

ROTORUA-TATAU TATAU

Our people, our culture, our place, our Rotorua

Issue 15 | August 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 whakapūmautanga 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 their 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:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rotorua school-based mentoring co-ordinator Nicki Airey, mentor Helen van Beek and children who are part of the programme, from left, Zion, Grant and Aroha.

 Photo by Kristin Macfarlane

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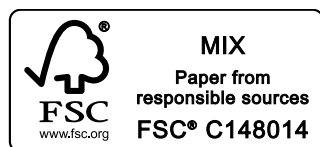
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Our Rotorua - our weekly e-pānui

Keep up-to-date with work, projects, initiatives and decisions involving the council and your community. Sign up at:

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



Whakatupu tamariki | Growing our children

CHILD EQUITY PROGRAMME UPDATE

When children have a level playing field they're more likely to thrive.

That's what Rotorua Lakes Council is working to achieve through its Child Equity Programme. The collaborative initiative has been running for two years and brings Council services, community sectors, government agencies and business partners together to ensure children have access to opportunities and services that enhance their wellbeing.

There are five primary schools involved - Selwyn, Malfroy, Sunset, Aorangi and Kaingaroa - and Rotorua Lakes Council strategy advisor Jill Campbell is working alongside additional schools to join.

"We have hundreds of kids who are missing out," she says.

Jill says the key is ensuring no tamariki are left behind, whether that be through ensuring children have better access to transport, educational programmes, library services or even music lessons during school hours.

In recent months, children have participated in a job fair as well as a council long-term plan forum where they spoke about their concerns and dreams for their neighbourhoods and communities.

Nearly half of the children in Rotorua live in areas of high deprivation and Jill says they are not numb to their surroundings, raising issues such as overcrowding and emergency housing.

"They are very affected by the things that are happening."

One of the partners involved with the Child Equity Programme is Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS), an organisation that aims to build healthy futures for young people.

Rotorua BBBS school-based mentoring co-ordinator Nicki Airey says children at 12 local schools are matched with a mentor and they spend an hour a week together, doing activities like sports, baking, science, arts and crafts.

For information on Big Brothers Big Sisters, contact

bigbrothersbigsisters.org.nz



"Our mentoring programmes are focused on creating brighter futures for Rotorua children through long-term, meaningful relationships with a positive adult role model/tuakana," Nicki says.

"The BBBS kaupapa is all about using these relationships to build, strengthen and promote positive connections between children, youth, adults, whānau, the local community and iwi."

Nicki, who has been with BBBS Rotorua for more than two years, says she got involved because she wanted to work with local tamariki to support them in reaching their full potential.

Mentor Helen van Beek joined the programme because to make a difference and says she has a lot of fun along the way.



For more information about the Child Equity Programme, email jill.campbell@rotorualc.nz



He ngākau nui ki te ako | Love to learn



LIBRARY VISITS TO SCHOOLS

Every week the Rotorua Library Youth and Early Learning Team visits early childhood centres and schools, supporting literacy and learning for Rotorua tamariki and rangatahi.

At early childhood centres, librarians read stories and sing songs in English and te reo Māori. Children love these visits - some of them play “Library Lady” after the sessions, sitting and reading to one another.

Students in Year 6-10 are taught to write effective research questions and identify good sources of information for school projects. They also learn how to recognise fake news.

Secondary school students learn to correctly reference information and are introduced to National Library of New Zealand websites ‘Any Questions’, which is a free website enabling students to chat with librarians who help find answers to homework questions, and ‘Many Answers’ which has the answers to questions librarians are frequently asked.

Te Aka Mauri’s Digital Technology Educator, Jessica Cathro, also shares her expertise with

hundreds of Rotorua students each year through visits to schools and after-school clubs at Te Aka Mauri.

Rotorua Library offers a variety of robotics programmes that aim to prepare students to become future innovators and prepare them for competitions.

Sponsorship makes it possible to buy equipment and assist with travel costs for the amazing Rotorua teams who are winning regional competitions and participating at a national (and international) level.



For more information, contact the Youth and Early Learning Team on

☎ 07 348 4177 or

✉ library@rotorualc.nz

Creating a connected, vibrant, safe and thriving Eastside community

Residents of Eastside Rotorua now have a clear path to achieving a brighter future for their mokopuna.

Te Oranga Nui – Rāwhiti Mai: Eastside Community Wellness Plan was officially adopted by Rotorua Lakes Council elected members in late July.

It follows two years of collaboration between Council, Eastside hapū, Tatau Pounamu, the community and key contributors (Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Rotorua Airport, Ministry of Education, Ngāti Whakaue Tribal Lands Inc), resulting in an aspirational plan with the vision of a connected, vibrant, safe and thriving community that nurtures and nourishes both the people and the environment.

The Plan provides a framework for decisions that will impact on those who live in Eastside such as new housing developments and recreational spaces, community safety, access to shops, employment and services, and environmental protection and sustainability.

The collaborative development of the plan has created a unique 'Eastside way of working' that will help guide the way actions are implemented in this part of our city.

A number of the Plan's actions are either already underway, in planning or at concept stage.

Actions in the Plan include:

- Shared paths to support connected and safe communities;
- Establishing a multi-use community hub;
- Creating a Community Safety Plan;
- Improved transport links and safer access across Te Ngae Road;
- Upgrading stormwater infrastructure and potential development of wetlands;
- Use of te reo Māori for street names and signage.

The approach to the development of the Plan has provided a template for how Council can achieve success with other place-based plans in Rotorua.

Council's 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan includes the potential for locality planning in Westside, Ngongotahā and the Inner City.

Council recognises the importance of partnering with the community to ensure the aspirations of the people who live in each area are at the forefront. Partners involved in the Eastside plan will continue to collaborate to deliver the vision for the future of the area and those living there.

Council will share updates and opportunities to contribute as the actions are implemented. For Eastside residents, keep an eye out for updates in the *Inside Eastside* newsletter.

For information about
Te Oranga Nui – Rāwhiti Mai:
Eastside Community Wellness Plan visit
[rotorualakescouncil.nz/
eastsideplan](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz/eastsideplan)



Some of the collaborative team involved in developing the plan.



HOUSING TASKFORCE

A collaborative taskforce to address the housing and homelessness challenges in Rotorua is making good headway on creating an improved environment for families in emergency housing and the wider community.

Set up in March 2021, the taskforce of government agencies, iwi and council moved quickly to develop Te Rākau Taumatua: Rotorua Housing Place-Based Action Plan. Approved by Ministers, it sets out actions to relieve short-term housing issues while work on more permanent solutions continues.

