

# ROTORUA-TATAU TATAU

Our people, our culture, our place, our Rotorua

Issue 14 | April 2021



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**ROTORUA  
LAKES COUNCIL**

Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

Koinei tō tātau kāinga.  
Ko tātau ōna tāngata.  
Nā tātau tonu i ora ai te ahurea Te Arawa me ōna āhuatanga katoa.  
He iwi auaha tātau e tuku nei i tā tātau e ako nei.  
E kōkiri nei tātau i te angitū, i te hihiri me ngā rerekētanga maha.  
E kaha tautoko nei tātau i te whakapūmāutanga o te taiao.  
Mō te katoa a Rotorua...Tatau tatau.

This is our home.  
We are its people.  
We're the heart of Te Arawa culture and expression.  
We're innovative and we share what we learn.  
We're driving opportunity, enterprise and diversity.  
We're supporting a legacy of sustainability for our environment.  
Rotorua is a place for everyone.  
Tatau tatau - We together.

Rotorua provides opportunities for people to grow businesses, enjoy leisure and recreation time and develop strong community connections.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all. As we come to terms with a new normal, it's important you stay prepared and up-to-date with the latest information. Stay informed at [🌐 covid-19.govt.nz](https://www.covid-19.govt.nz) or [🌐 tearawacovid19.nz](https://www.tearawacovid19.nz)

#### Cover photo

Bob Te Aonui (hi-vis vest) works on the māra kai at the McIntyre Avenue/Sala Street Reserve with members of his whānau and community.

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**Find Rotorua Lakes Council on:**



**Our Rotorua - our weekly e-pānui**

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🌐 [rotorualakescouncil.nz/epanui](https://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/epanui)

Nō roto i te hāpori | In the community

# THE MĀRA KAI MOVEMENT

When Bob Te Aonui decided to create a māra kai the motive was more than providing food for his neighbours, the main goal was to build a strong sense of community.

He initiated the māra kai (food garden) at the McIntyre Avenue/ Sala Street Reserve, and although it's still in the development stage, he's already seeing that dream move closer to reality.

The aim was to grow, share and learn about the importance of gardening while encouraging community input and support.

Bob spends at least eight hours a week on the māra kai, helped by his family including mokopuna, nieces and nephews.

*"Tamariki, through the adults, get the knowledge," Bob says.*

His group connects with other community garden groups to share products, produce and seedlings to minimise costs for each other. He has also received donations from the wider community.

*"Everyone's contributing to make something happen."*

Bob wants to build a relationship with Whakarewarewa School to create a sense of community ownership and would love to see more locals get involved too.

Kumara, potato, pumpkin, squash and zucchini will be among the first crops to come from the māra kai and Bob is looking forward to sharing it with his community.



*Children, through adults, learn about what it takes to grow kai while working on the McIntyre Ave/Sala St Reserve māra kai.*

**\*Tip** – Rotorua Library has established a 'Seed Library' (He Kohinga Kākano). Anyone can use this resource: just fill out a registration form, add some seeds to an envelope to take home, grow your plants, and return some dry, clean, and well-labeled seeds for future growers to enjoy.

#### Māra kai on council reserves:

- McIntyre Avenue/Sala Street
- Wrigley Road
- Lake Tarawera
- Manuka Crescent
- Scott Ave
- Aspen Ave
- Linton Park Community Centre

To view these māra kai on a map visit [rotorualakescouncil.nz/maarakai](http://rotorualakescouncil.nz/maarakai)

If you want to create a māra kai or help another group, contact:

**Parks, Recreation and Environment Team via**

✉ [community.events@rotorualc.nz](mailto:community.events@rotorualc.nz)

or ☎ 07 3484199

*Bob Te Aonui (hi-vis vest) enjoys seeing people across all generations getting involved with the McIntyre Ave/Sala St Reserve māra kai.*



Ka ao ka ao ka awatea | Making a difference

# TE ARAWA TAIOHI TOA – GROWING OUR LEADERS

Rapu kōrero atu anō –  
find out more

✉ [harina@tearawa.iwi.nz](mailto:harina@tearawa.iwi.nz)

Thirty Te Arawa taiohi (youth) were welcomed onto Te Pākira Marae last month where they spent three days engaged in a kura wānanga.

In its third year, the wānanga is designed to invest in the personal development of our taiohi and help them reconnect with our beautiful culture and taiao (environment).

The Te Arawa Taiohi Toa framework and strategy was co-designed by Harina Rupapera and Te Mauri Kingi to empower, inform, nurture and enable young people to lead.

The framework and programme are enabled and delivered by Te Arawa Lakes Trust. Te Pūkenga Koeke o Te Arawa, Tūnohopū Marae and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Komiti Māori have also formally endorsed the framework and supported the delivery.

The programme encourages meaningful cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social reconnection, as well as incorporating a youth mentoring programme, science and technology. Harina says the wānanga is designed to nurture and provide the opportunity for taiohi to learn who they are and where they come from, to better understand the honour and responsibility that comes with whakapapa.

*“Our aim is to secure our cultural practices and mātauranga for the future generations, maintaining a high level of contribution and protection of our environment, our hapū, marae and whānau,” Harina says. “The wānanga is founded on the support of passionate Te Arawa rangatahi, whānau and koeke based solely on Te Arawa kawa, tikanga and kōrero tuku iho.”*

Arawa Ahu Hawaiki is our mission statement, it also aligns with the Te Arawa Climate Change Strategy draft.



# A LIFETIME LOVE OF THE LAND

John Conway has dedicated more than a quarter of his life to transforming the surroundings of the Ngongotahā Stream.

Today, the area is a thriving natural space that features 2.5km of walkways surrounded by native flora - but the result hasn't come without countless hours of hard work.

John has helped to turn "an absolute mess" with overgrown blackberry bushes and weeds into an environmental wonderland.

***"It's an expression of love for the land – I get emotional," he says.***

John moved to Ngongotahā from Auckland in 1995 to look after his mother and fell in love with the area.

Four years later he saw a notice about the Ngongotahā Stream Community Care Group and with a love of gardening and nature, he got involved.

When he started, John said there was a strong workforce. He volunteered five days a week and some weekends, spending up to eight hours a day to help create the Ngongotahā Stream walkway.

That workforce has since "whittled away", leaving John to lead the project and the core group of three people caring for the area.

***"I wasn't going to give up."***

He has put in countless hours clearing the space, growing native trees and shrubs from seedlings and cuttings, planting, track building, clearing debris, pruning, construction and tackling maintenance.

For the first time in a "very long time", the area now has Northern Rata, which John is proud of.

Now 73, John bikes to the stream carrying plant-filled saddle bags three days a week, joined by volunteers Gavin Corbett and Keith Richardson.

Gavin says John is passionate and knowledgeable and he has learned a lot about native flora in the six years he has worked alongside him.

Keith started with the care group at the same time as John, volunteering on and off over the years. He says it's nice to see people enjoy something he helped create.

John has loved being part of the Ngongotahā Stream Walkway transformation but says it's now time to start pulling back and he wants someone equally passionate to take over.

The Ngongotahā Stream Community Care Group gets support from Rotorua Lakes Council and is looking for new members to join John and the team. The group is keen to hear from nature lovers with time to give them a hand.



## About community care groups

Volunteers who protect and restore the natural environment of an area important to them.

To volunteer for the Ngongotahā Stream Community Care Group or any other care group in the district, contact Barbara Curtis at [community.events@rotorualc.nz](mailto:community.events@rotorualc.nz)

Papa whakatupu | Outstanding places to play

# NEW WAYS TO EXPLORE OUR BACKYARD

Discover even more of what's on offer at

 [rotoruanz.com](https://www.rotoruanz.com)

New Zealanders are known to be practical problem solvers and the concept of Kiwi ingenuity is something we're all proud of, especially here in Rotorua. We hope you can get out and explore some of the new activities that have recently opened their doors right here in our backyard.

