional contributions from employers and the government, and these should be underpinned by an overall enhancement in the importance of KiwiSaver

as part of a financial plan.

The Netherlands had a similar universal pension and other savings and investment schemes alongside it that were generally industry-based. But they have much higher combined contribution rates, that's sitting at 12 percent compared to NZ which is 6% at the top.

Lifting KiwiSaver contribution rates would improve the country's standing in the index, as well as increasing the amount of assets that New Zealanders had for retirement. The combined contribution rate should be heading up to more like 10 percent.

Countries that performed well in the rankings were also those that not only looked at accumulation of a pension asset but how it was accessed once people retired.

That might mean offering people the ability to sign up for an ongoing stream of income, for example, rather than lump sum withdrawals from KiwiSaver.

NZ Super is often described as one of the more generous in the world because it is available to almost all New Zealanders.

But if that did not continue, it could make New Zealand's system less internationally competitive.

Keep Safe Rory O'Rourke

Photos of the Tiny Homes are on the front page of this issue.



PARKSYDE

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 16 November
9:30am to 1:00pm
Parksyde Hall

Parksyde Café open!
Age Concern car boot sale in the Parksyde carpark

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LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

The last month of spring is upon us and the warmer temperatures are encouraging the grass to grow at a rapid pace. Kelvin and Duncan, our greenkeepers, are very busy mowing trying to keep up with the growth as well as all the other jobs needed to keep the course looking awesome. They must be doing a fantastic job because the course is looking beautiful at the moment.

The Top Dog/Cat comp final was held on 5th October. The winners were Te Wana Maxwell and Ken Kennedy. Big congratulations to Te Wana and Ken and a shout out to Sam and Willy Ripia for their challenge in the final. The Stroke Play Championship competition continues this month with the final round being played on Saturday 9th November. This is the last major competition for the year after which we head into the Ham Tournaments. We hosted the Booth Shield junior tournament over Labour Weekend and what a fantastic event this was! There were 5 teams from around the motu, Taranaki, Waikato, Wellington, Bay of Plenty and Hawkes Bay: a total of 52 young players competing for the Shield. We had an opening ceremony with the raising of the flag on Friday and 2 rounds of golf on Saturday and 1 on Sunday- results were not available at the time of writing this.

Twilight has started with a bang! We have had excellent numbers attending this which is fantastic. It is such a great way to get a 9-hole round of golf in after work with your mates and enjoy some awesome kai and camaraderie post game. You do not have to be a member or have a handicap so get a team together and come and

join in the fun! Wednesday evenings tee off from 4pm – 6pm no need to book.

It was great to see so many ladies participate in the clinics that Josh ran. We have had some join Lakeview, so we welcome those players and hope they continue to enjoy getting exercise while chilling out in a beautiful environment. As always, we remind any new-to-golf players that it is not about the score, it is about what happens between tee and green that counts. Everyone has their why and if this is just to have fun while exercising and socialising - fantastic!

Remember Lakeview offer a great option for end of year work functions AKA Christmas dos! Give us a call if you want somewhere different to go this year. Golf and archery activities also available to make it a Xmas do to remember. Email info@lakeviewgolf.co.nz or call Sue 0272010940. If you are looking for a space to hold a meeting, the clubhouse is an ideal setting with a great outlook and space for breakout activities. Give us a call to book your hui.

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 calm before the storm of the Xmas rush!

Golf shop phone number is 07 357 2341.

NGONGOTAHA BOWLS


Twilight Bowls

\$5 entry fee Starting **October 17th**

Come join us Thursday nights at 5.00 p.m.
Get a team of 3 or 4 players – we will supply the bowls and show you how.

Have a LAUGH, have FUN, maybe win a prize.
Then enjoy a drink and finger food at our bar afterwards.

Club Opening Hours
4pm to 7 pm- everyday
3pm to 8pm- Thursday.



Contact: nbcbowls@xtra.co.nz 11 Domain Ave, Ngongotaha

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Hon Todd McClay

MP for Rotorua

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rotorua.mp@parliament.govt.nz



Authorised by Todd McClay,
Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



Hon Todd McClay

Member of Parliament for Rotorua



In Celebration of Local Success

Every year Rotorua businesses come together to celebrate the achievements of local businesses and businesspeople. The Rotorua Chamber of Commerce Business Awards has been running for over 20 years and I am always inspired by the enormity of what our local businesses are achieving.