This approach will help to reduce the number of motels used for emergency accommodation and distribute this more evenly across the city.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) has contracted 12 motels suitable for exclusive use by families with children. These contracted motels have facilities that best suit whānau needs, such as appropriate laundry and kitchen facilities and outdoor spaces for children.

Rotorua-based social service providers WERA Aotearoa, Visions of a Helping Hand and Emerge Aotearoa have been contracted to manage the family accommodation, supporting whānau to access the help and services they need.

With good progress made supporting whānau, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and the taskforce turned their focus on support and suitable accommodation for single people and couples without children.

Te Rākau Taumatua - first actions:

- Contracting motels for the express use of emergency housing
- Establishing a community-led housing hub
- Comprehensive wrap-around services for whānau.

A community-led housing hub – Te Pokapū – is also being set up to assess, place and support people in need of housing, based on a kaupapa Māori approach. Led and hosted by Te Taumata o Ngāti Whakaue, it involves a collective of local providers, supported by the Ministry of Social Development.

Looking to longer-term solutions, more supply of housing is critical. Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities is working hard to deliver more urgently-needed warm, dry and healthy homes. It currently has about 50 homes planned or in progress to be built, as part of the 190 homes expected to be delivered in Rotorua by 2024 under the Public Housing Plan.

For more information about Te Rākau Taumatua and the progress of the taskforce visit

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



2021-2031 LONG-TERM PLAN

Rotorua Lakes Council's 2021-2031 Long-term Plan focuses on key community priorities to keep the district moving forward.

Key areas of focus are housing, infrastructure, community safety, economic development and climate change.

"A lot has changed as a result of COVID and we have to work differently," Mayor Steve Chadwick says. "This Long-term Plan is about mahi tahi – doing the hard work to get things done, and achieve the solutions and outcomes our community needs."

The Long-term Plan (LTP) sets out what the council will deliver across the next 10 years and how that will be funded, and includes investment into the district totalling \$749 million. More than half of that will be into core infrastructure.

The LTP is underpinned by key strategies including a 30-year infrastructure plan and strategies for housing, economic development, community safety and climate change.

A financial strategy ensures prudence while providing sufficient funding to deliver what is planned. An average 9.2% general rates rise is needed to deliver what is planned for Year 1 of the LTP (the 2021/22 financial year) – that is the average across the whole district but increases vary between ratepayers. Factors that influence rates variations include changes to property valuations, the services for which properties are rated and the use of properties (ie business, residential, farming).

Investing in priorities

- \$421m for infrastructure – sewerage, stormwater, water supplies and roading
- \$1.13m per year for community safety
- Funding for economic development
- \$17.9m to upgrade Aquatic Centre

The LTP also features ongoing investment in transformational projects that are already underway including the lakefront and forest developments, strengthening and redevelopment of Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa and the Sir Howard Morrison Performing Arts Centre, and upgrading the Aquatic Centre.

Mayor Chadwick says partnerships with Te Arawa, Central Government and the community will remain key to achieving positive outcomes.

Targets for delivery

- 3,000 new homes in 5 years (6,000 by 2030) and land available for an additional 4,000 residential sections (total of 10,000)
- Two inner city apartment buildings
- Regeneration of 4 to 5 neighbourhoods/communities
- Establishment of community hubs (Eastside, Western suburbs and Ngongotahā) with neighbourhood co-creation and investment programmes for each location

View the full LTP on
Council's website

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

Ka ao ka ao ka awatea | Making a difference

Rotorua proud: our wairua, our stories

Hopefully you've seen a few familiar faces cruising around town lately on the backs of our city buses.

The latest RotoruaNZ campaign has a point of difference from the usual Destination Rotorua marketing. Instead of promoting all the amazing things to see and experience in our city, this campaign is celebrating the people of Rotorua.

Some of the locals featured in the campaign grew up here, others have moved here and called Rotorua home for several years or decades.

There's a lot to be proud of and the idea is to lift the wairua, or spirit, of our residents by celebrating our whānau.

"We needed to remind Rotorua residents – and prospective visitors – that Rotorua is not all that you read in the headlines," Haydn Marriner, Destination Rotorua marketing manager says. *"We are so much more. We have people who deserve to be celebrated for their achievements, dedication, determination, creativity and more."*

"So we set about finding Rotorua champions from various backgrounds who wouldn't be shy about sharing part of their story, whether it was about their success in the boardroom, music scene, netball courts or wherever."

"Thirteen people agreed to participate in our Rotorua Proud campaign; we could've found 100 times as many."

Along with featuring local champions on our buses, the campaign also features brief videos of each Rotorua champion. They're candid, fun, inspiring, and in Sam Sutton's case, even a bit surprising.

"Our aspiration was to provide a visual representation of the words of our storytellers," Haydn says. *"To do this, sound-sensitive technology was specifically created for us that mimics the patterns of tree rings or ripples on the water, which represent the age or whakapapa of the conversation in a visual form."*

The video campaign has already started on TV, but you can view them at:

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

These are just some of our Rotorua champions and these are their stories.



Sam Winders



Atareta Milne



Michael Barker



Ben Sandford



Geoff Thomas



Aunty Josie



Graeme Murray



Jenna Hastings



Andrew La Grouw



Sam Sutton



Lizzie Marvally



Inia Maxwell



Kiriwaitingi Rei

Nō roto i te hāpori | In the community

PREPARATION IS KEY

There is no such thing as a normal week when working in civil defence and emergency management.

Linda Johnston, Rotorua Lakes Council's civil defence and emergencies co-ordinator, has an external focus and looks after community education. On any given day she can be found presenting to community groups, marae and iwi representatives, businesses, clubs, organisations, schools and residents with key messaging about being prepared in case of a civil defence emergency.

Linda helps set up community emergency response plans, runs drills, teaches students how to use VHF radios, stresses the importance of household preparedness, is involved in welfare exercises, attends expos and works with other organisations to share resources and information with the community.

Linda says no response plan is the same because each group, household or place has different needs. Each plan takes pets, babies and children, people's disabilities, mobility and communication barriers, and locations and buildings into account.

"We don't have a standard response plan but we do have templates that can be tailored to suit individual needs," Linda says.

She and her team are also constantly monitoring potential civil defence situations, both nationally and internationally, and dealing with severe weather situations locally, which can spark calls for help due to surface flooding, slips, fallen trees and more.