## Geysers under the stars

Until now, the magic hidden within Te Puia after hours has remained a secret that only Mother Nature knew. When Te Puia guides sneak you in through a secret passage, you'll feel like you've been given special back-stage access to this famous geothermal valley at night after the park has 'closed'. In fact, the amazing thing is that if you've visited during the day, this new Geysers by Night tour will look and feel completely different.

## Explore a geothermal lake by kayak

Get an up-close-and-personal experience of Lake Rotomahana in Waimangu Volcanic Valley. Watch the steam rise from the cliffs in the world's youngest geothermal system as you hear the story of this incredible place and paddle your way past geothermal features. Book online through Paddle Board Rotorua.

## Enjoy a Puku Burger

Tamaki Māori Village offers two new interactive and immersive experiences you can really sink your teeth into. Literally. In both the day-time Hui E! Kai E! and the night-time Makue! Kai E! activities, you'll roll up your sleeves and prepare what is possibly the world's first fried-bread burger. While dining with your hosts, you'll be entertained and enlightened by stories new and old.

## Secluded getaway picnic

If you've been daydreaming of beach-side getaways on tropical islands, Volcanic Air's 90-minute picnic begins with a scenic floatplane tour over Lake Rotorua and our beautiful landscape. You'll then disembark at a beautiful, secluded beach on the shores of Lake Rotoiti to swim and explore, then feast on the perfect picnic.

## Feel the V-Force

Since 1998, people have been heading to Velocity Valley to pedal, freefall, launch, propel, swoop or splash their way to adventure. The team is very creative, having invented Shweeb Racer, the world's only pedal-powered monorail track, and now they've added V-Force to their stable of adrenaline-inducing adventure rides. V-Force is a reverse bungy that sends you 45 metres skyward at speeds up to 80kmp/h.



# GOOD GROWTH

A demand for locally grown, certified organic produce inspired Jenny Lux and Richard Gillies to start Lux Organics in 2016.

Based in Ngongotahā, the pair set out to provide fresh vegetables, herbs and microgreens, and to do it in a way that is environmentally and ecologically friendly.

Lux Organics had a strong following right from the beginning and today is popular not only with local families searching for healthy food, but also with the local hospitality industry, from busy cafes to high-end restaurants.

All deliveries are made in an electric van, and Jenny was the key driver behind the development of EcoClear™, a home compostable produce bag, manufactured by Hamilton-based packaging firm Convex. This all contributed to Jenny and Richard taking home the Environmental Sustainability Award at the 2020 Westpac Rotorua Business Awards.

***“Our biggest challenge initially was meeting demand, and more recently it's been keeping up with the complexities of that demand as the market has fluctuated with COVID-19,” Jenny says.***

Jenny and Richard introduced a contactless vege box delivery service during lockdown, made possible with their electric van and some “quick pivoting to online sales channels”. After lockdown, things returned to normal and there are now new, exciting developments on the horizon.

***“Our biggest success overall has been maintaining a very high level of productivity from one hectare of land. We've organically grown more than 30 crops for nearly five years, which has supported our family and generated new employment.***

***“Our next challenge is to keep increasing productivity and profitability, while bringing in new produce streams, such as the orchard fruits that are maturing. There is just so much to do on a highly diversified organic farm!”***

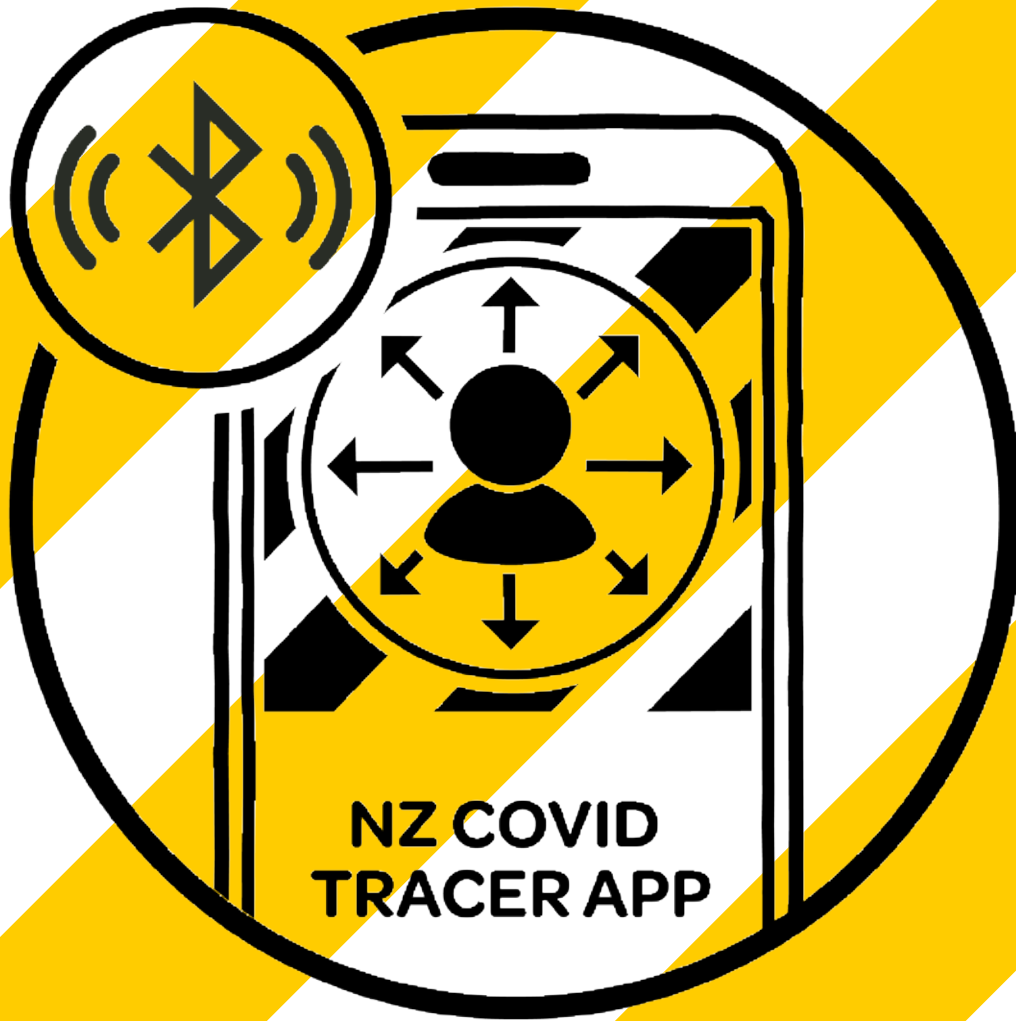
Lux Organics produce is available from Brown Owl Organics or via vege box delivery. Info on how to order is at [luxorganics.co.nz](https://www.luxorganics.co.nz)

To find out more about Lux Organics, visit

[luxorganics.co.nz](https://www.luxorganics.co.nz) or  
[@luxorganics](#) on [Facebook](#)  
or [Instagram](#)



Left to right: Richard Gillies, Simon Gillies (12), Jenny Lux, Ben Gillies (10) and Juliet Lux.  
Photo credit: Sunmedia, Catherine Fry.



# Scan QR codes and turn on Bluetooth tracing

Contact tracing reduces the spread of COVID-19 to  
keep our whānau and communities safe

Find out more at [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)





He ngākau nui ki te ako | Love to learn

## WHAKAPUĀWAI FOR ROTORUA JOBSEEKERS

Funding from Central Government through the New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme has fully subsidised some new projects at Rotorua Library at Te Aka Mauri. One of these is the appointment of a fixed-term Community Learning Lead to develop and deliver a series of learning programmes to help people prepare for new jobs.

