



Last year the Ngongotaha Lions Club closed after more than 60 years of service to our community.

Now we have an opportunity to bring it back  
— but we need local people to help make it happen.

**Tuesday, 19 May**  
**Drop in 5pm – 7pm**  
**Ngongotaha Hall, Rotorua**

*Enjoy a complimentary hot chocolate and informal chat with Lions District Governor Lou Fielder and local Lions members.*



You do NOT need lots of spare time  
**Lions is simply local people helping local people.**

**Even small contributions can  
make a BIG difference in our community.**

Pre-register your interest  
Scan the QR code to go into the  
draw to win local prizes.



#### **Former President's Words**

*"I'd love to see the Club re-opened. We accomplished a lot and there is still so much more we can do to help each other."*

— Jamie Paterson, Former President, Ngongotaha Lions Club

For enquiries:  
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## ST BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH

School Road, Ngongotaha

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

**All welcome!**

**St Michael's Catholic School is now taking enrolments for families** with a Catholic connection. There is also free bus from Ngongotaha.

St Michael's is a Catholic, Year 0 to 6 state integrated contributing school to John Paul College.

For more information, please contact Jenny Chapman, Deputy **Principal St Michael's School, 0276315011**

## Some of the previous projects of the Ngongotaha Lions Club:

The Lions Tree Grove at TECT Park is a testament to the Lions Club's commitment to environmental conservation. Since its inception in 2012, the grove has seen the planting of thousands of native trees, transforming a once exotic pine forest into a habitat for native fauna and flora. The Lions Tree Grove is not only a place for planting but also a space for community engagement, with events like the Green Gym and Working Bee sessions held at the park. The ongoing efforts at Lions Tree Grove continue to attract volunteers and community members, contributing to the preservation of the natural environment and the enjoyment of the local wildlife by future generations.

Ngongotaha Lions donated \$6550.00 to the continued maintenance of the holiday retreats in Ngongotaha and also donated \$5000.00 to a new Lions project being the fitting of a second bus with equipment needed to scan people for cancer.

We'd encourage all locals to support the re-establishment of the Ngongotaha Lions Club by coming to the Ngongotaha Hall on 19th May from 5.00 to 7.00 p.m.

## Hauraki Stream culvert replacement

An ageing culvert – more than 80 years old on SH36 just before Kaharoa Kennels – is currently being replaced with a wider, stronger single span bridge designed to better withstand future weather events and provide safer, more reliable travel.

To minimise traffic impacts, the new bridge will be built in half widths, allowing single-lane traffic to continue through the site for most of the construction period.

However, NZTA said some disruption is unavoidable because of the narrow road corridor and steep gully below the site.

# LAKEVIEW GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

We hope everyone managed to stay safe during Cyclone Vaianu and that damage to property was minimal. The weather has certainly improved since then and at last we are managing to get some beautiful autumn days with sunshine, little wind and those amazing colours that are synonymous with the season.

Club competition for May sees the conclusion of the Mamaku Cup and then we start Handicap Matchplay with the qualifying round on May 16th. The Vice Captains Trophy was taken out by Ra Te Ngahue. CONGRATULATIONS to Ra!

We are hosting a Central Bay of Plenty Primary and Intermediate Qualifying event at the start of May. This will see schools fielding teams for a fun filled day of ambrose golf. These events are attracting more and more schools and young golfers which is just fantastic. The grass roots of golf is in a very strong position at the moment which is so cool to see. The after school junior sessions run by Josh on Thursday are seeing 20+ juniors attend! Learning the sport of golf offers so much more to these juniors than just the ability to hit a golf ball. Life skills like respect for property and your fellow players, the ability to converse with adults and the etiquette expected on the course stand juniors in good stead for when they become adults.

Vets golf is on every Tuesday (weather permitting), registration from 9am tee off 9.15am. A great way to connect and socialize while getting some exercise and enjoying some laughs!

## QUIZ NIGHTS.

The first quiz night was held on 24th April with 18 teams vying for bragging rights! It was a fun filled evening with some great food put on by our in house chef Flavours By Chef. The questions were brain strainers as is normal for our quiz master Kelvin. But at the end of the day as someone commented we are here for the night out and the laughs, not the kudos of winning! Our next quiz is Friday 29th May. We will see you there!

## EVENTS/FUNCTIONS

As we head into winter maybe you are thinking mid winter functions? Lakeview offers a beautiful setting with our stunning clubrooms set in peaceful surroundings. The wood fire adds that winter warmth ambience and our chef offers some delicious buffet menus. What more do you need to take away the winter blues and enjoy a night out with friends? Contact us at [Events@lakeviewgolf.co.nz](mailto:Events@lakeviewgolf.co.nz) to book in your function.

Rotorua Archery Club hold 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!

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# Hon Todd McClay

## MP for Rotorua

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Authorised by Todd McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



# Hon Todd McClay

## Member of Parliament for Rotorua



### A New Chapter for Rotorua, Ngongotahā, and the Bay of Plenty: What the India–New Zealand FTA Means for Our Region

The recently signed Free Trade Agreement between New Zealand and India marks an important milestone for the country, and its benefits will be felt strongly in Rotorua, Ngongotahā, and across the Bay of Plenty. As Rotorua's MP, I was privileged to travel to New Delhi in my capacity as Trade Minister to sign the agreement on behalf of New Zealand. A forty strong New Zealand business delegation joined the visit, including a small group of Rotorua businesspeople who travelled to celebrate the occasion and highlight the strengths of our region.

Rotorua's forestry sector — an important employer for many families in Ngongotahā — is among the biggest beneficiaries. Under the agreement, most forestry and wood products now enter India at a zero tariff, giving local mills, processors, and transport operators a major competitive advantage. India's previous tariffs on many wood and processed timber products ranged from 10% to 30%, so the shift to duty free access represents a significant win for the region's largest industry.

The benefits extend well beyond forestry. The agreement makes lamb, wool, coal, many industrial products, fish and seafood, infant formula, and a wide range of horticultural produce tariff free, opening new opportunities for exporters across the Bay of Plenty and the wider country.