Two others work with Linda as part of the core civil defence team. Bruce Horne is a full-time member who leads internal work, and Aneta Morgan works in the team part-time, dealing with relationship building and iwi assistance.

Within Rotorua Lakes Council there are also 93 staff trained to support during an emergency, which can involve anything from earthquakes and severe weather conditions to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Depending on the level of support needed, the Civil Defence Team can be involved in evacuations, clean-ups, community welfare and emergency service callouts, providing assistance, food or shelter and providing information to the community.

Linda says it is important we all have an emergency plan in place and that everyone in our household or organisation has the same understanding about how the plan works.



Anyone who needs help developing a plan can contact Linda at Rotorua Lakes Council on

📞 07 348 4199

The core Rotorua Civil Defence and Emergency Management Team: Bruce Horne, Linda Johnston and Aneta Morgan.

THE JOURNEY PROJECT



Rotorua artist Jessica Newman is using the power of creativity to boost young people's confidence and resilience.

New Zealand has the highest rate of youth suicide in the world and Jessica wants to help change that. She has created The Journey Project - a nine-week creative teaching programme that aims to help students find their creative voice through different mediums while learning skills that increase their confidence, ignite their resilience and build endurance for life's journey.

The project is based on a self-written and self-illustrated book about mental wellness called The Journey Story. Each character in the book introduces topics such as 'The power of our words', 'Guarding our minds', 'Healthy living', 'Forgiveness', 'Endurance', 'Courage', 'Rest,' and 'Community'.

"These are all aspects of mental health that I have found to be important in my own journey and maintaining my own wellness," Jessica says.

After reading The Journey Story, students take part in a creative activity including design, carving, painting, drawing, writing, installation, signwriting and modelling.

"My hope is that both the techniques and strategies learnt during the programme will open up pathways for future creative expression and create a long-term mental robustness for whatever challenges life brings," she says.

Jessica officially introduced her programme this year, teaching 156 Year 5 and 6 children at St Mary's School as part of the Ministry of Education's Creatives in Schools Initiative.

She noticed many changes in the students throughout the course of the programme. Children were involved in group discussions about subjects that aren't often talked or thought about, they became more confident, opened up and shared experiences, were excited to learn and try new art forms, their creativity became bolder and motor skills increased.

Teachers reported that skills learned in the programme were being used in other classes and parents highlighted positive changes in their children.

Jessica is now in Rarotonga self-funding the delivery of The Journey Project to Year 8 students and when she returns, will look to offer the programme in more New Zealand schools.

The programme is funded to run for two years. Interested schools can go to artsonline.tki.org.nz to find out more.



Rotorua Mayor Steve Chadwick with St Mary's School students who took part in The Journey Project in Term One.

REVITALISING TE REO MĀORI

Passionate about keeping te reo Māori alive, Anaha and Grace Hiini started Kōtihi Reo Consultants to cater to all learning levels.

The husband and wife team, who won the Bilingual Business of the Year category at the 2020 Westpac Rotorua Business Awards, also offer chaperone services to explain marae protocols and provide strategic advice on all aspects of Māori culture for both private and public sectors.

Their clients include Deloitte, Glenn Hawkins Associates (GHA), Chartered Accountants Australia New Zealand (CAANZ), Rotorua Area Primary Health Services (RAPHS), Tū Pono Legal, Department of Conservation and Rotorua Lakes Council.

❖ What is Kōtihi Reo Consultants?

The company was established in 2014 and is named after our youngest child Kōtihirerehua. Kōtihi means 'pinnacle' so Kōtihi Reo translates as 'the pinnacle of the language'.

Our primary function is to allow Māori the opportunity to learn their language, customs and protocols so they can regain a sense of belonging and empowerment. For other nationalities, it is an opportunity to gain an understanding of Māori language and culture.

All our lessons are taught in a fun, supportive environment where no one gets left behind.

❖ Why is it important to protect te reo Māori?

Language is an integral aspect to the survival of an indigenous culture and its people. It allows humans to communicate, share knowledge and gift history from one generation to the next.

❖ What does being named a Rotorua Business Award winner mean for you?

It was a very humbling experience. We wouldn't be where we are now without the support of many, particularly the companies who had the faith, confidence, and trust in us to assist in their learning journey. The award was an acknowledgment of my culture and my language, a testament to the tireless efforts exerted by my predecessors.



Anaha Hiini

Kei te hiahia
kōrero atu anō?

Want to know more?

✉ kotihireo@gmail.com

or visit

🌐 kotihi.co.nz

TE ARAWA RANGATIRATANGA | LEADERSHIP AND INFLUENCE

Tupu te mahara, tupu ki roto,
kia hono koe ki te hono tawhito.
Let the thought grow, let it grow within
and be bound to the ancient bond.

The voice of Te Arawa was heard as Rotorua Lakes Council voted to introduce Māori wards for the 2022 elections.

Te Tatau o Te Arawa chair, Te Taru White, says Te Arawa exerted its leadership and influence during its six week-long consultation and subsequent proposal to the council.

“Leadership and influence. It’s straight out of the Te Arawa 2050 Vision,” he says.

“By signing a partnership agreement with the council on 18 December 2015 and having the mandate of Te Arawa, we were cast in a leadership role. What we want to do now is secure that leadership role to give it more resilience so that it’s a stepping stone to the rangatiratanga we desire.”

Te Taru says while Te Tatau had a very tight timeframe to consult with Te Arawa on Māori wards, it wanted to take advantage of the opportunity to effect change in the governance of our district.

“We had to go out and make sure our people not only participated in discussions around Māori wards, but that they understood the facts and realities around the three options we presented to them,” says Te Taru.

The options were to retain the status quo – keep Te Tatau, no Māori wards; introduce Māori wards and disestablish Te Tatau; or introduce Māori wards and retain Te Tatau.



Left to Right: Harina Rupapera, Jude Pani and Kahutapeka Ututaonga

“These options were very clear to us – just as we were clear not to influence the decision. It had to be made by Te Arawa, so we put the three options on the table and sought their views, both face-to-face and online.

“Other good kōrero came from this consultation, including the role of Te Tiriti, which we’ve documented and will look at in the future. However, for now, Te Arawa was clearly in favour of introducing Māori wards and retaining Te Tatau. Our 2050 Vision is the underpinning value proposition for all this.



Left to Right: Te Taru White, Rangitiaria Tibble, Jude Pani and Geoff Rolleston

“The council, in its wisdom, decided in favour of the wards being in place. So now the work begins.”

TE ARAWA 2050 VISION

Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora, Te Arawa E!