The awards recognise achievements across all industries from tourism & manufacturing to service providers and not for profits, from emerging businesses to long term contributors to Rotorua, our people and our community.

Many Rotorua companies are punching well above their weight on both the national and international stage, and this year there were over fifty finalists that had demonstrated that they had what it takes to perform to a high standard.

From long standing family firms such as Lee Brothers Cabinets and Joinery, who won the Primary Manufacturing & Building Award, to Ashleigh Nairn, owner of Burger Fuel Fairy Springs, who at 21 bought the franchise and has since worked hard earning her the Emerging Business Leader Award.

Ngongotaha businesses have some of the most incredibly hard working and enthusiastic people who care deeply about their community and contribute to our local economy. Whether it is serving locals over the counter or buying services they provide, I am proud of the work they all do, and I hope you will join me in continuing to support our incredible local businesses by buying local.

Hon Todd McClay

Member of Parliament for Rotorua

Authorised by T. McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



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OUR SINCERITY

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Kaharoa School

Tēnā koutou whānau

Term 4 started with a hiss and a roar, or should I say a 'moo!' and a 'baa!'



Ag and Pet Day 2024: Ag and pet day was held on the first Friday of the term - this is the first year that we have had pets other than lambs, calves, chickens and kids. We had a section for dogs, and an 'open' category, which included rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, and even a chinchilla.

To fundraise, we sold baking and ran a sausage sizzle, and Mr. Whippy came to visit too. Congratulations to all children who put the effort in to raise an animal and participate on the day, and a special congratulations to students who received 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placings. A huge thank you to Shinade Picard who organised the day, to Vance Shoebridge who set up the event areas, to the judges who we so appreciate your time and experience, and to the whānau who helped their tamariki raise their animals.



Group Day: Group Day was on the following Friday, and students who received 1st and 2nd placings with their lambs and calves were eligible to compete for the championship rings. Additionally, there was an open ring available for students who wanted to participate and try their hand at showing.

Marae visit: At the end of October, Kaharoa School will be visiting one of our local marae, Tangatarua Marae. Our younger tamariki will spend a day at the marae and the older students will stay overnight. Some of the activities our senior students will be participating in include: a visit to the Aquatic Centre, mountain biking and/or a walk in the Redwoods, alongside cultural experiences at the Marae. Following the marae visit, the primary team will visit Hamurana Springs to enrich student's understanding of our local stories, and places of significance in our school patere.

Athletics Day: The whole school will be participating on Athletics Day on 22nd November (postponement 25 November). Students will be running (sprints and long distance), jumping (long jump, high jump and hurdles), and throwing (shotput, discus/gumboot throw, and javelin). Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.



PTA events: We have two upcoming PTA events - a fun and original Halloween evening at The Enchanted Storybook Nook on Friday, 1 November, and a firewood fundraiser on Saturday, 2 November.

Sport photos: A big thank you to Kylie Day Photography who will be taking our Kaharoa 2024 sports team photos this year on Tuesday, 5 November.



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). Our pre-school transition visits are held fortnightly on Thursday afternoons with our new entrant teachers (contact the school office for more information if interested).

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

Ngā mihi - The Kaharoa Team

About Spring

Spring is nature's way of reminding us that summer is just around the corner, so we better start panicking about our beach bodies now.

Did you hear about the gardener who couldn't wait for spring? He was so excited, he wet his plants!

Spring is like a really long blind date with nature – you never know if it will be sunny and beautiful or rainy and awkward.

What's the most tear-jerking season? Spring, because love is in the air... and pollen too.

The bed store is having a spring sale. Unfortunately, the rest of the beds are still full price.

Spring cleaning is such a pain. Silly things bounce around all over the place.

*What did the seed say to the flower?
OK, Bloomer!*

Why did the baby chick cross the road in spring?
To meet up with her peeps.

My winter fat is gone. Now I have spring rolls.

No such thing as too much of a good spring.

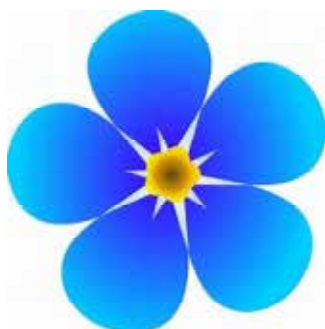
How did the lamb get to sleep?
It counted its friends.