Horticulture receives an additional boost through a duty free kiwifruit quota, beginning at 6,250 tonnes and rising to 15,000 tonnes over time — nearly four times current export volumes. Mānuka honey tariffs, which can reach 66%, will fall to 16.5% within five years, creating valuable new access for local producers. Wine exporters will also benefit, with tariffs dropping from as high as 150% to between 25% and 50%, supported by a most favoured nation clause that locks in any better access India grants other partners.

Tourism stands to gain as well. India's growing middle class is travelling more than ever, and Rotorua's lakes, forests, geothermal attractions, and cultural experiences are well placed to welcome more visitors as the links between the two countries deepen. This agreement is a long term investment in regional opportunity, supporting growth, innovation, and prosperity for families and businesses across Ngongotahā, Rotorua, and the Bay of Plenty.

**Hon Todd McClay**  
Member of Parliament for Rotorua  
Minister of Agriculture  
Minister of Trade and Investment  
Assoc. Minister of Foreign Affairs

*Authorised by T. McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.*

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## Ngongotahā School: Building Community and Future-Focused Learning

Tēnā koutou katoa. Term 2 is officially underway at Ngongotahā School, and there is a palpable sense of energy as our tamariki dive back into their school routines. From curriculum advancements to honouring local history, the school is currently navigating several meaningful projects that extend beyond the classroom.

What's in a name?

The school is currently engaging in a community consultation regarding officially adopting the macron in its name: Ngongotahā. This proposed change is intended to reflect correct spelling and show respect for the area's local history. The School Board will be reviewing community feedback later this term before deciding whether to move forward with a formal legal change through the Ministry of Education.

On Friday, May 29, the school will be closed for a Teacher Only Day as staff undergo intensive professional development. The focus for this session is the new English curriculum, which involves significant updates to how teachers plan, deliver, and report on student progress. This dedicated time ensures that Ngongotahā School remains at the forefront of educational changes to provide the best outcomes for its students.

There is a lot of public concern about teacher only days reducing the time students are spending at school. It is important to make clear that teacher only days are made up at the end of the year – the number of days students are required to attend school are not reduced.

With the school term in full swing, there is an increased focus on the safety of students around the school gates and the local skate park. The school is actively encouraging tamariki to be diligent, use crossings correctly, and look out for one another. Residents may notice a particular emphasis on "defensive walking," where

students are taught to stay alert and never assume a driver has seen them.

As the weather turns cooler, you may notice an increase in activity around our local streets. Our tamariki have been training hard and can often be seen running laps around the block in preparation for the upcoming School Cross Country on Wednesday, May 13. This focus on fitness and perseverance is a highlight of our sporting calendar, as students push themselves to achieve their personal bests. Following our school event, our strongest runners will head to Kaharoa on June 5 to represent Ngongotahā against other local schools. We appreciate the community's encouragement as our students practice their stamina.

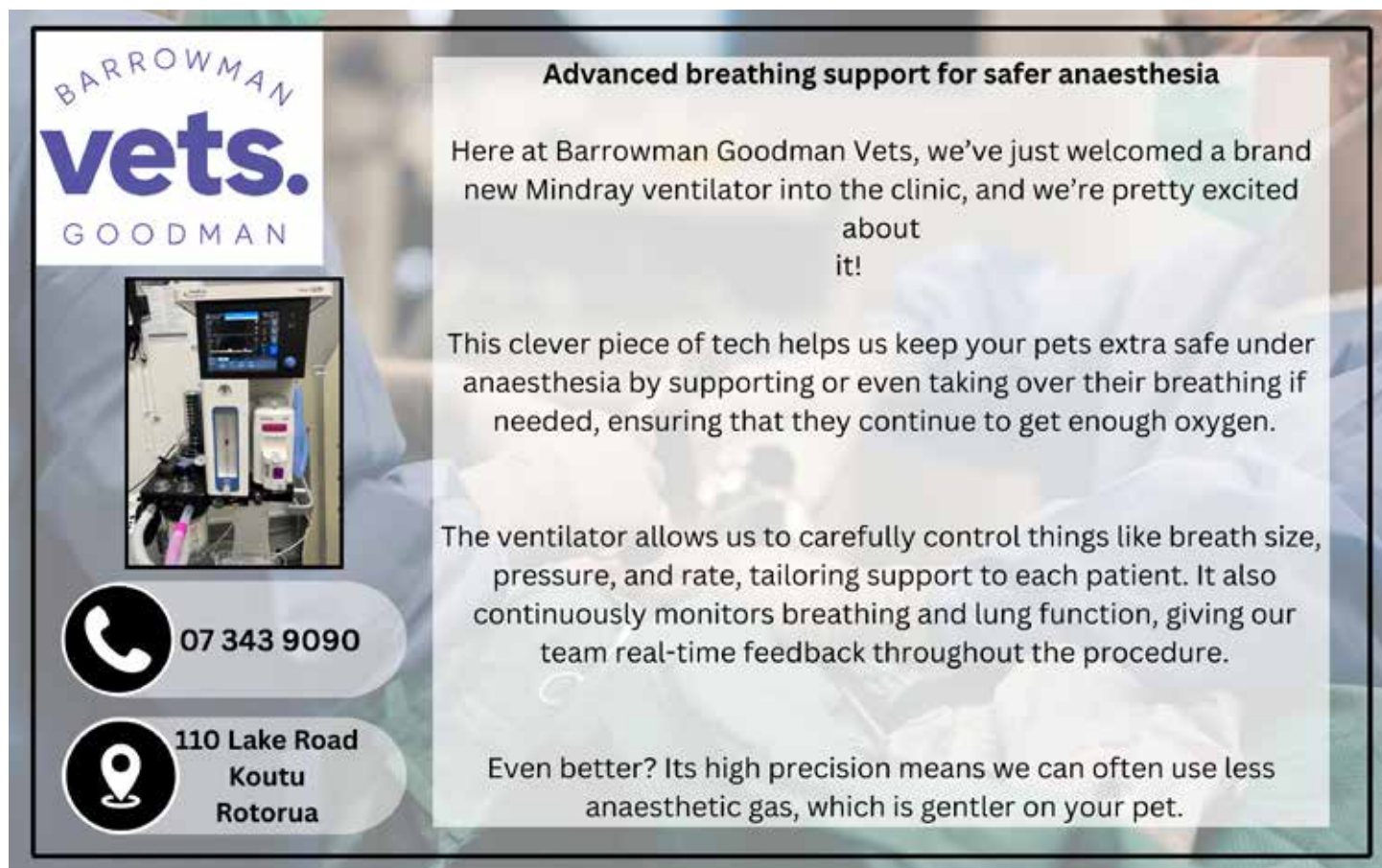
Community engagement remains a priority, highlighted by the 'CAKE Night' on May 14. This event serves as a forum for whānau to contribute their voices toward the school's new strategic plan, ensuring the community's vision is reflected in the school's long-term goals.