Martina Wineera brings considerable experience to the new role and has developed a programme called 'Whakapuāwai' to support members of the community to prepare for and thrive in new employment.

The programme covers creating a CV, writing a cover letter and learning how to do well at a job interview.

Martina recognises that jobseekers need more than this and has created two packages that cover a far broader range of subjects including building self-esteem, identifying existing and transferrable skills, understanding the current local employment situation, thriving in a workplace and financial literacy.

***“Whakapuāwai was created with the Rotorua community in mind, strengthening who you are, getting you to where you want to be, embracing your whānau on your journey and empowering you to believe in yourself,” Martina says.***

One of the programmes she has created, Whakapuāwai Wāhine, has a focus on women wanting to return to the workforce, perhaps having left work to raise a family. Running a household requires many skills from budgeting to time management. These skills have value in the paid workforce as well as in the home. Whakapuāwai Tāngata is for any adult starting their jobseeking journey.

Both programmes are whānau friendly, running just two hours each day. This means parents and caregivers can attend after dropping children off to school in the morning or before picking them up again in the afternoon. If those hours don't work for you, get in touch with Martina to make an individual appointment. She is also available to run her programme in the community if transport to Te Aka Mauri is a challenge.

Contact Martina on

📞 (07) 351 8821 or

✉️ [martina.wineera@rotorualc.nz](mailto:martina.wineera@rotorualc.nz)

for more information

Te aro ki te āpōpō | Future focus

# MEET TE TATAU O TE ARAWA



*Left to Right: (back row) Te Mauri Kingi, Eugene Berryman-Kamp; (middle row) Eraia Kiel, Rawiri Waru, Dr Kēpa Morgan; (seated) Danielle Marks, Te Taru White, Aroha Bray, Kiri Potaka-Dewes, Jude Pani; (inset clockwise from right) Kahutapeka Ututaonga, Geoffrey Rolleston, Gina Mohi, Rangitīaria Tibble, Potaua Biasiny-Tule*

Te Tatau o Te Arawa is an iwi-mandated Board that works in partnership with Rotorua Lakes Council to achieve enhanced socio-economic and cultural prosperity for Te Arawa, for Māori, and for the wider community in the Rotorua district.

There are 14 elected Board members who represent the diverse voices of Te Arawa. Te Taru White (Chair), Aroha Bray, Eraia Kiel, Gina Mohi, Dr Kēpa Morgan and Potaua Biasiny-Tule iwi (hapū representatives); Rangitīaria Tibble and Te Mauri

Kingi (Ngāti Whakāue); Geoffrey Rolleston and Rawiri Waru (land trusts and incorporations); Eugene Berryman-Kamp (pan-Te Arawa entities); Kiri Potaka-Dewes (koeke); and Danielle Marks and Kahutapeka Ututaonga (rangatahi).

Six members have also been appointed to key council committees, providing a Te Arawa world view around the council table.

Te Tatau was part of a collective made up of key decision-makers representing 16 Te Arawa mandated organisations to develop a Te Arawa 2050 Vision. It was a monumental effort but the resulting document is transformational, and sets out the goals Te Arawa aims to achieve by 2050, including restored wai and whenua to sustain food and resource demands, and enabling Te Arawa businesses to become the major employer of iwi descendants.

It brought together many Te Arawa iwi, hapū, marae, organisations and individuals across generations, and Te Tatau is determined to play its part in implementing the Te Arawa E vision. Indeed, we've reviewed our own vision, mission and values to align, and remain committed to, a new programme of five key strategic workstreams for 2021.

Developing a Te Arawa Spatial Plan and Housing Strategy, and facilitating the development of a workable Te Arawa-wide post-COVID-19 Transformational Recovery Plan help give effect to the Te Arawa Vision.

Rotorua Reorua efforts continue to build Rotorua as a truly bilingual city – leading the way for towns and cities throughout the motu. Major strides will be taken over the coming months towards normalising te reo, starting with local secondary schools, and are keen for our communities to get on board.

Te Tatau has acted as an umbrella funder for several community groups and organisations who delivered Rotorua Reorua events, as well provided sponsorship and facilitated reo Māori translations.

The board also commissioned a significant research project to recommend a sustainable structure to drive Rotorua Reorua going forward.

Other major projects include building hapū capability, particularly equipping them with tools to strengthen their participation in council planning processes and decision-making.

Te Tatau has a successful partnership with the University of Canterbury and the Geospatial Research Institute who together with Ōhinemutu hapū – represented by the Ōhinemutu Development Working Group – have co-created a replicable, open-sourced, cultural narrative driven, place-based tool for the village. This tool will essentially enable the hapū to build its own culturally layered GIS map of the village and taonga within, to better lead and inform town planning processes with council, while better controlling their stories and information. The tool will be launched early this year.

At present, the partnership with the council remains a key aspiration and is a work in progress. However, Te Arawa is here forever, capability is rising, and true partnership is inevitable. Te Tatau will remain focussed on the work it needs to do to contribute to making this happen.

**Rapu kōrero atu anō –  
find out more**

**f @TeTatauOTeArawa**

**Content provided by Te Tatau o Te Arawa**

# 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan

**Out for consultation now!**

**Read the consultation document and have your say at**  
🌐 [rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai)

Rotorua is a place where Council, partners and the community work together to achieve our common goals and deliver solutions beneficial for our District. Our place and our people are inspiring and we have so much to be proud of.

However, you have told us that there are some things that you are not so proud of.

You have told us that you need to live in homes that match your needs and that you want to be part of a thriving community. You want and need to feel safe in our CBD and your local neighborhoods. Our District needs economic recovery and long-term growth and we need resilient infrastructure futureproofed against the impacts of climate change. These are the issues that are important to you and there is a lot of hard mahi to be done to address them.

We cannot do all of this work alone. However we can position ourselves to lead, drive, influence and partner in order to enable change and address the issues that you have identified as being of the utmost importance to our community. We will keep thinking outside the box to find more contemporary and innovative ways to deliver on the commitments we are making to you.

Our plan at Council is to spend the next three years taking leadership of the mahi that needs to be undertaken to address Rotorua's confronting issues.

We will continue our efforts in supporting economic recovery resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and we will drive and enable long-term economic development critical to creating a long-term sustainable district economy. We will unlock land for housing and commercial development and we will invest in core infrastructure. This may mean replacement, upgrades, or finding new ways to maintain what we already have.

Furthermore, our existing kaupapa continues to unlock the potential of Rotorua as a great place to live, work, play and invest. We are dedicated to completing the place-shaping projects committed to in the 2018-2028 Long-Term Plan. These future-focused activities include the development of the Rotorua Lakefront, Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa - Rotorua Museum, Titokorangi - Long Mile Road and Forest project and completing work on the Sir Howard Morrison Performing Arts Centre.

As you can see, we have a lot of hard mahi to do.

Paiheretia ngā muka  
o te taura,  
kumea rawatia kia rongo  
**koe i te tangi a te Huia.**

Bind the strands of the  
rope, pull as hard as you  
can till you **hear the  
call of the Huia.**

This is a call to action to confront our  
challenges, and to create a district in  
which we are thriving not just surviving.

We ask you to consider what is  
highlighted in this consultation  
document. Our proposed delivery is  
aligned to Vision 2030 and the priorities  
set by Council following the 2019 elections.

Key strategies underpin the delivery  
outlined: housing and thriving  
communities, economic development,  
community safety, climate change and  
infrastructure.

Will you support us - your elected  
members - to act on your behalf to  
achieve Rotorua's aspirations to be a  
great place to live, work, play and invest?  
This is your opportunity to provide  
feedback and I strongly encourage you  
to have your say.