What goes up when spring showers come down?

Umbrellas.

Why do we never tell secrets in a garden?

Because the potatoes have eyes, the corn has ears, and the beans stalk.



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FOR SALE



2 Preston Road Ngongotaha

Looking for an oasis with fruit trees, chickens, and green views? This solid Lockwood home offers flat land for kids and pets, plus well-fenced gardens. Recently reclad and insulated, it features 4 spacious bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and two living areas that connect to outdoor decks. A true gem!

By Negotiation | Niki Neal 021 348 677 | niki.neal@raywhite.com | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31836

FOR SALE



2 Oakland Place Ngongotaha

A spacious & modern home, elevated for some peaceful country views. Open plan living flows out onto the large deck and a well fenced section. Four bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and internal access garaging plus a separate shed. Close to the village, the lake & the stream.

Sale By Deadline: 14.11.24 (unless sold prior) | Anita Martelli 027 552 6482 | anita.martelli@raywhite.com | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31839

FOR SALE



28 Okona Crescent Ngongotaha

Whether you have a large family or small this home will embrace your every desire. Split across two floors, the 4 bedrooms and 3 living areas will create space for all. The one bedroom cottage tucked away in the garden could accommodate grandma, extended family or even an income. View today!

By Negotiation | Leanne Leef 021 835 915 | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31746

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Ray White

FOR SALE



15 Ranginui Street Ngongotaha

Not far from the village and even closer to the water with reserveto-lake access just across the street. This double storey home has 3 bedrooms, a kitchen, bathroom & living space upstairs. A bedroom, bathroom, living space & laundry below. A big section, bring the boat & motorhome.

Sale By Deadline: 21.11.24 (unless sold prior) | Tim O'Sullivan | tim.osullivan@raywhite.com | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31855

FOR SALE



9 Kinder Place Ngongotaha

Discover the perfect blend of comfort and convenience in this beautifully presented home. With 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms it's ideal for modern family life. Open plan living and double internal access garaging, this property offers a low-maintenance lifestyle with a flat section.

For Sale \$789,000 | Muiread Douglas 027 434 9812 | Carey Bryant 021 404 110 | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31769

FOR SALE



16 Dawson Drive Ngongotaha

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

By Negotiation
Phill Rivers 0276 109 090 | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31517

FOR SALE



32 Maraeroa Road Mamaku

This private residence on 2504m2 offers comfort and convenience. With double garaging, a study, heat pump, fireplace with wetback, and front and back decks. Classic country kitchen, fenced yard, hot house, fire pit, and an outdoor bath. An unmissable opportunity to create your own haven.

\$640,000
Phill Rivers 0274 109 090 | rwrotorua.co.nz ROT31787

25 November is White Ribbon Day

This is a time to reflect on the work of Te Wāhi Whakaora Rotorua and District Women's Refuge and to take a stand against family violence. Family Violence is a pattern of power, control and coercion – it is not always physical, and affects many women in Aotearoa.

On average, New Zealand Police attend one episode of family harm every four minutes, and the New Zealand Crime and Victims Survey has estimated two-thirds of family violence goes unreported. Family violence can occur in any home, across all socio-economic statuses and cultures.

Women's Refuge will not judge you. They will listen to you and support you to make choices for your safety. Free confidential services include:

24 Hour crisis line, 0800 REFUGE

24/7 access to a safe house - assessment pending

Home and community visits

Advocacy when dealing with police, legal, court, WINZ, housing, doctors, immigration, schools and Oranga Tamariki

Referrals to counsellors, doctors, lawyers and other support services

Education for women and children about living free from violence

Information and presentations to community groups, schools and workplace as part of a Workplace Refuge training

A \$20 Safe Night helps a woman and her children escape family violence. So far this year, Kiwis have gifted

27,723 Safe Nights

for women & children in Aotearoa

Go to [safenight.nz](https://www.safenight.nz) to donate.

New Banking Feature will help reduce scams

Confirmation of Payee is a service in New Zealand that helps customers ensure the payee's name matches the account number before making payments

It will apply to domestic payments made between New Zealand bank accounts when setting up a new account, making a one-off payment, or editing an existing account to pay online.