The school's vibrant culture will be on full display this month. Students will join the national Pink Shirt Day on May 15, a mufti day dedicated to spreading kindness and standing together against bullying. Furthermore, the countdown is on for ShowQuest, where selected students will represent Ngongotahā in Tauranga on June 16. The rehearsals are already showcasing an incredible level of local talent and creativity.

Ngongotahā School continues to "Aim High and Stand Proud," and we thank the wider community for their ongoing support in making this a safe and inspiring place for our children to grow.

**Nāku noa**  
**Tumuaki | Principal**  
**T: 07 357 4531**  
**Aim High, Stand Proud | Iti rearea teitei kahikatea ka taea**

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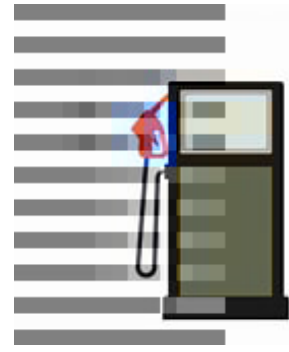
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# 5 tricks to use less petrol when you're driving

With the current price of petrol and diesel at painful levels, our experts have compiled a short list of tips to help keep you on the roads for a bit longer between fills. (Source: Consumer)



## 1. Drive smoothly

Put your lead foot away and drive smoothly to avoid excessive use of the accelerator. Look well ahead and try to moderate your speed to use the brakes less. If you drive at or below the speed limit rather than in excess of it, you'll also burn less gas as your car's aerodynamic drag increases with speed.

## 2. Take away the things you don't need

If your boot is chokka with your golf clubs you last used a few weeks ago. Take them out and store them in the garage. Same goes for any superfluous junk that's ended up in your car. If you have unused roof racks or bike racks on the outside of the car, take them off too. If you're carting around unnecessary items, you're burning more fuel than necessary.

## 3. Check your tyre pressure

If your tyres are a tad flat, they have more rolling resistance, so your car has to work harder to push them around. Check the correct tyre pressure (it's usually on a sticker in the drivers doorwell) and pump your tyres up to the right level at the petrol station.

## 4. Wind up the windows

It's nice to drive around with the windows down on a hot day, but it adds to your vehicles wind resistance. Roll up the windows when you're underway to make your car more slippery when passing through the air. It's more efficient to use air con instead.

## 5. Drive less

The easiest way to save fuel is to not use the car in the first place. If you can avoid a short local trip altogether, or walk or bike instead, your bank account will be smiling. If you need to go out, try string a few errands together so you're not continuously zipping to and from home.



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# Progress Ngongotaha Kokiri Ngongotaha Incorporated

Help Us To Make A Difference !!!

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

Kia ora, Koutou Katoa, Hi Everyone !!

As you can see at the top of our Focus Points this month, is the Ngongotaha Community Defibrillator (AED).

We are really pleased to Welcome Vicky to our growing Community of Volunteers (Friends).

Vicky is going to keep an eye on our Defibrillator, situated on the outside wall of the Ngongotaha Gull Service Station. The following whakatauki sums up really well the value we place in our volunteers, Members and Friends....

*Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi.*

Translation: With your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive.

Meaning: A profound saying on community and collaboration; when we share resources and work together, everyone prospers.

We are enjoying having more people on board with us in Making a Difference in our community. The Defibrillator is available 24/7. It was purchased by the Community for the community. Progress

Ngongotaha Kokiri Ngongotaha Incorporated are happy to accept donations towards the purchase of new pads from HeartSaver. Email us at progressngongotaha@gmail.com if you are wanting to do this. Or you can make a donation to Progress Ngongotaha Kokiri Ngongotaha 03 1545 0040162-00 Please state Donate DEFIB. If you would like to donate to the work at the Ngongotaha Stream, or any other area of interest, donations are also very welcome. Thank you

Our Facebook Page: with extra hands making light work, we are now revisiting our Facebook Page which lost its Administrator a few years back, to her wonderful moko's who lived further down country....our team shrunk substantially. We now have someone else working on our page. Thank you to all who have helped us.

## Ngongotaha Life Memories Museum:

In the April 2026 Ngongotaha News p16 a Photo in Focus from the Spice Family. We received some great feedback naming a couple of the players. The 2nd row 4th (no 10) is Donald Paterson and the guy with the ball is Derek Leathers. If you can name anyone in the photo please refer to a number for each player. We are looking at from left to right; top row 1-6. The next row down 7-12 and the lad with the ball is no:13. I realised that I hadn't numbered the players correctly, I've made the necessary change. Did you have a special name for your team? Do you have any memories of your time as a member of the team? e.g when I was a member of a Marching Team as a young person, I remember 'Fresh Fruit Salad'. When we were involved in competitions, a parent used to bring along the most wonderful fruit salad for us to enjoy. Is there anyone out there who wants to start a 'Leisure Marching Team' in Ngongotaha?

Until next month Stay Warm & Safe out there !!