The number and make-up of a local Māori ward or wards is now part of a wider representation review being undertaken by Rotorua Lakes Council which is encouraging people to give their feedback, ahead of formal consultation in September.

“Our people can give input into the boundaries and structure of the Māori wards, as well as naming the Māori wards. It’s also an opportunity to engage with Te Tatau on other issues surrounding Māori wards, and how it’s going to work in the future.

“It’s about ensuring our people participate in that decision to ensure that what we put on the table is in the best interests of Te Arawa, our taurahere, and the community at large.

“We’re ensuring these entities have a positive impact on our lives and our leadership’s there to make it happen. The Māori wards outcome provided a sense of leadership because we were at the top table influencing that decision.

“We’re reminding people this isn’t a flash in the pan for us. This aligns with our vision,” says Te Taru.

The Te Arawa Vision states that by 2050:

- The iwi is effectively managing matters of high significance for Te Arawa with a united Te Arawa voice.
- Te Arawa is directly and effectively co-designing, co-developing, and co-delivering policy and decision-making at local and central government as a matter of course and to ensure continued alignment with the Te Arawa Vision.
- Te Arawa has a pool of capable, influential, and effective leaders well versed in te reo me ngā tikanga o Te Arawa in positions of political and organisational leadership across all sectors.
- Succession planning is active with all Te Arawa rōpū and institutions hosting wānanga, training or internships to develop experience and capability amongst our people.

Content provided by Te Tatau o Te Arawa

Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

SIR HOWARD MORRISON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE UPDATE

The Sir Howard Morrison Performing Arts Centre is set to re-open in mid-2022.

This project has had its fair share of challenges. Prior to construction, project managers ensured comprehensive investigations were made to estimate the condition of the building and inform the scope of work for contractor Hawkins.

As work progressed, many issues were uncovered including far more widespread and severe cracking than estimated. This meant the amount of asbestos removal required has gone from 20% to 80% of the building. To address these challenges, and deliver a venue that is safe, sound, fit-for-purpose and without legacy issues for the future, Rotorua Lakes Council approved the additional budget required, as part of the 2021 Long-term Plan.

The total project budget is \$33.7 million. Generous funding support has resulted in \$11.1 million from external sources meaning the total Council contribution is now \$22.6 million.



FAQs

Why did the building close?

The 1940s Category 1 heritage building closed in November 2017 after a seismic assessment determined the building was just 25% of new building standard (NBS) and therefore earthquake-prone. Under the Building Act, earthquake-prone buildings must be strengthened or demolished. Once complete the building will be over 70% NBS.

What is the additional funding for?

The additional funding covers construction costs for structural strengthening and building condition repairs. It includes further design work to address structural integrity issues and changes resulting from the actual building construction not matching plans, particularly in the foundations. It also comprises some additional theatre services to ensure that when it opens, the Sir Howard Morrison Performing Arts Centre will have the necessary equipment required to operate to a high standard.

Was demolition an option?

Under the Building Act, earthquake-prone buildings must be strengthened or demolished. As a Category 1 heritage building, demolition was a last resort. Estimates to demolish and build new were approximately \$70 - \$80 million so this option was discounted as unaffordable.





Meet Macka

Mackenzie Beattie is the lead carpenter on the performing arts centre project.

Mackenzie – or Macka as he’s known – is Rotorua born and bred.

He attended Otonga Primary School then John Paul College, before becoming a carpentry apprentice with local firm Gifford Builders.

He now runs his own company, Next Level Construction, and is working on the project as a sub-contractor to Hawkins, managing a team of five carpenters on site. Macka started this job in March and will be there until the end of the construction phase, which is expected to be March 2022.

“Working on existing buildings can be challenging,” says Macka.

“Things are not always how you think they’re going to be. It’s hard working around an existing structure, particularly when there’s asbestos involved.”

Macka is a trusted carpenter for Hawkins and has been sub-contracting to them for more than four years. Before this job, Macka was commuting to Tauranga everyday so he’s loving being able to work locally.

See construction images, live updates and upcoming project presentations on

 @SirHowardMorrisonTheatre

ROTORUA MUSEUM UPDATE

In June this year, Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa was generously granted \$4.1million funding support from Bay of Plenty Regional Council towards exhibition development.

Made through the Rotorua Museum Centennial Trust, the grant is a huge boost for the exhibition component of the wider redevelopment project.

Rotorua Museum director Lizzie Marvelly says it means planning work for the exhibitions within the Museum is full steam ahead.

The Museum Team has developed a comprehensive community engagement plan and will be talking to a wide range of people throughout the rohe (district) to gather information about stories and taonga that are important to them and themes they would like to see reflected in the redeveloped museum.

“We have held a handful of initial hui with some Ngāti Whakaue and Te Arawa entities, and an extensive iwi engagement programme is being rolled out around the Te Arawa region. We will also be talking with various community groups, youth, and our general public.”

The community engagement programme is expected to take 12 months.

From there a master exhibition plan will be developed, along with initial concepts for what the exhibitions might include. These concepts will then be brought back out to the community for further discussion, before proceeding into more detailed designs.

Construction to strengthen and redevelop the Category 1 Bath House building in which the Museum is housed, is due to get underway next year and is expected to take two years. The completed Museum is scheduled to open in 2025.

For more information visit

 visiontoaction.nz



Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

NEW LAKEFRONT BOARDWALK OPENS TO THE COMMUNITY

The new Rotorua lakefront boardwalk and terracing is now being enjoyed by the community after being officially opened.

A karakia held at the start of July with iwi and project partners involved in the development marked the official opening and the completion of another stage of the project.

The development aims to create a world-class lakefront experience and a destination that enhances both the land and the lakes and also encourages investment and creates new jobs for our people.

Lakefront visitors can now access the new lake edge via three entry points located at the lake end of Memorial Plaza; next to the lakefront operators, and at the Motutara Point end of the reserve.

The new lake edge provides a fresh and innovative space for the community to spend time with friends and whānau or picnic on the new terracing.

The terraces also provide protection from changing lake water levels and weather damage, and will reduce the risk of erosion.

HEB Construction has been working on this stage of the Lakefront Redevelopment since 2019,

which has included construction of a new boardwalk, new terracing, landscaping and a shared path. Work to extend the boardwalk to the western end of the reserve will begin later this year.

The work completed along the lake edge involved more than 81,000 hours of work with the majority of workers being Rotorua locals.