The service is being launched by New Zealand's banks by November 2024, with full implementation across digital banking platforms expected by Easter 2025.

Please note that existing payments will not automatically be part of this service, but can be amended to be covered.

Source: www.getverified.co.nz



Ngongotaha Medical Centre Limited

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



MOVEMBER®

Men's Health Month

Movember is our time to unite, to take on mental health, suicide, prostate cancer, testicular cancer and men's health in general

Too many men are dying too young, largely from preventable diseases. Men's health doesn't just affect men, it ripples through our families, workplaces and communities

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For further information about Movember, including free resources please visit

nz.movember.com



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News from Fish and Game

The season has kicked off with a bang in the Eastern Fish & Game region. Hundreds of anglers flocked to the Rotorua lakes to fish, relax and meet up with friends and family on what has become a popular tradition in the region.

And the fish didn't disappoint either! Lake Tarawera in particular, produced the best opening day fish we've seen in over 20 years with hatchery fish released during autumn 2023 coming in at 583mm and 2.45kg. This is a whopping 600g heavier than the last opening day. Lakes Rotoiti and Okataina also excelled, with both producing fish that exceeded the previous year's catch.

With settled spring weather warming local waters we are beginning to see good browns cruising the flat shallow water on Lake Rotorua. Some excellent fish are being caught at the stream mouths between Ngongotaha and Hamurana and this is a trend that will continue to develop as the water warms. The trigger water temperature for these impressive fish to begin running into the streams is normally about 19 degrees Celsius – so keep a close eye on lake temps through November. There's a link (<https://envdata.boprc.govt.nz/Data/Dashboard/151>) to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council monitoring which includes water temperatures.

Spring is also the time when the smaller, and lesser-known lakes fish well. Locations such as Okaro, Ngapouri, Rerewhakaaitu can provide excellent sport either from the shore or by boat. Insect activity is on a rapid rise as we come out of winter. Damsel and dragon fly larvae and chironomid buzzers are all useful ways of targeting hungry fish around the margins.

Don't forget too that smelt are a key food source at all times so keep the box topped up with a few Grey Ghost type flies, silvery Toby's and lighter coloured Tassies.

Insect activity is also on the rise in all of the streams and rivers of the region and having been blessed with settled weather, the rivers are running low and clear.

Do the trout keep fooling you?!

Come along to Eastern F & G Boat Fishing How-to Talk and Demonstration, Saturday 4th of January 2025 at the hatchery at 1130 Paradise Valley Road, Ngongotaha. It's free to attend and covers off all the basics of catching trout from boats on our lakes. Keep an eye on Eastern Fish & Games Facebook page for details.



Datawatch tagged Trout

Tagged trout can now be entered online. Entries go into the draw to win one of 10 free whole-season fishing licences: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QCH5ZR6>

Eastern Region Fishing Diaries – All lakes and streams

Fill in your fishing diaries here to help manage the Eastern Fish & Game region. Participants go in the draw to win a \$100 voucher from Kilwell: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QRSD7D3>

Source: Reel Life October 2024

A large excavator is shown in the background, working on a construction site. The excavator is dark-colored and has a long arm with a bucket. In the foreground, there is a list of services and the company name. The background is a bright, sunny sky with some clouds.

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Ngongotaha School

Term 4 is the shortest and busiest term of the year. It will fly by in the blink of an eye. This term is extremely exciting, with some very significant events, and I hope our wonderful community can join us for them.

I would like to start by congratulating all of our riders who took part in the Whaka 100 mountain biking event. We had dozens of students ride various distances, and all did extremely well. Well done to Maddie Oswald, who placed 1st female in the 10km race! (Photos on page 1) The next event is the Legends of the Peak running event. I am sure all 62 children taking part in this event from our school will do us proud.

Te Whānau Ngahere's Grandparents' Day was a huge success. Thank you to all the grandparents who came along to spend time with their grandchildren and find out what they do here at school each day. It was a great turnout! Because it was such a success, we are considering holding a whole-school Grandparents' Day at some stage next year.

The same group of classes visited the Airshow in Mt Maunganui last week, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the show. Check out the photos on the Ngongotaha School Photos Only Facebook page.

Now that we have a new heat pump system in the pool, we will reopen it this term. This will allow the children the chance to continue learning water safety and swimming techniques through Term 4, as well as during the usual Term 1 sessions.