Lynn, Heather, Lee, and all of our Team of wonderful volunteers.



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# What's This Kiwi Doing Here?

## From the Farm in Mamaku to the world, and back again to Rotorua

After starting a career in journalism, Shona Jennings travelled extensively, including to Tibet and Nepal, working with Thai prostitutes, producing Polynesian Airlines in-flight magazine, working for VSA in South Africa, working on projects in Sri Lanka, Kenya, Zambia, Vietnam and Timor Leste for ChildFundNZ, and then ChildFund in Sweden (Barnfonden) on climate change projects in India, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Ethiopia and Uganda.

More recently, she's been involved with The Fred Hollows Foundation and Habitat for Humanity and together with her husband is preparing to return to the Ngongotaha Lakefront to live. "I'm so proud of this city and its fabulous environment."

Her personal philosophy is "kindness and wisdom" and she summarizes herself: "I am practical. Growing up on a farm means you become a bit of a 'can do' person."

Her education was at Mamaku Primary, Western Heights High (head prefect), AIT (Diploma in advertising and marketing), Massey University Palmerston North (post grad diploma in development studies and Masters - both distance learning).

Thanks to Jill Nicholas



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Mandy Lee 0276 732 331 and Kat Flavell 027 494 4646

By Negotiation | [rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT32936](http://rwrotorua.co.nz/ROT32936)  
Mandy Lee 0276 732 331 | [mandy.lee@raywhite.com](mailto:mandy.lee@raywhite.com)

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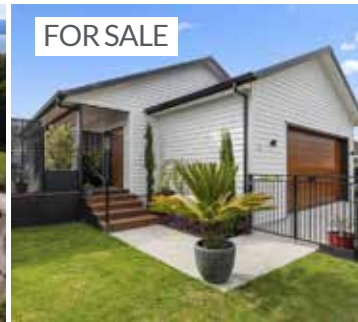
If you've been looking for stress-free property management solutions or have burning questions about compliance or protecting your asset for the long term, pop in and see us.



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# We bring the whole team



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FOR SALE

3319 🏠

951 Hamurana Road  
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*Lake Views, Location & Lifestyle*

Tim O'Sullivan 0274 974 986  
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*Grand Living with Panoramic Lake Views*

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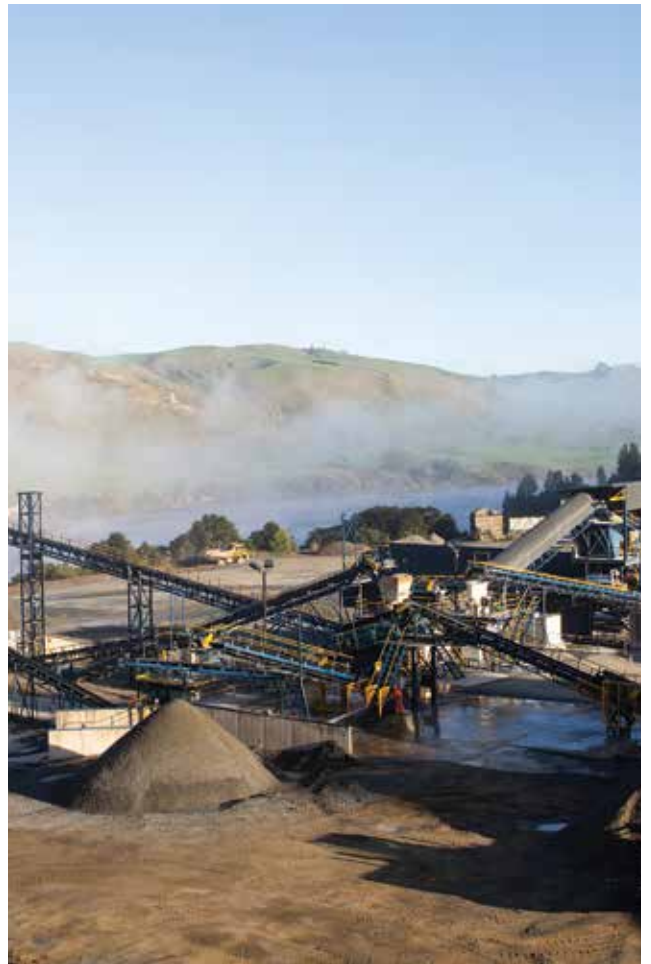
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# Understanding Powers of Attorney

Enduring Powers of Attorney (EPOAs) are a cornerstone of personal planning in New Zealand. They allow a trusted person to step in and make decisions when someone can no longer act for themselves. Understanding how EPOAs work, and safeguards that protect against misuse, are important for donors, attorneys, and the people around them. An EPOA is a legal document under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 (PPPR Act). They are documents that carry significant legal authority and allows one person (the donor) to appoint another (the attorney) to make decisions on the donor's behalf. An EPOA typically "endures" meaning it continues to operate even if the donor loses mental capacity. That endurance is what makes the document so important, and why there's legal requirements around how it is created and used.

## The Two Types of EPOA

New Zealand recognises two distinct forms of EPOA, each covering different aspects of a person's life.

**Property EPOA** - This authorises the attorney to manage the donor's financial affairs and assets. It can be activated immediately upon signing, or only if the donor becomes mentally incapable. A property EPOA can have one or two attorneys appointed to act together or separately. An attorney can pay bills, manage investments, sell assets, and deal with banks and government agencies. Because the scope is broad, donors often appoint someone with financial competence and strong organisational skills.

**Personal Care and Welfare EPOA** - This covers decisions about the donor's health, living arrangements, and general wellbeing. Unlike a property EPOA, it only comes into effect once a medical practitioner or specialist has certified that the donor has lost mental capacity. Only one person can act as a personal care and welfare attorney at a time, reflecting the deeply personal nature of the decisions involved.