All stages of work currently under construction at the lakefront will be complete by the end of 2021. This includes the new playground extension, a new toilet block, continuation of the new shared path towards the western end of the lakefront, grass terracing and landscaping. Work on the western end of the lakefront, including the Whare Waka for the Te Arawa Waka Taua and space for commercial activities, is in the detailed design phase. The architectural services for the whare waka and potential commercial building space is also being worked on by local company DCA.



The Lakefront Redevelopment will be progressively opened to the public as each stage is completed so that our community and visitors can enjoy sections of the lakefront as soon as the upgrades have been made.

Kānoa – REDIU, the Government’s regional economic development and investment unit, is a major investor in the Rotorua Lakefront Redevelopment, matching funding from Rotorua Lakes Council after recognising the project’s potential to support tourism and investment, and create jobs during and after construction.

A \$19.9 million Government investment from Kānoa – REDIU was announced for the project in 2018, alongside \$20.1 million from Council to transform this recreational, economic and cultural asset.

In July 2020, an additional \$1 million investment from Kānoa - REDIU was announced to progress work on the cultural design foundation for the project. This will consist of artwork, interpretation and design, carved pou created by local artists, and information panels that will tell the pakiwaitara (stories) of mana whenua.

Together, our vision is to develop the lakefront into an outstanding recreational area that will benefit locals, support tourism, and encourage private investment, which will in turn create new jobs and benefit the community of Rotorua.

Above: The ceremony to officially open the boardwalk and terracing at the lakefront was led by Ngāti Whakaue representative, Bryce Murray, with representatives from project partners Ngāti Whakaue, the Gifted Reserves Committee (Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust), Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Kānoa – REDIU, the New Zealand Government’s regional economic development and investment unit joining Rotorua Lakes Council elected members and staff, and contractors involved in the project.

For more information visit

 [visiontoaction.nz](https://www.visiontoaction.nz)

Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

AQUATIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Further investment in redevelopment of the Rotorua Aquatic Centre has been approved by elected members as part of Rotorua Lakes Council's 2021-2031 Long-term Plan.

Council received 523 pieces of feedback about the proposals and 73% of that feedback was in support of Option 3 – to progress with a full master plan, with an investment of \$28.3 million.

This investment will enable council to upgrade all existing facilities including the roof, pool hall glazing and floors, changing rooms, foyer area, ventilation and fire safety systems.

The community has told Council that it values the Aquatic Centre as a facility for locals to use and enjoy. Our district is surrounded by lakes and rivers and it is essential that tamariki are able to learn the skills and confidence to be safe - the Aquatic Centre plays a vital role in this.

Design work for the pool hall refurbishment is now almost complete and Council is looking at the next steps to progress construction requirements for the new roof. This work is expected to start in the first half of 2022.

Designs for the indoor changing rooms are also well underway with the aim to start that part of the refurbishment once the pool hall work is finished.

Increased investment will also enable Council to seek partner funding to progress additional assets such as:

- a new learn-to-swim pool
- bombing pool
- improved café area
- new splash pad
- hydro slides.

Makeover for the outdoor changing rooms!

Following the upgrade of the 50m outdoor pool, refurbishment of the outdoor changing rooms will give these facilities a fresh new look and provide a better experience for pool users.

The refurbishment work includes:

- increased number of showers
- increased number of toilets
- improved accessibility
- geothermal heating reinstated under seating
- additional drainage
- exterior painting and roof repair
- minor cosmetic changes.

The work began in late June and is expected to take about 12 weeks to complete.



Te tirohanga ki te mahi | Vision to action

WHAKAREWAREWA FOREST PROJECT UPDATE

Taonga to be installed at Te Pūtake o Tawa

Later this year five taonga (artworks) will be unveiled at Te Pūtake o Tawa, the (Tawa) Tarawera Road Forest Hub that was opened in October 2020.

These taonga are part of the wider Whakarewarewa Forest Development project and will tell the stories of ancestors important to mana whenua Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao.

Te Pūtake o Tawa will become a place where the public and Tūhourangi descendants can learn about this whakapapa (ancestry).

The artists are of Tūhourangi descent, a mix of both established and up-and-coming artists who have been working on the designing and creating of these taonga for the past year.

The taonga will range in size from 3m to 4m high and are being created using a variety of materials including timber, metal and stone.

Te Pūtake o Tawa

Concessions to operate within Te Pūtake o Tawa have been granted to Mountain Bike Rotorua and Tūhourangi Tribal Authority. Mountain Bike Rotorua provides bike hire, retail and a shuttle service in the forest. Tūhourangi Tribal Authority has partnered with a combination of other local businesses (Whakarewarewa Village, Mitai and Grounded Café) to provide a food and beverage offering, and retail space.

Whakarewarewa Forest Loop

While the finishing touches are being made to the Whakarewarewa Forest Loop (30km cycle trail around Whakarewarewa Forest), the track is signposted and rideable with bypasses around the uncompleted sections.

The best starting points are located at Te Pūtake o Tawa and Waipa mountain bike hubs. Cyclists must ride the loop clockwise.

For more
information visit

 visiontoaction.nz



Kua tuhera te kūwaha | Open for business



Contact Tiare on

feroofinglimited@gmail.com

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

The resilience of our business community continues to shine through despite the ongoing impact of COVID-19. Rotorua roofing business owner Tiare Teepa was among those who not so long ago were ready to close down but have persevered and are now reaching new heights.

Tiare says it was a call from a previous colleague looking for a job that changed his mind.

A year ago FE Roofing, established in March 2017, was due to close its doors and Tiare was moving towards a career change into Māori mental health.

But after a phone call from a former colleague, he decided to keep the business open and by September 2020 was once again focused on FE Roofing, a small residential and commercial roofing business that also manufactures its own rainwater heads.

Fast forward to today and the business is developing, moving to a new site at 51 White Street and with a team of five staff, including three qualified roofers and two apprentices, operating a four-day week.

It is the first time FE Roofing has been able to hire apprentices, which Tiare attributes to the Government’s Regional Apprenticeship Initiative that he took up at the start of this year.

“We want to grow but with growth we have to train,” he says.

Tiare, who has 17 years’ experience in the industry, is proud his business is a Māori-owned and operated company that has incorporated kaupapa Māori into every part of the business, including dealings with clients. It’s among the reasons for good productivity and good staff attendance rates.

“We are who we are [and] we are proud of who we are and how we present ourselves,” he says.

With an interest in mental health, Tiare has also introduced a weekly breakfast with his staff, a ‘toolbox meeting’ that functions as an open forum where staff can open up and share experiences and thoughts, as well as planning jobs for the week ahead.