Tatau tatau. Together we can, and do,  
make a difference.



Hon Steve Chadwick (JP)  
**Mayor of Rotorua**



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## We have a lot of **hard mahi** to do

Visionary leadership and hard mahi is  
required in order for Rotorua to tackle  
the confronting issues. No one agency  
can achieve the positive outcomes being  
sought and make Rotorua the place for  
everyone that we aspire to. It will take  
the combined effort of all, and you the  
community, for Rotorua to succeed and  
to fulfill the aspirations of Vision 2030.

The Long-term Plan 2021-2031  
consultation document details the  
commitment to be made by Council to  
the vision of Rotorua for the next ten years,  
2021-2031. It sets out our action plan.

Implementing the actions of the key  
strategies will affect everyone in Rotorua  
so your views matter. Your feedback will  
help Council in its decision-making.



**MAHI.**

2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation

## We have questions to ask you. We need you to consider the level of investment proposed for:

- The Aquatic Centre (fix the issues or upgrade to provide a regional facility to be proud of)
- A Community Safety Plan (the development of the plan and the level it should be funded)
- Fees and charges (a proposal to increase fees and charges or increase rates to fund these services)
- We also need to consider rates affordability, so we have a proposal to lower the uniform annual general charge.

This is your opportunity to tell us if we have your support of our leadership direction and whether you think what is proposed will support our District to head in the right direction.

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## Key priorities supporting this Long-Term Plan

### ● He Papakāinga, He Hāpori Taurikura - Housing and Thriving Communities

Rotorua faces a shortage of houses; we have many barriers to land development and our houses do not meet the needs of our people.

To confront these challenges, we propose to build new homes, review covenants and design rules and create available sections. Additionally we propose to develop apartment buildings in the inner city and deliver on locality plans for the Eastside, Westside, Ngongotahā, and Inner City. Council will take a lead role in facilitating neighbourhood safety projects and will partner with iwi, developers and Central Government to help enable and deliver infrastructure and community projects that support the development of thriving communities.

Within the 'Housing and Thriving Communities' conversation, we are asking you what level of investment you would like to see in the Rotorua Aquatic Centre.

These actions will be driven by the He Papakāinga, He Hāpori Taurikura Te Poupou Rautaki - Rotorua Homes and Thriving Communities Strategic Framework, which was adopted by Council last year.

### ● Whanake Ōhanga - Economic Development

Our consultation document outlines a range of actions to help Rotorua address the short-term needs for economic recovery in a world disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the long-term economic development vision, which is critical to addressing the systemic challenges faced by our community.

These actions will support the Draft Economic Development Strategy that Council approved last year.

### ● Whakahaumarū Hāpori - Community Safety

Currently, community safety is the number one concern in Rotorua. Council has listened to feedback from the community about their concerns relating to increasing anti-social and criminal behaviour in Rotorua. A Draft Community Safety Plan has been developed and outlines a range of actions to help confront these challenges and make Rotorua a safe place for everyone. These actions are included in the LTP consultation document and we're asking you how much you'd like Council to invest in community safety.

### ● Hurihanga Āhuarangi - Climate Change

Our existing infrastructure does not have the strength and resilience to meet the major challenges of climate change for our future communities and is particularly vulnerable to the anticipated effects of climate change, such as increased rainfall, drought and rising temperature.

Our consultation document outlines a range of actions to help our district combat climate change. These actions align with the Rotorua Climate Action Plan Council approved earlier this year.

### ● Hangaroto - Infrastructure

Council leads, and is responsible for, the provision of key services that support the daily life of the people of Rotorua. Our infrastructure must be safe, reliable and in a stable condition to meet current and future demand, whilst meeting the expectations of our district.

To do this, we need to understand and plan for how infrastructure will need to change over time - to remain fit for purpose. Our 30-year Infrastructure Strategy outlines the investment programmes required to ensure we are meeting all our communities' wellbeing obligations in a planned and affordable way.

We have identified seven strategic district infrastructure challenges that need to be at the forefront of long-term infrastructure planning and decision-making. These are outlined in the LTP consultation document.

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# Have your say.

## Give us your feedback

Read the consultation document and provide your feedback at




 [rotorualakescouncil.nz/  
koreromai](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai)

This consultation process will run until  
30 April 2021.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING EASTSIDE?

Rotorua Lakes Council is working in partnership with Eastside hapū, Tatau Pounamu, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and the wider community to lead and support projects in the Eastside of Rotorua.

## Keys

-  Rotorua Lakes Council projects
-  Community-led with RLC support
-  Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency projects

### Te Oranga Nui - Eastside Community Wellness Plan

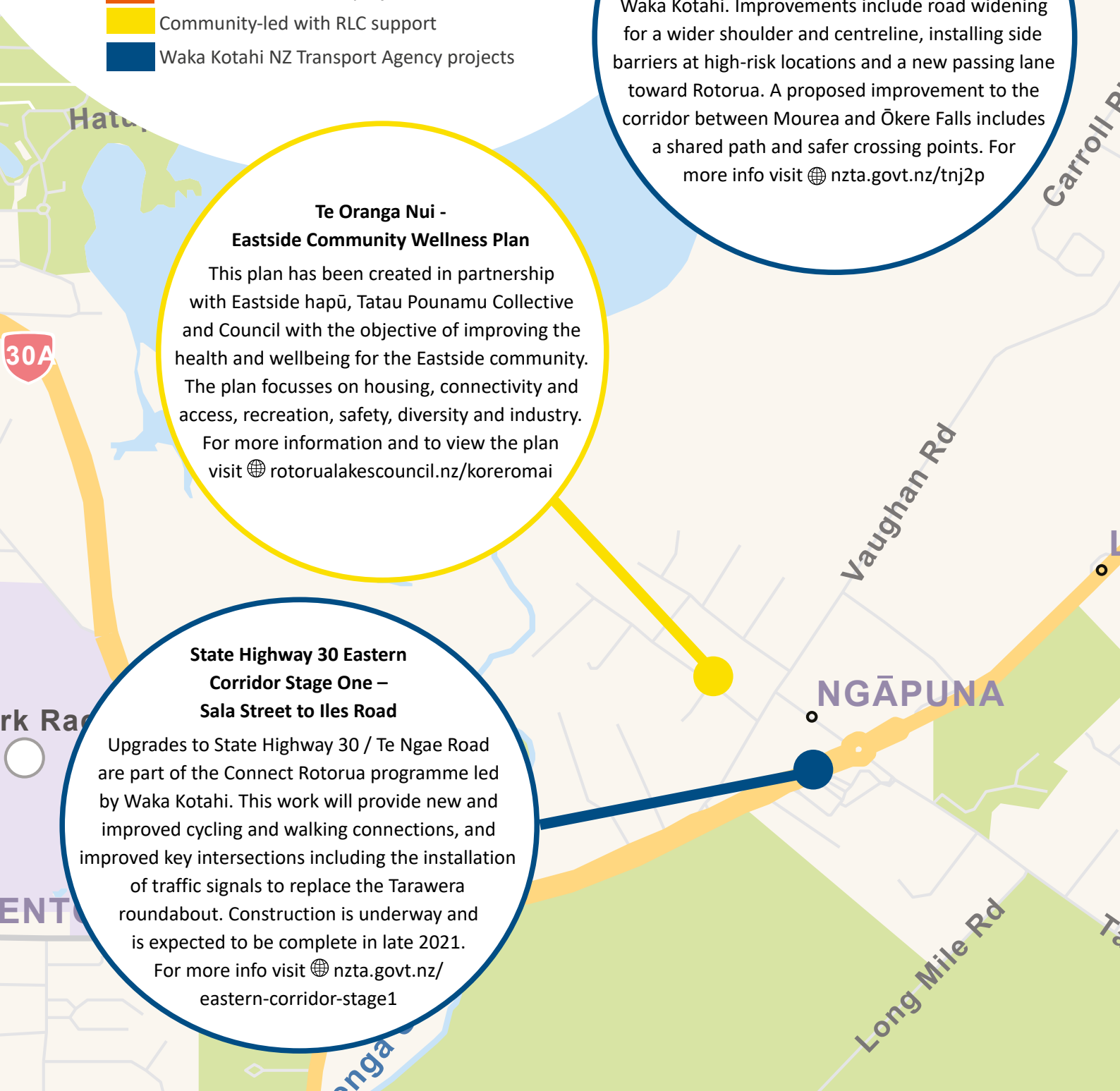
This plan has been created in partnership with Eastside hapū, Tatau Pounamu Collective and Council with the objective of improving the health and wellbeing for the Eastside community. The plan focusses on housing, connectivity and access, recreation, safety, diversity and industry. For more information and to view the plan visit [rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai](http://rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai)