## When an EPOA Can Be Used

Any adult with mental capacity can create an EPOA. The law requires the donor to receive independent advice from an authorised adviser

(e.g. a lawyer) to ensure the donor understands the document and its consequences – i.e. they're not documents that can be downloaded off the internet, signed by just anybody and used. Once appointed, an attorney must always act in the donor's best interests, consult with them as far as possible, and involve family and other supporters where appropriate. They must also keep financial records and avoid any conflict between their own interests and the donor's. A property EPOA may be used immediately if the donor has chosen that option, which is common for older adults who want help with day to day financial management. Otherwise, it activates only after a medical certificate of incapacity. A personal care and welfare EPOA can never be used while the donor still has capacity.

## Abuse, Negligence, and Court Intervention

Most attorneys act responsibly, but EPOAs can be misused. Abuse takes many forms: unexplained financial withdrawals, isolating the donor from family or support, neglecting care needs, using violence or coercion, or making decisions for the attorney's convenience rather than the donor's wellbeing. When concerns arise, family members, health professionals, or social agencies can apply to the Family Court under the PPPR Act. The Court has wide powers to review an attorney's decisions, require financial reporting, suspend or revoke the EPOA, appoint a Property Manager or Welfare Guardian, or issue directions to protect the donor's interests. In serious cases, misuse of a property EPOA may also amount to theft, fraud, or elder abuse, triggering criminal or civil consequences.

## A Tool That Requires Care

EPOAs are invaluable when used well: they provide continuity, dignity, and protection at vulnerable moments. But they are not "set and forget" documents. Choosing the right attorney, reviewing the arrangements regularly, and understanding the safeguards built into the law all help ensure that the donor's voice and wellbeing remain at the centre of every decision.

Article written for Ngongotaha News by Ros Morshead, Solicitor at Lawbox.

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# Age Concern April

The hike in diesel prices has severely influenced the number and distance of our Out and Abouters trips moving forward. Two trips had to be cancelled and if it wasn't for the generosity of Graham Brown and Co, Chartered Accountants we would have had to cancel all trips until the prices come back to normal. Luckily the trips in May are all local and there are no trips out of Rotorua. These trips are looked forward to, and oversubscribed, by our members, and are a crucial part of our Social Connection programmes.

We have been able to continue our relationship with Feeding Rotorua and the Salvation Army. Unfortunately, we no longer get the frozen food meals, but we do get a wide variety of non-perishable goods and an array of food and fruit items which we advertise through Facebook immediately and most of it goes. We have applied to get some funding to support the Salvation Army by purchasing food packs specifically made up for the elderly and this way we support the Sallies and our members, a different 10 each week. We have also applied for some funding through the Tindall Foundation to purchase a Hothouse and accessories for growing our own vegetables to supplement the food parcels we are providing.

As we have got many new members (90) over the last few months we have decided to hold a welcome to Age Concern Rotorua which will be a luncheon at St Johns on the 14th of May at 11:00 am.

The following backs up our claim that pensioners are just as vulnerable as any other groups when it comes to needing food parcels to exist comfortably and not worry about where the next meal is going to come from. The mere fact that we gave out 1,500 meal packs last year, from April, shows there is a need. Pensioners are turning to foodbanks to get by, as a new report says the pressure is growing on those relying on NZ Super alone.

A recent report which has just been released, focused on the housing experiences of women over 65. It follows concerns being raised that the recent adjustment to NZ Super is not enough to keep up with growing pressure, particularly in fuel prices. NZ Super lifted 3.1 percent this year, in line with last year's rate of inflation. But the cost of essentials has risen by more than that overall figure, and rates and fuel are expected to continue at a faster pace this year. Many women were facing significant challenges because of having more limited income as well as the lifetime effect of low pay, having taken time out of the workforce to look after children and other factors. The women reported wanting more security of tenure, dignity in living independently, safety and affordability.

Many of the women spoke about the same underlying pressure: the discrepancy between the cost of living and the NZ Super was growing. Whether renting or owning, many were spending more than half their weekly income on housing before they could think about food, power, transport or healthcare. Women managed their budgets with immense discipline - heating only one room, going to bed early to save power, shopping at discount stores, growing vegetables, through DIY - but still found themselves stretched to the limit. These were not small lifestyle adjustments. They had real health consequences. Even women who owned their own homes were facing pressure from things like insurance and maintenance.

For many, these pressures were magnified by what can be described as a 'single person penalty'. Living alone was essential for their safety, dignity and emotional wellbeing, but it meant carrying all household costs on a single fixed income. Women described living alone not as a luxury, but as a protective factor as they aged.

There's a point at which you can't budget what you don't have. People facing high housing costs were often just going without other things. This is a housing problem as much as anything. We do not have affordable housing. We do not have a diverse stock of affordable housing. People don't have anywhere to live, and they don't have anywhere to go. So, that's a fundamental challenge as well.

It's not just as simple as, oh, raise NZ Super by X dollars ... it's a big puzzle. And we need to have that collective support of different systems in order to actually make it have a difference for elderly.

**Rory O'Rourke**  
Manager



**DATE:** 21st Of May 2026  
**TIME:** 9.30 am until 12pm  
**VENUE:** St Johns Church, 44 Victoria St.  
**Enrolments essential:** 073471539