The annual Ahurei Kapa Haka festival is fast approaching. Last

year, our senior students took to the stage; this year, we are giving the opportunity to the younger students. Year 0, 1, 2, and 3 children who are interested in participating have started their practices with Whaea Tawi, supported by the students of Te Whānau Maunga. This event is always a highlight of the year for me, and I look forward to seeing our tamariki take the stage.

During Week 4 of this term, we will hold our annual Athletics Days. On Tuesday, the 5th of November, our middle and senior children will take part in field events and relays, while Wednesday, the 6th, will feature middle and senior track events, along with our junior school athletics day. These days are always exciting and give our children another chance to perform in front of their whānau and peers.

Our weekly mountain biking sessions and golf academy continue through Term 4. In addition to our Ngongotaha School Mountain Bike Club, which rides the Waipa tracks every Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Ngatai takes groups of children to learn bike control and safety skills. She also continues to take a group of budding young golfers out to work with Beau and Josh at Lakeview Golf Club.

A final reminder: if you have 3 or 4-year-olds whom you intend to enrol at Ngongotaha School, please come and see us. This allows us to know the number of students we will have and plan for them appropriately. If you are living out of the Ngongotaha School zone and have a 3 or 4-year-old that you would like to enrol, please do so immediately, as spaces are extremely limited.

There is so much happening this term, so please keep an eye on the app for regular updates.

Craig and the team at Ngongotaha School.



Gardening

An old lady was walking down the street with two huge bags over her shoulders. Suddenly, one of the bags break and \$100 bills start falling on the sidewalk one after another.

A policeman going in the opposite direction notices this and alerts the lady: "Excuse me, I think one of your bags broke and money is falling out."

The lady looks back.

"Oh my, thank you young man, most people these days would just walk by and not say a thing. You are such a sweetie.", she replies, drops the bags and starts collecting the money.

The policeman looks at the two bags and he becomes curious.

"How did an old lady like you get a full bag of money anyways?"

"Oh, it is an honest business don't worry", the woman says. "I live in a house right next to the golf course and I have a beautiful garden with lots of nice flowers. However my fence is old and full of holes, so the golfers tend to come next to the fence, stick it through the holes and pee all over my flowers. This really hurts my garden, so I have figured out a trick. When they put it in the hole, I am waiting there with gardening shears and I say: 'Give me \$100 or off it goes.'"

The policeman is stumped, but amazed at the same time.

"That really is a smart solution, however, I have to ask, what is in the second bag?"

To which the woman stands up, looks him dead in the eye and says: "Well, not everybody pays."



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I told my wife that what she's wearing isn't appropriate for gardening.

But...she's digging in her heels.

Based on a true story: I was carrying back gardening tools to the shed and dropped one.

My wife yells from behind me.
"Yee haw, it's a hoe down".

Every day I see my big-breasted neighbour doing gardening work in front of the house.

I really hope his wife tells him to put a shirt on someday.

When I do the gardening, I alphabetise my herbs; people often ask how I find the time.

I respond with "Easy, Thyme is right between the Tarragon and Turmeric"

If life gives you dirt, plant a garden.

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- Ngongotaha Emergency Response Plan
- Ngongotaha Community Defibrillator
- Ngongotaha Stream Care Team
- Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum
- Ngongotaha Hall Committee

Kia ora Koutou Katoa, Hi Everyone,

Expressions of Interest ‘Community Garden’ in Ngongotaha
Here is something that might be of interest to some of you. We have been approached to see if we can find people who would like to start up a ‘Mara Kai’ / ‘Community Garden’ in Ngongotaha. Land is available. So if you have thought about this and would like to discuss it further please email progressngongotaha@gmail.com or phone Lynn 3574565 or text 022 1404391.

Initially the aim is to bring those of you who may be, or are interested together, so that you can discuss this further, ask questions and then if enough people are on board, make a plan. If you are interested please email or text us, please leave your name, subject Mara Kai/Community Garden, your phone number or email address. I will be in touch to let you know Where? When? we can all get together, to see if this has enough interest to get started. We do have an offer of knowledge based expertise from someone who has developed several of these, but is unable to work in the garden. This is an opportunity to get in at the very start of something really worthwhile.