### State Highway 30 Eastern Corridor Stage One – Sala Street to Iles Road

Upgrades to State Highway 30 / Te Ngae Road are part of the Connect Rotorua programme led by Waka Kotahi. This work will provide new and improved cycling and walking connections, and improved key intersections including the installation of traffic signals to replace the Tarawera roundabout. Construction is underway and is expected to be complete in late 2021. For more info visit [nzta.govt.nz/eastern-corridor-stage1](http://nzta.govt.nz/eastern-corridor-stage1)

### State Highway 33 – Paengaroa to Te Ngae Junction

The safety improvements on State Highway 33 are part of the Safe Network Programme led by Waka Kotahi. Improvements include road widening for a wider shoulder and centreline, installing side barriers at high-risk locations and a new passing lane toward Rotorua. A proposed improvement to the corridor between Mourea and Ōkere Falls includes a shared path and safer crossing points. For more info visit [nzta.govt.nz/tnj2p](http://nzta.govt.nz/tnj2p)





### State Highway 30 Eastern Corridor Stage Two – Iles Road to Rotorua Airport

Stage Two of upgrades to Te Ngae Road aims to address safety and connectivity, while accommodating future growth and providing better travel choices. The Preferred Option has been confirmed including upgrades to intersections, shared paths and on-road cycle lanes, four-laning and safety improvements. Construction of safety improvements, as part of the first phase of work, is expected to start in mid-2021. For more info visit [nzta.govt.nz/eastern-corridor-stage-2](https://www.nzta.govt.nz/eastern-corridor-stage-2)

### Stormwater improvements

In 2020 the Government granted Council \$20 million to support residential growth in the Eastern suburbs. Of this, \$15 million has been earmarked for upgrades to stormwater infrastructure. Council is currently working through plans and designs for this work.

### Vaughan Road shared path

The Vaughan Road shared path will connect neighbourhoods in the Eastside. This work aims to help tamariki, students, elderly, new bike riders and those on mobility devices feel safer because they are separated from traffic. The three metre-wide shared path will run along Vaughan Road from Ōwhata Road to Te Ngae Road and will include safer crossing points and a link through Puketāwhero Park. This work has been funded through a \$20 million grant provided by the Government with \$5 million earmarked for improvements to local Eastside roads.

### Wharenui to forest shared path

This shared path will link new residential developments near Wharenui Road to schools, shops, parks and the forest. It will be a three metre-wide shared path and will include the use of safer crossing points. This project is also funded by the same Government grant provided for improvements in Eastside.

### Te Manawa o Ōwhatiura - Innovating Streets

This community-led initiative aims to improve safety on local streets. With the focus on tamariki getting to and from school, the programme will trial physical changes to the street environment to improve crossings, encourage slower vehicle speeds, add vibrancy and enable more people to use active modes of transport. Find out more at [rotorualakescouncil.nz/temanawaowhatiura](https://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/temanawaowhatiura)



Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

# SIR HOWARD MORRISON CENTRE PROJECT UPDATE

For more information about these projects visit [rotororualakescouncil.nz/visiontoaction](https://www.rotororualakescouncil.nz/visiontoaction)

## Construction progress

Construction on the Sir Howard Morrison Centre project has now been underway for six months, and is on track for completion at the end of this year.

The foyer roof and the front curved façade, facing Fenton Street, have now been demolished revealing the two 1940s heritage wings. In addition, the rooves on the Green Room, Concert Chamber and admin block have all been removed, and the stage house has been repainted.

Internally there has been significant progress on the foundations and seismic strengthening work, and concrete works for the enlarged orchestra pit are complete.

Over the next few months, foundation works will continue in the Green Room and Concert Chamber, Concert Chamber roof framing will start, and asbestos removal will be completed.

Once construction is finished, the building will need to be commissioned and all the fixtures and fittings installed. The transformed facility is scheduled to reopen in early 2022.

## Meet the new Performing Arts Team

In readiness for reopening the Sir Howard Morrison Centre next year, two new staff have recently joined Cian Elyse White in the Performing Arts Team.

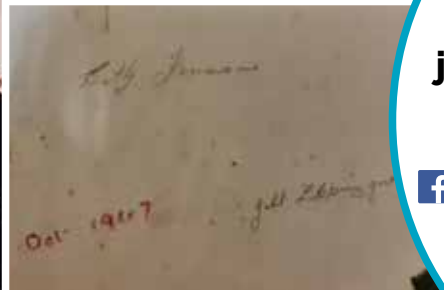
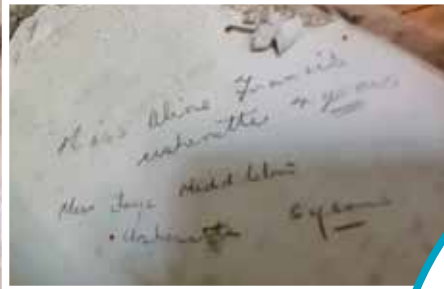
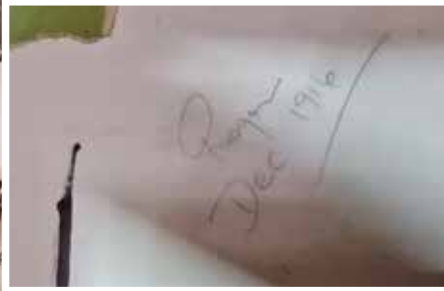
Katrina Chandra is of Scottish, English, Nepalese, Indian, Fijian, Ngāti Pāoa and Ōtepoti/Dunedin descent. She has worked in professional theatre nationally and internationally for over three decades. Katrina has a wealth of experience, from technical roles to director, for companies such as Bats, Taki Rua, Silo, Playmarket, Mangere Arts Centre and Snuff Puppets. She has toured work to many festivals around the world including in Australia, Asia, Europe and South America. Katrina is delighted to be the new programme delivery



**Kevin Greene, Cian Elyse White and Katrina Chandra**

manager for the Sir Howard Morrison Centre and looks forward to seeing you at the theatre!

Kevin Greene has worked in the theatre industry for 20 years as a lighting designer and technical/production manager, and has led technical departments in UK regional theatres. Since moving to New Zealand in 2017, he has worked for many organisations including Auckland Theatre Company and New Zealand Opera. Kevin joins the team as the new technical design and delivery lead and is looking forward to working closely with the performing arts community in Rotorua.



## Can you help?

During deconstruction at the performing arts centre the building crew uncovered this amazing historical poster wall that we think was created by staff who used to work in the building. Some of the dates are from as early as the 1940s! Thanks to the care taken by the Hawkins team, we have managed to save the wall for possible display when the building reopens.

We'd really like to find out more about these people and their experiences in the building. If you recognise any of these names or signatures, we'd love to hear from you.