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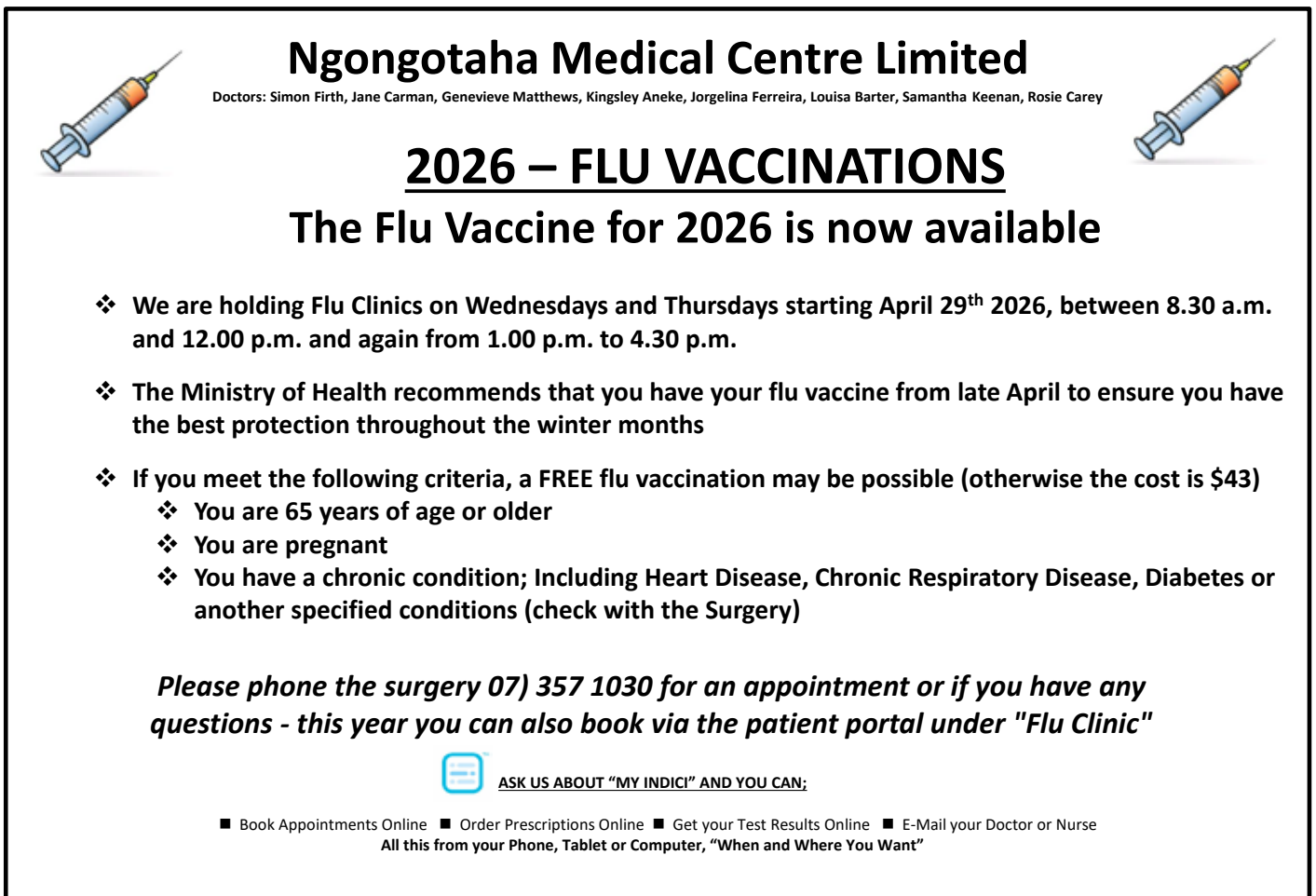
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**2026 – FLU VACCINATIONS**

**The Flu Vaccine for 2026 is now available**

- ❖ We are holding Flu Clinics on Wednesdays and Thursdays starting April 29<sup>th</sup> 2026, between 8.30 a.m. and 12.00 p.m. and again from 1.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health recommends that you have your flu vaccine from late April to ensure you have the best protection throughout the winter months
- ❖ If you meet the following criteria, a FREE flu vaccination may be possible (otherwise the cost is \$43)
  - ❖ 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)

*Please phone the surgery 07) 357 1030 for an appointment or if you have any questions - this year you can also book via the patient portal under "Flu Clinic"*

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### April Market Snapshot

**Ngongotaha:** 9 sales, 739k average sale value, 38 current listings

**Hamurana:** 3 sales, 1.42m average sale value, 48 current listings

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## Happenings

- 21-24 May Mamaku's Marsupial Madness Challenge  
 21 May Safe Driving Course for Older Drivers 9.30-12.00 at St Johns Church 44 Victoria Street Rotorua Enrolments essential Ph Age Concern 07 3471539  
 22 May Pink Ribbon Breakfast at Mamaku Blue from 9.30 to 11.30 \$50 ticket includes breakfast and a donation. Ph Tahlia 0275 746 868  
 29 May Teachers' Only day at Ngongotaha School  
 29 May Lakeview Quiz night  
 5 June Kaharoa School hosts Rural Cross Country Event (postponement date 8 June)  
 16 June ShowQuest in Tauranga, Ngongotaha School represented

## 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 Wednesday Rotorua Collectibles Club: Do you collect anything? Share your passion at St Barnabas ph 0272923579  
 2nd Wed Ngongotaha Social Club 2026 10.00 -11.30 St Barnabas Church Hall Ph Raewyn 027 4792893  
 4th Wed Ngongotaha Garden Circle, Ngongotaha Hall 1 p.m.  
 Every Thurs Junior Golf after school Lakeview  
 Senior Net Drop-in technology 10 am: Age Concern Tarewa Pl.  
 Thursdays 5pm Twilight Lawn Bowls, Clubhouse Domain Rd  
 Thursdays Rotorua Scrabble Club 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Parksyde  
 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 Tauai St  
 Sunday 9.30 to 11.00 Rotorua Archery Club at Lakeview.

*A black guy was pulled over in his Mercedes by the police. It was found that it was his, it was registered and insured...  
 He had no drugs on him and no weapons were found in the car. The car was NOT linked to any drive by shootings or any drive off petrol thefts.  
 In the end they arrested him for "wasting police time".*

I was in the petrol station queue and there was a bloke in front of me; his right arm was browner than the other...  
 He saw me looking, so I nodded to his arm and asked if he was a taxi

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driver.  
 He replied, "No. I'm a vet."