Ngongotaha Stream Restoration Project - Care Team Update: 10th October 2024
“It was a solid afternoon of planting out the wetland area that we recently cleared of blackberry. The regular volunteers from the ‘Stream Team’ plus some welcome help from the Rotorua Anglers Association ensured



that the planting proceeded at pace. (photo page 21)

Thank you to Ben Dyson, founder Managing Director of Lakes Consultancy firm. Lakes Consultancy donated the hundreds of wetland plants that were needed to effectively plant out and smother the potential regrowth of blackberry. The battle is not over. We will have to monitor the site for regrowth for some time yet, but eventually, the planting we completed today, will deny the blackberry the sunlight that it needs to thrive. Essentially, blackberry does not like shade.” Gavin & Team

Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum
Introducing our #1 Sponsor: Thanks Jazz and team for moving our Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum.
We have recently caught up with Jack Gear’s Granddaughter Sandra - she and her Mum are both well. Jack Gear Q.S.M. was the Rotorua Sheep Dog Trial Club’s president for over 30 years. One of the items donated by the Gear whanau to the Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum is the Programme for the 1997 “Tux” North Island & New Zealand Sheepdog Trial Championships held on the Ngongotaha Station property, by kind permission of Ngati Whakaue Tribal Lands Inc., Valley Road Ngongotaha. Today the area is planted in Pine Trees and one land mark once visible was a large rock that the sheep used to play ‘ringa ringa rosie’ around, with the





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dogs. This caused some of the Farmers in control of their dogs total heart ache, but resulted in great laughter from the spectators.

Also, as each exhibitor was on a 'time limit', when time was up and the sheep were still playing around the rock, the Farmer's temperament was pushed to the limit and often the Potae/ Hat was thrown to the ground. Or he frothed up so much at the mouth, that he couldn't get a whistle out and with a splutter and spit it was a 'Lost Moment'. Some famous dog names included; Boy, Dell, Sue, Mate, Flash, Queen, and Kip to mention a few. Mate was a very prominent name but of course 'Get in Behind Boy!!!' was often heard.

I mention all of this as the Rotorua A & P (Agricultural and Pastoral) Show is back for the 116th Year. The programme looks amazing, with so much to see and do plus a FREE Kids Area with a bouncy castle, Ferris Wheel and large slide. To the best of our knowledge Dog Trials are still held, (not in Rotorua) but are more connected with larger Sheep Stations today, as small farmers now ride motorbikes with the dog hanging on at the back.

Make a note, **ROTORUA A&P SHOW Saturday, 7th December 2024 141 Western Road, Agrodome, Ngongotaha Rotorua 8.30 am – 4.30pm**

www.rotoruaashow.co.nz for further details or Ph: 07 3572979 or 0273117010

On another note: We have been revisiting the Ngongotaha Community Planning Project November 2000. This will most likely ring a few bells for many of our families, who have lived here for a while and those who took part in this project back then. To 'jog a few memories', you may have put forward ideas on Sticky Notes, or drew a map of what Ngongotaha could look like, including suggestions on a potential bypass to relieve our village of heavy traffic. There were Public Meetings and Drop In opportunities at the Ngongotaha Hall. Locals also shared their ideas at the Bowling Club, Church, Marae, Trinity Church, St Barnabas, Ngongotaha Lake Front, outside the 4 Square, the School Bus Stop, Hamurana Playcentre and even down at the Dentist; you name it a team of people were waiting for our ideas. The needs and wants of our community, have not changed a great deal over the years and this is why Progress Ngongotaha Inc. still refer to this information to guide what we do, for example back then under the heading;



Roads/Traffic/Parking-Slow Traffic locals commented that we needed:

- Systems to slow down traffic
- Reduce/slow traffic through the village-to be safer
- Keep Traffic going past shops but slow it down
- Traffic too fast on Western Road (only recently reduced)

There are also several requests for Roundabouts in various places including at Taui Street and Western Road. Sound familiar? We are considering our Community's Urgent needs now, with the plan to have these included in the **Rotorua Lakes Council Long Term Plan in 2025.**

What do you see as Urgent Needs for our Community?
progressngongotaha@gmail.com

Until next time stay safe out there !!