Tiare believes people spend so much time with their work colleagues it is important to create a holistic environment. He describes his workplace as having a whānau feel.

“We see each other more than we see our families, we have to trust each other.”

Tiare says his business is continuously working to better itself. The next initiative in moves to expand will be to employ women as well as men interested in working in the roofing industry.



Above: FE Roofing owner Tiare Teepa and staff members from left to right: Ponti Te Moana, Junior Collier and Clayton Hohepa. Absent: Carlo Putaranui.

Te manawa o te tāone | Inner city

HEADING INTO THE CBD? SAVE TIME AND PAY FOR YOUR PARKING ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!



PrestoPark








Download and use the parking app, PrestoPark.

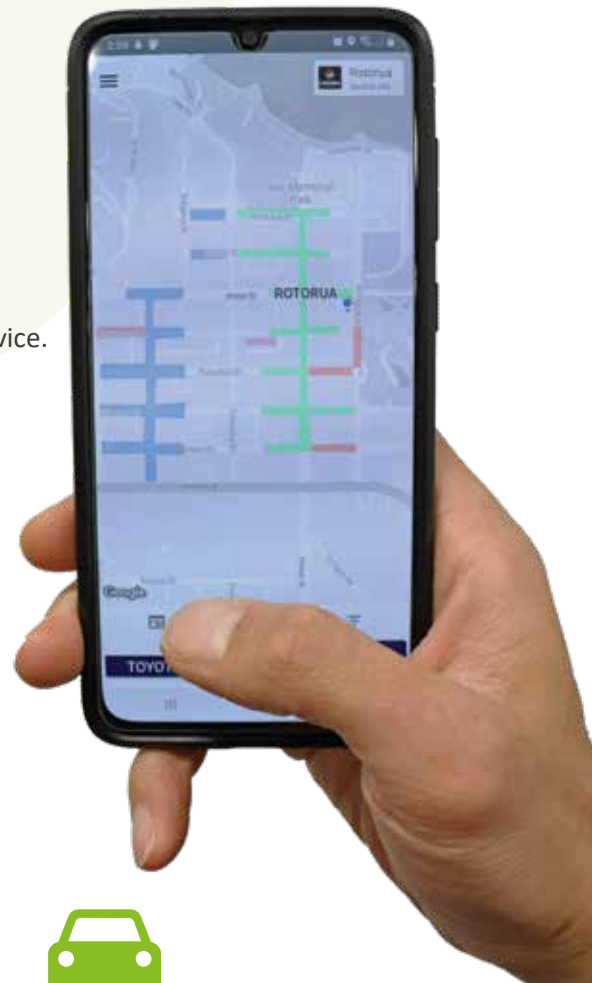
The app provides a flexible and contactless way to pay for parking in the inner city of Rotorua.

It is available for Apple and Android users.

Search for it in your app store by its name, PrestoPark.

What are the benefits of using PrestoPark?

-  No need to walk to a parking machine – simply use your mobile device.
-  Start your transaction from wherever you are.
-  If you end up running late, extend your existing transaction. (You must still adhere to sign-posted time limits.)
-  If you return earlier than expected, stop your transaction.
-  Receive an optional notification prior to your parking stay ending.
-  Use the app for multiple vehicles.
-  GPS location helps you identify which zone you are in (your device, not your car – you still need to select (by tapping) the correct coloured zone you have parked in).



For more information and to download the app, just scan the QR code or search for PrestoPark in your app store.



SAVE TIME – DO IT ONLINE



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 – community consultations
- Check district maps
- Library services – select e-books, pay fees and extend loan periods
- Check your rubbish and recycling collection day

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

Pay by direct debit

For information and to fill out a direct debit form, go to

🌐 rotorualakescouncil.nz/ratespayment

Pay your rates via internet banking

Search for *Rotorua Lakes Council Property Rates Payments* as the payee. Make sure you enter your name and valuation number as payment references so we know who the payment is from. Your valuation number is at the top of your rates invoice.

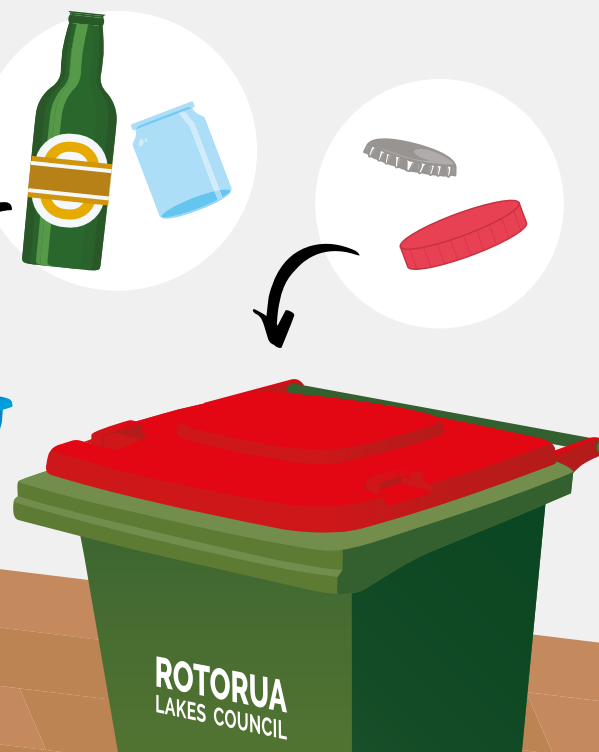
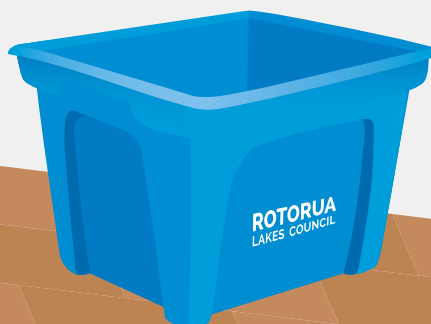
For help call us on ☎ 07 348 4199

or email ✉ info@rotorualc.nz

Head to 🌐 rotorualakescouncil.nz

for more information.

A recycling tip for you and your mates, keep bottle caps and lids out of the **blue crate**



I MŌHIO RĀNEI KOE? DID YOU KNOW?



The landfill in Rotorua was capped in 2019 for environmental and health and safety reasons. The site (pictured above) now operates as a refuse transfer station and recycling collection facility.

Our district's waste goes to landfill at Tirohia.