*A truck driver is driving along on the motorway.  
 A sign comes up that reads "Low Bridge Ahead."  
 Before he knows it, the bridge is right ahead of him and he gets stuck under it. Cars are backed up for miles. Finally, a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car and walks around to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips and says, "Got stuck, huh?"  
 The truck driver says, "No, I was delivering this bridge and ran out of petrol."*

A Russian truckdriver stops at the back of a long queue on the motorway. He sees a policeman walking down the line of stopped cars to briefly talk to the drivers. As the policeman approaches the truck, the truckdriver rolls down his window and asks: "What's going on?"  
 Policeman: A terrorist is holding Putin hostage in a car. He's demanding 10 mill rubles, or he'll douse Putin in petrol and set him on fire. So we're asking drivers for donations.  
 Driver: Oh, ok. How much do people donate on average.  
 Policeman: About 10 litres.

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## Kaharoa School

### Tēnā koutou whānau

We have had a fantastic start to term 2, with the whole school preparing for our production 'Shine together', and then all participating in the Mini-Marathon before the Show performances the following week on the 5th and 6th of May.

Our Best Always - Tā Matou Pai Ake			RESPECT
Care Manaaki	Learning Ako	Leadership Rangatira	Guardian Kaitiaki
Can do		Stepping up	Everyone belongs

 **Rotorua Mini-Marathon:** On Friday 1st May, Kaharoa School once again participated in the Rotorua Mini-Marathon. Our tamariki joined in with hundreds of other children from different schools to run the final 2km of their 'marathon'. The sun was shining, and our students were absolute superstars. This day wouldn't have been possible without our awesome community Fun Run fundraiser in term 1 - thank you so much for your support. A big thank you as well to the many parents and whānau who came along to cheer on their children.



### Kaharoa School Production - Shine Together

Lights, camera, action!


What a show and what a way to begin the term!

Our production celebrated the ideas that everyone matters, growth comes from effort and encouragement, we all shine in different ways, and we shine brightest together.

And the children certainly shone!

Everyone put in a fantastic effort - from the main cast and starguides, to the class items, the Matariki group, the choir, band, and of course the technical crew who managed the lighting and sound. Not to forget, the hard working staff who planned for, organised, and managed large groups of highly excited children!



 **Rural Cross Country:** Kaharoa School will host the rural cross country event on Friday 5th June (postponement Monday 8th 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. Top place-getters in this event will have a chance to compete in the BOP Cross-Country event later this year.

**Kaharoa School PTA Calves Update:** We are delighted to let you know that the calves are sold!

Thank you to BFC Contracting for purchasing them; and a very special thank you to Karen Barradell, Ruth Hobart and Michaela Paterson for their care, feeding and organisation of the calves leading up to their sale.

### We have space for new students in some areas of the school:

Kaharoa School is 13 minutes from Ngongotaha. Our pre-school transition visits are held fortnightly on Thursday afternoons with our new entrant teacher (contact the school office for more information if interested). We currently have 13 students in our new entrant class and would love you to join us. Our current Year 6-8 classes are very full - we have spaces in our Primary classes.

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



**Mamaku's Marsupial Madness Challenge 2026**

21st May (Noon) - 24th May (10am)



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# MOE MAI RA UNCLE DINNY



“Kia ora Boy!”

His voice boomed across the paddock that was his backyard while I settled into another job at the urupa (cemetery) trying to work unnoticed. Unable to hide behind the headstones I was painting.

63 years old and I was still being called boy. Mind you, he called everyone that he liked boy. Well, that was how I rationalised it anyway. Besides, the only other person who had called me boy in this fond manner at my age was my Papa Tommy Bidois. And he had died less than a year ago.

I looked up from my painting and waved my paint brushless hand. “Kia ora uncle Dinny.”

“How are you Ngahi?” he asked as he started walking towards me.

And so started another conversation with one of my favourite uncles. Well, to be honest he had become more of a favourite since his brother, my uncle Mita, had passed and uncle Dinny was taking a more active role at our marae.

He had definitely upped his healing involvement in my life since the passing of my Papa and always spoke highly of my Papa. I liked that. “Boy, Ngahi, your Papa was a fast runner. Man could he run. He ran like the wind. Man, he was fast.” He would smile his huge cheesy smile as he held out his huge softball glove sized hand. I was careful to wipe my hand clean on my overalls before accepting his mit.

“What you doing there boy?”

He could easily see that I was painting but he just knew I needed to talk, ‘cause I’d been a bit too quiet lately.

“Just tidying up uncle.”

“Good on ya boy. That’s the way. Keep yourself busy.”

## About Petrol

*Chinese takeout, \$25.00, petrol to get there, \$5.50, getting home to find they've forgotten one of your dishes. Riceless.*

She asked me to take her somewhere really really expensive... So, we enjoyed our first date under the night lights of a petrol station forecourt.

*1. Denial 2. Anger 3. Bargaining 4. Depression 5. Acceptance ... The 5 stages of buying petrol.*

Are you sweating while putting petrol in your car? Feeling sick when paying for it? You've got the carownervirus..

*When women are at the petrol station Do they shake the handle/nozzle when they are done pumping, or is that just a guy thing?*

“You going to the kaumatua hui down the marae next week Ngahi?”

And like that we were starting one of our in-depth conversations solving the problems of the world. I liked the straight up wisdom and encouragement Uncle Dinny would cleverly give me between sentences too. “You know what I reckon Ngahi. I reckon you should put your hand up for that trust in town boy. You’d be good for that. And that trust would be good for you too. Give it a go boy!”

His words of encouragement reminded me of another one of my favourite uncles who had passed years earlier. My uncle Stubby.

We all have our favourite uncles. I am pleased to have a few left, like my uncle Popeye, uncle Nui and others. You know who you are.

I was at the urupa again today. I looked across his paddock while I worked on the fence half expecting a booming voice to call me boy again. But there was just silence. A very long silence.