Please email

[joanna.doherty@rotorualc.nz](mailto:joanna.doherty@rotorualc.nz)

or message us on

[@SirHowardMorrisonTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/SirHowardMorrisonTheatre)

with any information.

## ROTORUA MUSEUM UPDATE

Following her appointment as director last July, Lizzie Marvally has hit the ground running and says it has been an "incredible time" full of new learnings and strengthening local connections.

A focus has been planning an extensive engagement process to help inform future exhibition design and content.

With the Museum building closed for earthquake strengthening, the team is focusing on exhibition redevelopment and exploring some exciting, challenging and

groundbreaking ideas.

Over the next 12 months, they will be engaging with the community to understand what stories people want to be told, what experiences they want to have, and more importantly, the way they want to feel when they walk into the whare taonga.



# NEW MEMORIAL PLAZA AT ROTORUA LAKEFRONT OPEN AND READY FOR USE

The new Memorial Plaza at the Rotorua Lakefront is now complete!

What was once just a thoroughfare has been transformed into a brand new plaza providing a larger variety of parking options for lakefront visitors and space for events and markets.

Seventy-seven new parking spaces have been created, as well as new footpaths, kerbing, landscaping and seating. Infrastructure has also been upgraded to improve the management of stormwater in the area.

Local company Campbell Infrastructure began work on this section of the lakefront redevelopment in September 2020 and the plaza was completed at the end of March 2021.

The Memorial Plaza will now become one of the main lakefront meeting places and carparks, with a similar carpark to be constructed on the other side of the lakefront, off Lake Road, in the future.

Memorial Plaza is the first of a number of stages that will be finished at the lakefront throughout this year.



Campbell Infrastructure is now working on the new playground extension, the area west of the existing playground. This new part of the playground will include brand-new play equipment including a flying fox, a custom climbing tower with a slide, loop tracks, and a half basketball court. Campbell Infrastructure will also be installing toddler-specific play equipment later in the year. Once complete, the lakefront playground will be almost three times as big as the existing playground.



Due to magazine print deadlines, featured photos were taken one week before Memorial Plaza was complete.

A brand new toilet block will also be built within the vicinity of the new playground. Both the new playground and toilet block are scheduled to be complete by the end of this year.

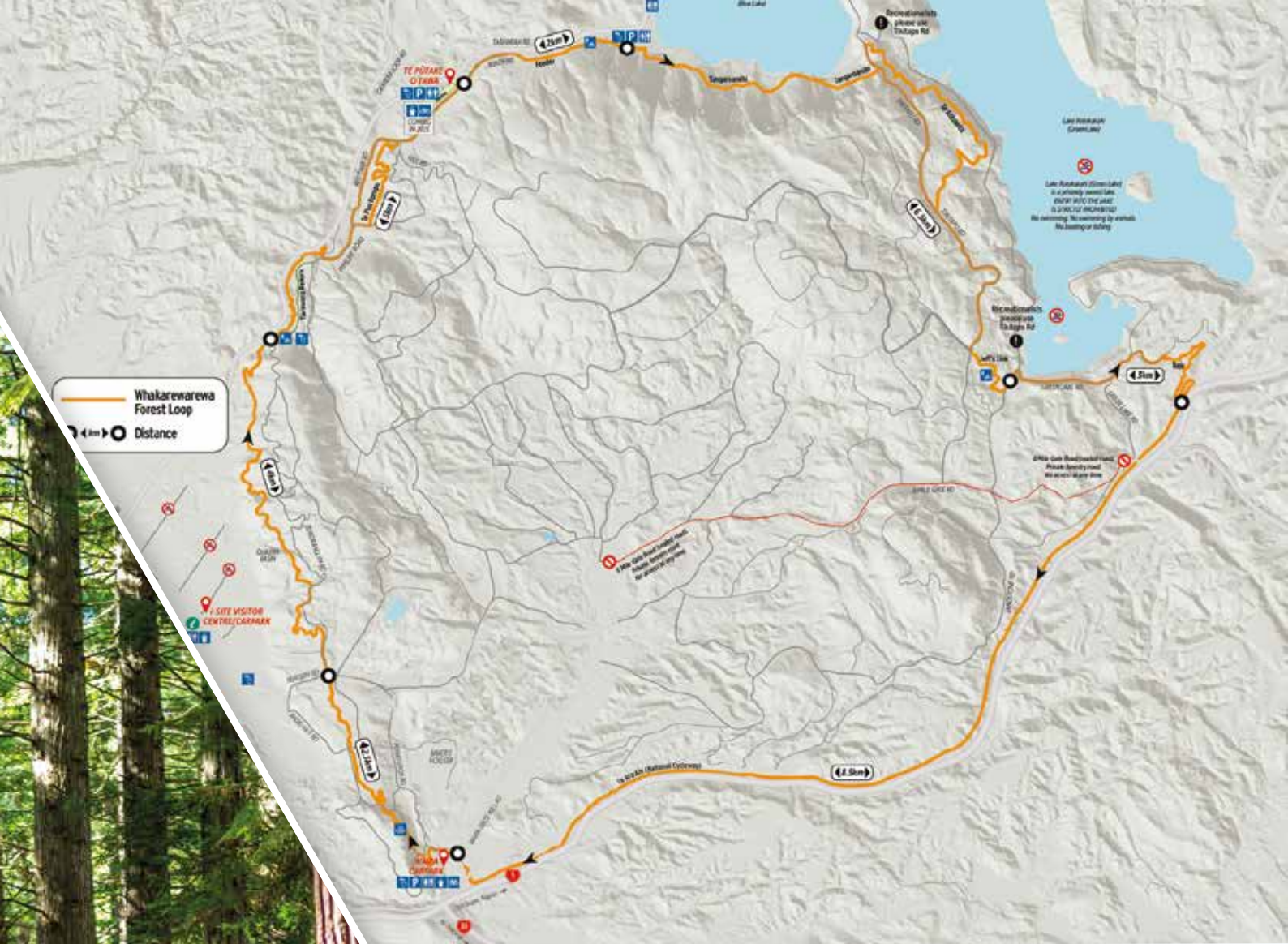
Work on the lake edge continues. HEB Construction is building a new boardwalk and upgrading the lake edge with new terracing to improve access to the lake. This work will be complete by the end of May 2021.

Work on the western end of the lakefront, including space for commercial activities, has moved into the detailed design phase. Procurement for architectural services for the wharewaka and potential commercial space is underway. Construction in this area will begin later this year.

**Learn more about the lakefront redevelopment at**

** [rotorualakescouncil.nz/visiontoaction](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz/visiontoaction)**





Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

# WHAKAREWAREWA FOREST PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

Much of the Whakarewarewa Forest project, made possible through investment from the Provincial Development Unit, is now complete.

Infrastructure upgrades along Titokorangi Drive (Long Mile Road) are complete, Te Pūtake o Tawa (the new forest hub off Tarawera Road) is now complete and ready for additional businesses to get set up there.

The Whakarewarewa Forest Loop is 99% complete. Last year construction unearthed a significant archaeological site which delayed completion, but has made the ride even more special. Council is working with mana whenua and the Forest Recreation Committee to agree a reroute around this site. The Loop is currently signposted and 100% rideable with bypasses around the uncompleted section at Tītokorangi Face (near the Tarawera Road water tank).

Also as part of the Loop, the Te Kōtukutuku trail re-opened in February. This was previously closed, along with access roads leading to Lake Rotokakahi, following an increase in people and animals accessing the lake. This activity at Lake Rotokakahi, which is privately owned, is not condoned and highly disrespectful to the owners. A collaborative effort by Council, CNI Iwi Holdings Ltd, the Rotokakahi

Board of Control, Tūhourangi Tribal Authority, and Timberlands Ltd has seen a positive outcome achieved for all. The trail has now been redirected away from Lake Front Road with an exit up to Tikitapu Road.