Every year our Rotorua Landfill Transfer Refuse Station deals with:

- 30,000 tonnes of rubbish
- 5,500 tonnes of green waste
- 1,500 tonnes of concrete waste
- hazardous waste (e.g. used oil)
- e-waste
- whiteware

Rotorua kerbside collections:

- an average 12,000 bins collected daily
- 16,000 tonnes of rubbish and 5,500 tonnes of recyclables collected kerbside every year
- organics (food and green waste) make up 55% of waste collected kerbside

Keep track of where you've been.

Use the NZ COVID Tracer app.
More info at [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

New Zealand Government
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

Unite
against
COVID-19



MĀU E WHIRIWHIRI - TE AROTAKE WHAKAAHUAHANGA 2022

'Your Choice – 2022 Representation Review'

Rotorua residents will soon have the opportunity to provide feedback on Rotorua Lakes Council's proposal for representation arrangements in Rotorua.

In June 2021, Council launched the 'Your Choice - 2022 Representation Review' project to review representation arrangements ahead of next year's local government elections.

Work has been underway to develop a proposal for these arrangements that will go to the full Council on 31 August 2021 for approval for consultation.

The proposal is being developed based on feedback from current elected members who have participated in a series of workshops and from members of the public who have provided feedback online and at public talks.

Once approved, the proposal will be out for public consultation from 8 September to 8 October 2021. Hearings will also be held in November for those who would like to speak to their submissions.

Council will make a final decision on its representation arrangements for the 2022 election and adopt a final proposal in November 2021.

He aha te Arotake Whakaahuahanga?

What is a Representation Review?

It's where Council identifies communities of interest and works out how best to provide fair and effective representation for those communities of interest.

As part of the representation review councils can take a fresh look at the structure of its elected members and how they are elected. This could affect the total number of elected members, whether they come from a ward or 'at large' across the wider district, the boundaries and names of potential wards, and whether or not we have community boards.

Councils are required to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years.

Ngā kaupapa hei āta whakaarotia:

In simple terms, we need to consider:

- How many councillors should the district have?
- Should councillors be elected from across the whole district or split into wards?
(Note: on 21 May 2021 Rotorua Lakes Council resolved to establish a Māori Ward(s). This won't change following the Review but the Review will determine how a Māori Ward(s) will be configured in our district.)
- If wards are introduced, what should the boundaries be?
- If we have wards, how many councillors should we have per ward?
- Should Community Boards be retained/introduced?
- Number of seats for Māori Ward(s)?

The current model for our district is; one mayor, ten elected members, elected from across the district (at large), plus a Lakes Community Board and a Rural Community Board.

Learn more about the 'Your Choice – 2022 Representation Review' at rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai

E hia ngā mema Māori?

How many Māori seats could we have?

Determining the number of Māori seats is based upon:

- Determining the total number of councillors
- If the framework is a mixed system (general wards and "at large"), the number of "at large" councillors are removed from the total number of councillors
- Multiplying the total number of councillors, by the ratio of Māori electoral population to the total (Māori and general) electoral population.

It should also be noted that only those on the Māori electoral roll can vote for those persons running for a seat in the Māori Ward/s.

Me pēhea e taea ai te Arotake Whakaahuahanga o te Kaunihera kia tika?

How does Council ensure its representation arrangements are "fair and effective"?

If a community of interest is identified, the review must consider how to effectively represent them within the total number of councillors, and the framework (wards, at large, mix system), that has been decided upon.

The total number of councillors and the framework may need to be reconsidered to ensure effective representation is achieved.

Fair representation needs to be applied when the framework includes wards.

This means the ratio of population per councillor for each ward must be within +/- 10% of the total population, divided by total number of councillors.

Ngā Hapori Whaipānga?

What is a Community of Interest?

An identifiable geographic area that has a sense of community identity and belonging, which can be reinforced by:

- Distinctive physical and topographical features (e.g. mountains, hills, rivers)
- Similarities in economic or social activities carried out in the area
- Distinct local history of the area
- Dependence on shared facilities and services in an area, eg schools, recreation and cultural facilities, retail outlets, transport and communication links

Identifying communities of interest is important to ensure any ward boundaries appropriately group communities of interest together.

Visit  Let's talk | Kōrero mai



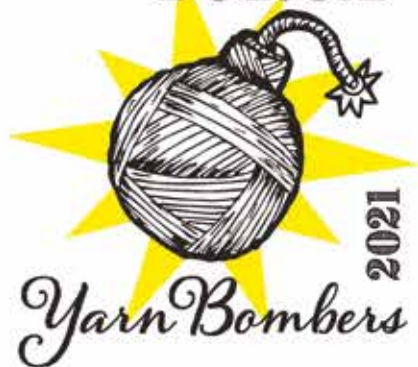
YOUR CHOICE

REPRESENTATION
REVIEW

MĀU E
WHIRIWHIRI



ROTORUA



A TRAIL OF *blooming yarn*

This year's theme: yarn bomb a tree ...
... show how our community is blooming post-COVID

JOIN IN THE FUN. ENTER A TEAM OF TWO OR MORE.



Free workshops at Rotorua Library

Wednesdays, 11am to 2pm

8 and 22 September
6 and 20 October

Saturdays, 11am to 2pm

28 August
25 September
30 October

Installation day: Sunday 31 October

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places

To enter

- Attend a 'learn to yarn bomb' workshop
- Pay a koha for registration and startup kitset

For more information

Facebook: facebook.com/Rotoruayarnbombers

Instagram: RotoruaYarnBombers

Email: batessa@xtra.co.nz

Registrations close Tuesday 31 August

FREE LEARN TO YARNBOMB WORKSHOPS

sponsored by



TE WĀTAKA KŌANGA

SPRING EVENTS GUIDE

HEPETEMA SEPTEMBER



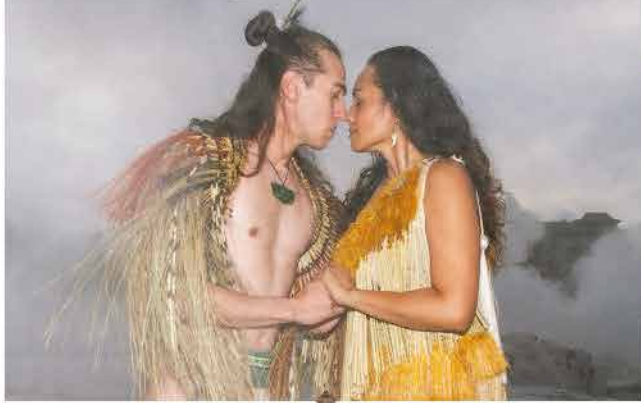
9 - 19 September 2021

An exciting programme celebrating film, visual and traditional art, Te Reo Māori, music and theatre.

aronuiartsfestival.com

[AronuiArtsFestival](https://www.facebook.com/AronuiArtsFestival)

[AronuiArtsFestival](https://www.instagram.com/AronuiArtsFestival)



TE TAUMĀHEKEHEKE NETIPŌRO O KURANGAITUKU KURANGAITUKU NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Friday 3 & Saturday 4 September (ABCD & Masters)
Saturday 11 & Sunday 12 September (Y7-13 schools)
Westbrook

Watch these talented netballers take the court.