Until my cousin Erin Thomson – Pou drove up and said, “man you came prepared for that job! “Cousins are always good for healing too. Moe mai ra Uncle Dinny. Moe mai ra. Miss 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/>**

*Dinny Ratema Mohi was a Bay of Plenty Rugby player from 1961 to 1977, playing in 156 matches. He also captained the Maori All Blacks. He later took up tennis, being awarded Life Member of Māori Tennis by the Kīngitanga at Ngāruawāhia. Outside of sport, he was a respected kaumātua of Ngāti Rangiwewehi and Ngāti Tuwharetoa. The 85-year-old’s remarkable life was cut short on Saturday morning in a crash near Ngongotahā on his way to the Ōhinemutu dawn parade in Rotorua to honour the Anzacs. (Thanks to Ngongotaha Sport and Community Association and Rotorua Daily Post. Ed.)*

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## Eastern Fish and Game

April and May mark the start of the true winter spawning runs around the Rotorua district, with the big rainbows of Tarawera, Okataina and Rotoiti heading into the shoreline areas. We are already seeing an impressive number of solid fish in our spawning traps and should expect this to continue for several months into July or even August.

The on-going wet weather is perfect to stimulate spawning activity, so don't be shy when it comes to pulling on a raincoat and getting out there. As we always advise, dark, wet nights with a little wind are the best for fishing the Rotorua lake shorelines.

Boobies and lumo doll patterns or simple black marabou flies with a touch of colour should be your starting options at night. A good selection of streamers (wet flies) during the day will see your options well covered for the shorelines.

Lake Rotorua has been performing well to shallow trolling and harling methods. Tassie and smelt fly combos fished around the 3m drop off around Hamurana, Mokoia or the airport are proving to be popular and successful.

The Rotorua tributary streams, especially the Ngongotaha receive a good run of spawning brown trout from April onward. These can be targeted at the river mouth, or further upstream, although the latter can prove to be more challenging, with river resident fish becoming picky and difficult to land.

### Carry Your Licence

Please don't forget to carry your current season licence. Our ranging staff will be out and about across the region checking licences, bags and having a friendly chat in the process. Having your licence on you

will make this process much quicker for you – so you can get back to catching fish!

### Winter Licences

The winter fishing licence is available from the beginning of April at a much-reduced rate. April marks the beginning of spawning and there's still lots of boat fishing to be had with some lakes and waters staying open until the end of the season on September 30th.

Get your chance to enjoy some great fishing at a much reduced licence rate for the remainder of the season.

## NGONGOTAHA INDOOR BOWLS

### Monday 13th April Championship Fours

There was some tough competition for some teams tonight. The winners were Mike, Kevin, Grahame and Pete. Runners up were Bruce Wiggins, Helen, Robin and Trevor. Congratulations to those teams.

### Monday 20th April Trophy

Tonight was a bit of a fun night but some took it seriously, but the only winners were Greg, Chris and Pete with 29 points.

### Monday 27th Roll Up

There were a few of us not there as we had had a full day of bowls away. I believe they just had a fun night. They were all winners.

### Anyone looking at playing bowls can contact:

**Richard Mills** 07 3323623

**Kevin Whyte** 07 3574766

## Rotorua Community Patrol

### Crime Prevention is a Community Responsibility, by Sharon Fleet

How do you measure the effectiveness of a service you rarely see—but one that's there when it matters?

Crime prevention is not solely the responsibility of the New Zealand Police. The reality is, Police resources alone cannot cover every situation or prevent every incident. That's where community steps in. Groups like the Rotorua Community Patrol, part of Community Patrols of New Zealand, play a vital role in helping keep our neighbourhoods safe.

Our fully trained volunteers regularly patrol the streets of Rotorua and surrounding rural areas. Their presence alone acts as a powerful deterrent, while also providing extra eyes and ears for Police. At times, the New Zealand Police also task our Patrollers to assist in situations when required. All of our Patrollers undergo training in key areas such as observation and reporting, radio communication protocols, and personal safety procedures—ensuring they are well equipped to respond appropriately in a wide range of situations.

You may soon notice new “Be Aware – Community Patrols Operating” signage at key entrances into our patrol area. This initiative has been made possible through our partnership with Unison, and it's another step toward increasing visibility and awareness in our community.

A big thank you to the Rotary Club of Rotorua North for their generous contribution, which will enable 12 of our Patrollers to attend First Aid training—an important investment in both our team and the safety of our community. Community safety is a shared responsibility, and everyone has a role to play.

**If you're interested in getting involved or learning more about the Rotorua Community Patrol, please contact our Chairperson, David, on 027 490 2816, or visit [www.cpnz.org.nz](http://www.cpnz.org.nz)**



# Local knowledge that gets results



Proudly supporting Ngongotahā and surrounding districts, Denise Sturt brings experience, insight, and a strong understanding of the local market.

- No sale, no fee
- Honest and expert advice
- Proven local knowledge

If you're considering selling, or want to know what your property could be worth, get in touch for a no-obligation chat.

## My Current Ngongotahā Listings



### 314 Ngongotahā Road, Ngongotahā - AUCTION

This is your opportunity to secure a standout property in sought-after Ngongotahā. Positioned to capture all-day sun and sweeping views of Mount Ngongotahā.

Inside, you'll find generous open-plan living, two well-sized bedrooms, and a practical wet-area shower, all presented in excellent condition by its one and only owner. Set on a large, fully fenced 1,012sqm (approx.) section, the options here are exciting - extend the existing home or explore adding another dwelling.

The vendor is packed and ready to go. Auction day is decision day. No plan B. This property WILL be sold!

**Auction: 10am, Thursday 21 May at EVES Rotorua (1172 Haupapa Street, Rotorua)**

For more information on this property, scan the QR code.



### 25 Okona Road, Ngongotahā - BY NEGOTIATION

Set on a compact fully fenced section, the property is designed for low maintenance living while still providing plenty of space. Step inside to find a warm and cosy living area, complete with fireplace and wetback system - perfect for those cooler months while helping with hot water efficiency. The homes layout is practical and welcoming with three good sized bedrooms and a functional family bathroom. Outside the double garage provides excellent storage and secure parking while the fence yard offers peace of mind for children and pets.

Whether you're starting out, slowing down, or adding to your portfolio, this tidy, easy care property is a smart opportunity. You won't want to miss this.

For more information on this property, scan the QR code.



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