Now the main focus of the Whakarewarewa Forest project is applying a cultural foundation to the project sites through signage and sharing of cultural stories across these developments (via artwork, a digital app, and interpretation boards). Work is also starting on a track to link the lakefront with the forest.

Learn more about this project at  
rotorualakescouncil.nz/visiontoaction

## Mana whenua show manaakitanga in welcoming and sharing use of the forest

A big part of the Whakarewarewa Forest project has been about working with mana whenua to create opportunities that will generate better outcomes for their people now, and into the future. Through this project, we have also been able to develop some fantastic forest amenities for everyone to enjoy.

Every day, hundreds of locals and visitors enjoy recreation in the Whakarewarewa Forest. While people are out there enjoying themselves, it's important to remember that the forest is an iwi-owned, private commercial property that allows for public recreation use only. While mana whenua show manaakitanga in welcoming and sharing the use of the forest - so the community and its many visitors can walk, bike, run or ride in the forest as much as we like - we are

not permitted to do whatever we please, and we must show respect for the environment and the values of mana whenua.

Everything that is done in the forest – the creation of new trails, new amenities, events – is at the discretion of the landowner.

In 2009, the land on which the Whakarewarewa Forest and Tokorangi Forest (Redwoods) sit was returned to the CNI Iwi Collective as part of a Treaty of Waitangi settlement. By 2010, a working group comprised of representatives from the district council, Kaingaroa Timberlands, iwi and CNI Iwi Land Management Ltd (the land management company for the CNI Forest Lands) was set up to focus on recreational management in the forests.

Council is responsible for the management of the Tokorangi Forest block and also manages recreation in Whakarewarewa Forest. This all happens under a management agreement with CNI and Timberlands Ltd who hold the Crown Forestry Licence (CFL) for the Whakarewarewa Forest block.

**Currently any activity, except for general public access on foot, bike and horse, requires a permit or concession to take place. Additional information about obtaining permits for one-off activities, concessions, filming and photography is available at**

**redwoods.co.nz/permits-concessions**

Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

# AQUATIC CENTRE UPDATE

While swimmers are enjoying the newly renovated 50m pool at Rotorua Aquatic Centre, plans are underway for the next stage of improvements.

Reopened at the beginning of March, the 50m pool is slightly longer, slightly deeper and much more efficient with a new filtration system and bulkhead to provide extra options for lane and leisure swimming. The space now has a modern feel with stainless steel gutters, new lining providing a vibrant turquoise colour and new decking surrounding the pool edges.

New hand rails, access ramps, step ladders and the addition of a Poolpod lift also improves accessibility for all users.

The next stage – improving the outdoor changing rooms – is expected to begin in June/July. The refreshed facilities will complement the enhanced pool space and give swimmers a much more comfortable experience while they're using the outdoor pool.

The improvements to the outdoor changing rooms will include more toilets and showers, painting, roof repair, geothermally heated water, and accessible toilets and showers.

## Have your say

### Looking ahead

Now that the first stages of facility upgrades are complete or underway, Council is looking ahead at the investment required to improve Rotorua Aquatic Centre to a standard that the community can be proud of.

As part of the 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan, Council wants to hear what the Rotorua community thinks about further investment in the centre. Options open to feedback range from doing the bare minimum to repair and replace only the worst affected areas, through to investing in the Aquatic Centre to create a facility the community is proud to visit, to learn to swim in, to have fun in, and to enjoy being active in.

Your feedback about the Aquatic Centre during the Long-Term Plan consultation period will help to determine the future of the facility.

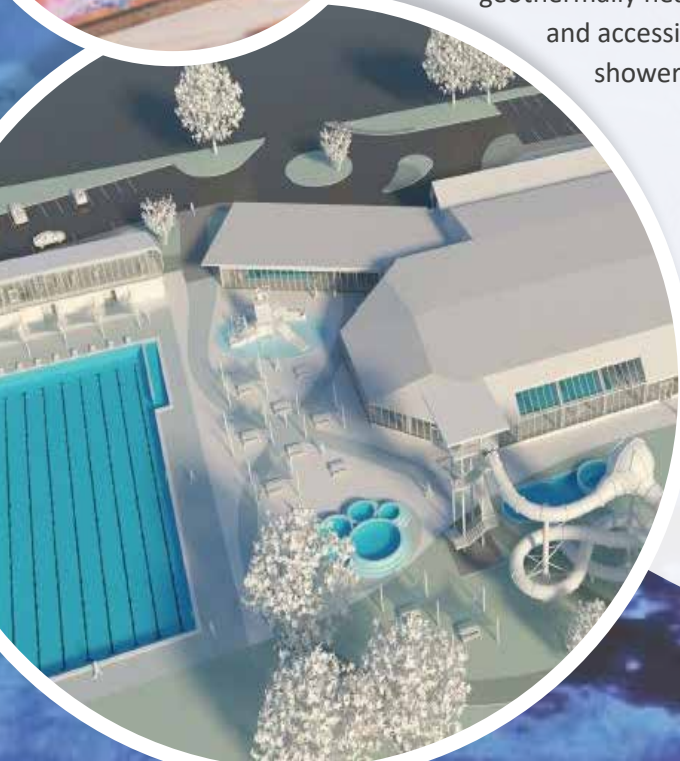
## He aha ō whakaaro? What do you think?

**Do you agree we should invest in this key community facility?**

Have your say at

 [rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai)

**Consultation closes 4pm on Friday  
30 April 2021**






# SAVE TIME – DO IT ONLINE

Did you know you can use internet banking to pay your rates? It's quick, easy and there are no fees.

- Sign in to your internet banking provider to set up a payment, and search for Rotorua Lakes Council Property Rates Payments as the payee.
- Make sure you enter your name and valuation number as payment references so that we know who the payment is from. You can find your valuation number at the top of your rates instalment invoice.
- If you need any assistance, call and ask a Customer Advisor.

You can also pay your rates by direct debit. It's the easiest way to make sure your rates are paid on time.

You can pay weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or annually.


**Call  07 348 4199 and ask our Customer Advisors how to get started with direct debit payments.**



## Some of the tasks you can do online with Rotorua Lakes Council

- Register and renew dog registration
- Request property and rates information
- Pay for parking
- Pay for rates or set up a direct debit
- Receive rates invoice via email
- Have your say – take part in community consultations
- Check district maps
- Library services – select ebooks, pay fees and extend loan periods
- Check your rubbish and recycling collection day

Head to  [rotorualakescouncil.nz](http://rotorualakescouncil.nz) for more information.

**If you need help with online services call one of our friendly Customer Centre staff on  07 348 4199 (Monday – Friday 8am to 5pm)**

### Rates invoice by email

Did you know you can receive rates invoices by email rather than having it posted to you?

It will be more efficient – and more environmentally-friendly!

Register on our website


 [rotorualakescouncil.nz/ratesviaemail](http://rotorualakescouncil.nz/ratesviaemail)

For help call us on  07 348 4199 or email

 [info@rotorualc.nz](mailto:info@rotorualc.nz)

### Pay by Direct Debit

Direct debit is a great payment option.

For information and to fill out a direct debit form, go to  [rotorualakescouncil.nz/ratespayment](http://rotorualakescouncil.nz/ratespayment)

# QUARTET RETURNS HOME TO ROTORUA FOR FINAL SHOWS

Saving the best until last and hot on the heels of sold out performances during their Take Two Tour, The Howard Morrison Quartet is returning home to Rotorua!

Home to the late Sir Howard Morrison and three of the quartet members, these long-awaited Rotorua shows signal a homecoming and a heartfelt 'thank you' from the Morrison family.