Free to watch [Kurangaituku](https://www.facebook.com/Kurangaituku)

TE WERO

Saturday 11 September

6.40pm - 10.30pm

Energy Events Centre

A fashion runway showcasing emerging and established Māori designers.

Range of ticket options available

tewero.nz



TE HĪKOI MANAKO O ROTORUA HOPEWALK ROTORUA 2021

Saturday 11 September, 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Rotorua Village Green

Wear yellow to raise awareness for suicide prevention.

Free [HopeWalkRotoruaNZ](https://www.facebook.com/HopeWalkRotoruaNZ)

TE WERO 24 HĀORA O TIKITAPU BLUE LAKE 24HR CHALLENGE

Saturday 25 September, starts 8am

Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake)

A self-supported 24 hour run around the Blue Lake.

Free bluelake24hr.com



OKETOPA OCTOBER



A HŌHEPA ME TE KOTI UENUKU
WHAKAMIHARO

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR
DREAMCOAT

Friday 1 - Saturday 16 October, 7pm - 9.30pm

The Harvest Centre

A musical comedy based on the story of Joseph from the Bible.

Range of ticket options available

lakesperformingartscentre.co.nz

WAIARIKI V PŌNEKE

BUNNINGS NPC: BAY OF PLENTY STEAMERS
VS WELLINGTON LIONS

Saturday 2 October, 1pm - 4pm

Rotorua International Stadium

Catch the Steamers for an action packed afternoon of footy!

Range of ticket options available

boprugby.co.nz

TE AHUREI PAHIKARA O ROTORUA ROTORUA BIKE FESTIVAL



Thursday 7 - Monday 11 October

Celebrate cycling! From serious races to silly meet-ups.

Range of ticket options available

rotoruabikefestival.com

TE PŌ WHIRINGA TOA ARIA ARIA FINALS NIGHT



Saturday 16 October, 7.30pm - 10pm

Destiny Church

One of Australasia's most prestigious singing competitions.

Range of ticket options available nzaria.co.nz

HE RĪKETA WAKA KI TIKITAPU BLUE LAKE 1 CANOE SPRINT REGATTA



Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 October

Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake)

The first of the national sprint regattas kicks off with a splash!

Free canoeracing.org.nz



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.

TE WĀTAKA KŌANGA

SPRING EVENTS GUIDE

HE REIHI EKE PAIHIKARA MAUNGA
GIANT 2W GRAVITY ENDURO
Saturday 16 October & Saturday 27 November
Waipa MTB Park
NZ's premier enduro race series in the world-renowned Whakarewarewa forests.
■ Range of entry options available 🌐 2w.co.nz



TE TAUMANO EKE PAIHIKARA MAUNGA
EMERSON'S WHAKA100
Friday 22 - Sunday 24 October
Waipa MTB Park
One of the toughest mountain bike marathons in the Southern Hemisphere.
■ Range of ticket options available
🌐 whaka100.co.nz



HE HOKINGA KI TŌ MĀTAU KŌWHAI
SALMONELLA DUB - RETURN TO OUR KŌWHAI
Saturday 23 October, 7pm - midnight
Energy Events Centre
Salmonella Dub are joined by Conan Wilcox, Tiki Taane, Whirimako Black and Laughton Kora to deliver a multimedia dance floor set!
■ \$79 🌐 salmonelladub.com



TE TAUMĀHEKEHEKE TUĀKANA Ā TE RIKI MĀORI Ō AOTEAROA
NZMRL TUĀKANA TOURNAMENT
Saturday 23 - Sunday 24 October
Rotorua International Stadium
Tuākana (seniors) compete in this annual Māori league tournament.
■ Free 🌐 nzmr.co.nz

NOEMA NOVEMBER

TERE PANUKU | **CRANKWORX ROTORUA**
Monday 1 - Sunday 7 November | Skyline Rotorua
For the first time ever, Rotorua will be the final stop of the Crankworx World Tour. See the King and Queen of Crankworx crowned!
■ Range of ticket options available
🌐 crankworx.com



NGĀ MOTOKĀ TUKITUKI Ō ROTOHOKAHOKA
SPEEDWAY FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR
Friday 5 November
TWS Paradise Valley Speedway
Speedway action with a fireworks extravaganza.
■ \$15 - \$60 🌐 rotoruaspeedway.co.nz



HE WHAKAATURANGA TOI NŌ TE WAIARIKI
BAY OF PLENTY ARTISTS EXHIBITION
Monday 8 November - Sunday 12 December
10am - 4pm | Lockwood Show Home Village
View the remarkable talent of Bay of Plenty artists.
■ Free 🌐 rotoruanui.nz

TE AHUREI MAHI MĀRA
ROTORUA FESTIVAL OF GARDENS
Friday 12 - Sunday 14 November
Gardening workshops, markets and private gardens.
■ \$28 - \$49 🌐 rotoruaorgans.org.nz



TE TIUPIRĪ 50 TAU Ō TE KURA KANIKANI HĪTEKI
ANNE SAMSON BALLETT 50TH JUBILEE
Saturday 20 November, 1pm & 6.30pm
Energy Events Centre
A celebration of 50 years of teaching ballet.
■ \$22 - \$33 🌐 annesamsonballet.co.nz



PŪTAHITANGA | **ONE PEOPLE CONCERT**
Saturday 27 November, 12pm - 4pm | Kuirau Park
A whānau event with kai, hauora stalls and local music.
■ Free 🌐 [DominateEvents](https://www.facebook.com/DominateEvents)

TE TAUWHĀINGA-TORU TAMARIKI
SANITARIUM WEET-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON
Sunday 28 November, 7am - 1pm | Kuirau Park
Celebrating its 30th anniversary, cheer on our Kiwi kids!
■ Free to watch
🌐 tryathlon.co.nz/locations/rotorua



ROTORUANUI.NZ YOUR GUIDE TO ROTORUA EVENTS

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