Thank you to everyone who is making a difference to 'Our Place'. **Lynn, Lee, Heather and Bob**



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Happenings

- 10 Nov Butterfly Garden Visit at Neil Hunt Park: see Forest & Bird
- 10 Nov Locals Day at the Agrodome
- 15 Nov Equisucceed Charity Golf Day
- 25 Nov White Ribbon Day - donate a safe bed For \$20 see safenight.nz
- 16 Nov Parksye Christmas Fair 9.30- 1.00 9 Tarewa Place
- 22 Nov Athletics Day at Kaharoa School (25 November rain date)
- 23 Nov Farmers Market at Agrodome
- 4 Jan Eastern Fish & Game talk/demo on boat fishing, see their Facebook page

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 Parksye
- 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 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 ph 0272923579
- 2nd Wednesday Friendship Club 9.45 am St Barnabas Church Hall
- 4th Wednesday Ngongotaha Garden Circle, Ngongotaha Hall 1 p.m.
- Every Thursday Junior Golf after school at Lakeview Golf & Country Club
- Drop-in technology 10 am with SeniorNet: Age Concern 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 Tauī St
- Sunday 9.30 to 11.00 Rotorua Archery Club at Lakeview.
- Last Sunday Farmers Market at the Agrodome.

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Opportunity cost

There is a saying that '*hurt people, hurt people*'. Nowhere is this truer I think than in legal disputes between relationship partners or family members. This month's column is more a reflective piece, but I do hope it helps readers in some way.

I've been involved in some terribly sad files recently. The sort where each side has a different interpretation or perception of things that have happened, historic personal hurts and grievances are triangulated and laid bare, personal insults and barbs are thrown, alleged 'faults' get cherry picked to support the feelings of hurt and emotion (also designed to demonstrate the 'goodness' of the alleging party in the process).

Often, too, one party engages in vindictive or 'one-up' actions to maintain feelings of control over the situation and/or to try and force the other into capitulating to their demands. Sometimes things get to the point where relationships are irreparable and there's no hope of going back. There are no winners in these situations.

While it may be a cathartic exercise for a person to want their lawyer to engage in that sort of carry on, all it does is unhelpfully distract and shift the focus away from the actual issues to be resolved. It also pushes the parties further apart and entrenches each in their positions. It is not good lawyering, and it is not good clienting.

One recent relationship property matter was at risk of heading south. Financial disclosure was made between the parties, and it was a relatively simply relationship property division split 50/50 in accordance with the legislation. The figures were modest but at least it enabled each party to move on via a formal written agreement and didn't need to go to court (note most relationship property splits don't go to court because the legislation provides for how property is to be divided).

Except the party buying my client out of her share of the family home felt they'd been more of a financial provider and that my client should agree to take a bit less than she was entitled to under the legislation: i.e. – he was suggesting something that he wasn't entitled to.

However, when discussing goals with my client it was clear one of her key objectives was to maintain the good relationship between them for the sake of their child. In the back of my client's mind, she was thinking about school and life events that both parents would be involved with in coming years. She wanted both parents to do that with grace, not animosity. She also wanted to get on with her own life and cut financial and emotional ties as quickly as possible to maintain that relationship.

The other key thing was my client had found the perfect house to buy within budget in a fairly sought after area from a vendor who needed a quick sale and had priced the house accordingly. The property was also within walking distance to a nearby beach and their child's primary school.

The opportunity cost of dragging out time and legal costs arguing over a relatively small shortfall with her ex paled in comparison to missing out on the deal she was getting on the house on which she felt she was likely quicky to recoup any shortfall given its location: a house that she might not otherwise find again, or the market might have moved quickly and she could have found herself priced out of the area.

Accepting the lesser deal on the relationship property division meant she could achieve her goals of moving on quickly and into the perfect home while also maintaining the parenting relationship with her ex-partner. Accepting the lesser deal also meant her ex could remain in the house which also meant continuity and stability for their child as well.

So, while the property relationships legislation is clear on the asset pool being divided evenly, it would be fair to say that the courts also want people to have the ability to resolve their issues themselves which the legislation provides the mechanisms for. Sometimes it's not all about an exact 50/50 financial split, so long as it's fair and reasonable and not too far off the mark.

The takeaway from this article is that sometimes there's value in looking outside the square at the opportunity cost involved in not dragging out disputes and achieving a swift, clean break.

This article has been prepared for Ngongotaha News by Ros Morshead, solicitor at Lawbox Rotorua

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