"We feel it appropriate that the final shows for this tribute tour be staged in Rotorua, the birth place of the Howard Morrison Quartet. A final acknowledgement to the people of Rotorua for their support to the Morrison whānau throughout the decade – Te Hokinga Mai," explains Howard Morrison Junior.

Titled Hoki Mai in reference to the well-known song, the quartet will feature Howard Morrison Jnr, Russell Harrison, Chris Powley and Jack Grace. The shows will recreate the magic of the New Zealand phenomenon that was the original Howard Morrison Quartet, bringing the old quartet back to life with harmonies, humour and family stories.

"The February Take Two Tour was performed to 11 sell-out audiences with 11 standing ovations, tears of joy, shared memories and laughter. We were truly lucky to reconnect with so many people who remember Dad and the quartet, and are grateful to be able to share the music, both old and new, with the people of Aotearoa," says Howard Morrison Junior.

This talented group will faithfully take a trip down memory lane for the followers of the original showband, as well as adding new songs and some magic of their own.

**Tickets are available from**  
🌐 **ticketmaster.co.nz or the**  
**Rotorua iSite (Fenton Street).**



Considered this country's most successful show band, The Howard Morrison Quartet helped to create the New Zealand entertainment industry. Combining family-friendly music with uniquely Kiwi humour, they toured constantly during the 50s and 60s, reformed regularly, and remained hugely popular. The charismatic lead singer, the iconic Sir Howard Morrison, also enjoyed a stellar solo career over many decades, and won the love and respect of his country for the huge amount he gave back to the community.



**22-23 APRIL 2021**  
**ENERGY EVENTS CENTRE, ROTORUA**

# TE WĀTAKA NGAHURU

# AUTUMN EVENTS GUIDE

## PAENGAWHAWHA APRIL

KOTAHI RAU WĀHINE | **100 WOMEN ROTORUA**  
Until 30 April (Mon - Fri), 8am - 5pm  
Rotorua Lakes Council

A photographic exhibition by local artist, Katie Hoy, celebrating the diverse female population of Rotorua

👉 Free 📱 [KatieHoy.Photographer](#)

## HOKI MAI - TE TOKOWHĀ O HOWARD MORRISON | THE HOWARD MORRISON QUARTET HOKI MAI

Friday 22 April, 2pm & 7pm and Saturday 23 April, 7pm | Energy Events Centre, Rotorua

Don't miss out! Special homecoming performances celebrating and recreating the magic of the original Howard Morrison Quartet. Featuring Howard Morrison Jnr, Russell Harrison, Chris Powley and Jack Grace.

👉 \$45 matinee, from \$79 evening cabarets  
via [Ticketmaster.co.nz](#)



## TE KAUAU ANZAC KI TE ATA ANZAC DAWN SERVICE

Sunday 25 April, 5.45am | Ōhinemutu

Te Arawa Māori Returned Services League honour fallen soldiers.

## TE KAUAU ANZAC KI TŪMATANUI ANZAC CIVIC MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday 25 April, 9.30am  
Energy Events Centre, Rotorua

Gather at Memorial Drive at 9am to join the parade to the Civic Service.

👉 Free 🌐 [rotoruanui.nz](#)



## HARATUA MAY

KO HARATUA TE MARAMA PŪORO O AOTEAROA | **NEW ZEALAND MUSIC MONTH**  
1 - 31 May | Various venues

Celebrate New Zealand music in a range of events hosted around Rotorua.

👉 Some events may cost & require booking  
🌐 [rotoruanui.nz](#)

## ROTORUA OMA TAUMANO ROTORUA MARATHON

Saturday 8 May, 6.30am - 4pm  
Energy Events Centre

Take on the lake and make it your greatest challenge in 2021!

👉 From \$32 📱 [RotoruaMarathon](#)



## HIRINGA TOI | ARTSMAD

Tuesday 11 May, 5.30pm - 7.30pm  
Monarch Room, Prince's Gate Hotel

Enjoy a range of short art talks to ignite and inspire.

👉 Gold coin koha 🌐 [rotoruanui.nz](#)



## TE WHAKAATURANGA KUIRA NUI O AOTEAROA

**THE GREAT NEW ZEALAND QUILT SHOW**  
Friday 14 - Sunday 16 May | Energy Events Centre

Enjoy workshops and an exhibition alongside a quilting tradeshow.

👉 Range of ticket options available  
🌐 [aotearoaquilters.co.nz](#)



## TE KONOHETE PŪORO TAMARIKI ROTORUA CUSHION CONCERT

Friday 14 May, 6.30pm - 8pm  
Rotorua Bible Baptist Church

Music students perform a variety of genres in this annual concert.

👉 \$5 (door sales) 📱 [irmtnz](#)



# TE WĀTAKA NGAHURU

# AUTUMN EVENTS GUIDE

## PIPIRI JUNE

TE AHUREI WAIATA NGĀKAU PŌURI  
**ROTORUA BLUES FESTIVAL**  
Friday 4 - Monday 7 June

Talented blues bands play in venues all over Rotorua celebrating live blues music.

▣ Range of ticket options available  
🌐 [bopblues.co.nz](http://bopblues.co.nz)



TE AHUREI TĀKARO-HUHUA  
AHUTORU O ROTORUA  
**3D ROTORUA MULTISPORT FESTIVAL**  
Sunday 6 June, from 9.30am  
Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake) & Whakarewarewa Forest

With three events to choose from there is something for everyone!

👉 Free to watch, participation costs apply  
📺 [3DRotoruaMultiSportFestival](https://www.3DRotoruaMultiSportFestival.com)



TE TŌNAMANA RANGATAHI Ā TE RĪKI  
MĀORI Ō AOTEAROA  
**RANGATAHI MĀORI RUGBY LEAGUE  
TOURNAMENT**  
Friday 4 - Sunday 6 June | Rotorua Stadium

This gem in the NZMRL crown provides the opportunity for players to be picked up by NRL scouts.

👉 Free to watch 📺 [NZMaoriRugbyLeague](https://www.NZMaoriRugbyLeague.com)

## HONOHONUI JULY

### MATARIKI

Matariki is the Māori name for the star cluster known as Pleiades. When Matariki reappears in our dawn skies, it heralds the start of Te Tau Hou Māori - the Māori New Year. Matariki is a time to gather with family and friends to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and plan for the future. Rotorua is celebrating this special time, with a range of free events around the region.



🌐 [rotoruanui.nz](http://rotoruanui.nz)

ROTORUA HOME AND LIFESTYLE SHOW  
**TE WHAKAATURANGA ĀHUA NOHO,  
KĀINGA O ROTORUA**  
Friday 9 - Sunday 11 July  
Energy Events Centre, Rotorua

Bringing together the very best in products and services for the home.

▣ \$5 📺 [RotoruaHomeandLifestyleShow](https://www.RotoruaHomeandLifestyleShow.com)



TE HŌTAKA HARAREI KURA  
**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**  
Saturday 26 September - Sunday 11 October  
Rotorua Library, Te Aka Mauri

Craft, design, build and play these holidays at Rotorua Library.

▣ Some events may cost and require booking  
🌐 [rotorualibrary.govt.nz](http://rotorualibrary.govt.nz)



TE TŌNAMANA TEINA Ā TE RĪKI MĀORI Ō  
AOTEAROA  
**TEINA MĀORI RUGBY LEAGUE TOURNAMENT**  
Friday 16 - Sunday 18 July | Puketāwhero Park

Made up of 30 teams of young tama and kotiro with international rules.

👉 Free to watch 📺 [NZMaoriRugbyLeague](https://www.NZMaoriRugbyLeague.com)



ROTORUANUI.NZ YOUR GUIDE TO ROTORUA EVENTS

All event information was correct at time of creation. Please ensure you visit the website for any updates.