

ROTORUA-TATAU TATAU

Our people, our culture, our place, our Rotorua

Issue 2 | November 2017



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ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL
Te kaunihera o ngā roto o Rotorua

Welcome

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Rotorua Lakes Council will be closed from midday Friday 22 December 2017 to 8 January 2018 with services such as water, rubbish and recycling, noise and animal control operating as normal.

Holiday hours for Council services are available at rotorualakescouncil.nz/christmasclosures

Any questions or urgent issues can be phoned through to the council (24 hours, 7 days) on **07 348 4199**.

No rubbish and recycling collection on Christmas Day

Waste collection staff won't be emptying bins on Christmas Day. This means for that week (25- 29 December) collection days will move to the following day.

See the table below for your Christmas week changes

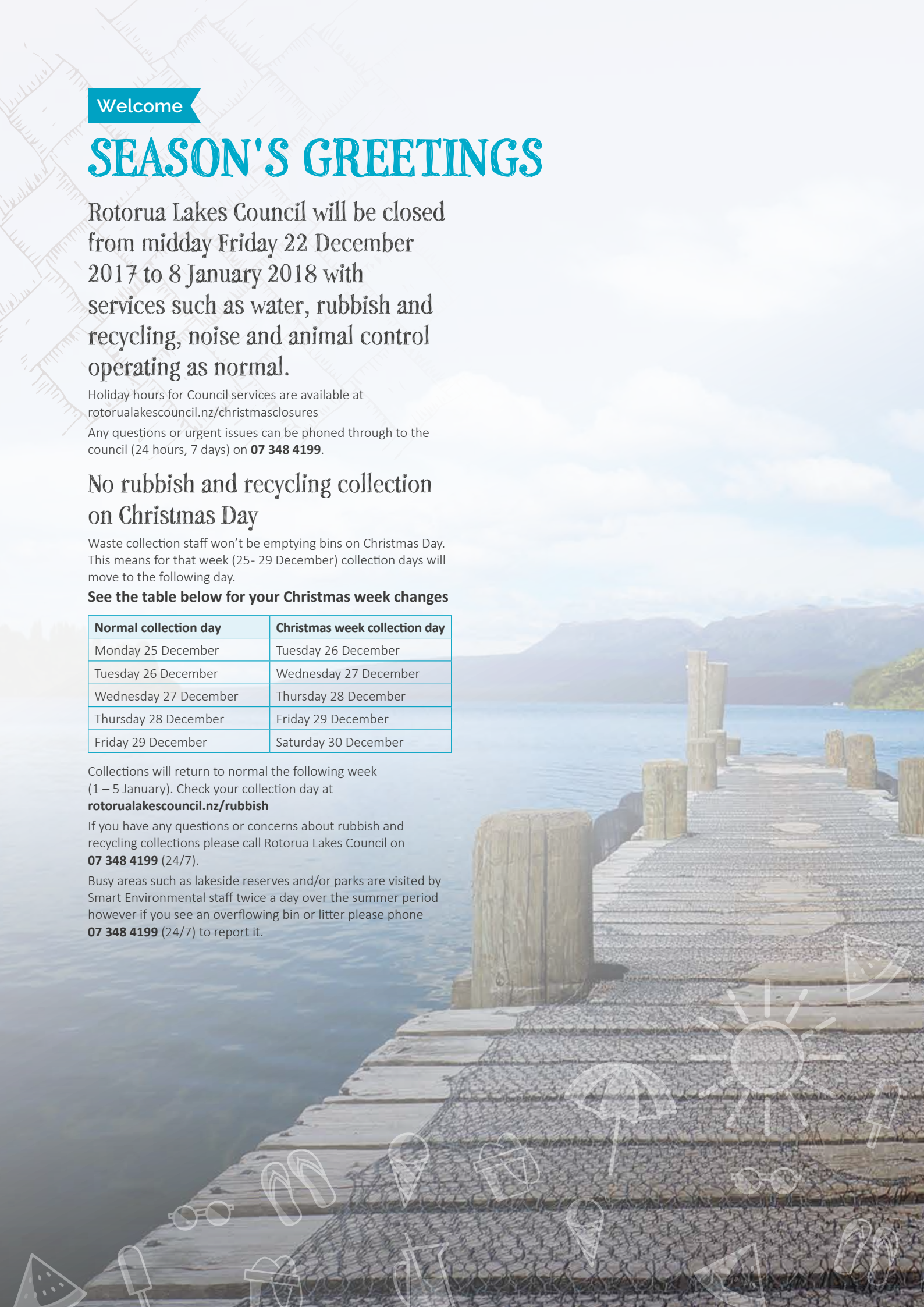
Normal collection day	Christmas week collection day
Monday 25 December	Tuesday 26 December
Tuesday 26 December	Wednesday 27 December
Wednesday 27 December	Thursday 28 December
Thursday 28 December	Friday 29 December
Friday 29 December	Saturday 30 December

Collections will return to normal the following week (1 – 5 January). Check your collection day at

rotorualakescouncil.nz/rubbish

If you have any questions or concerns about rubbish and recycling collections please call Rotorua Lakes Council on **07 348 4199** (24/7).

Busy areas such as lakeside reserves and/or parks are visited by Smart Environmental staff twice a day over the summer period however if you see an overflowing bin or litter please phone **07 348 4199** (24/7) to report it.



In the community

INSIDE EASTSIDE



Building relationships and supporting community aspirations is something Leigh Richards-Ward is passionate about.

Leigh is the community-led manager at the Mokoia Community Association and in the five years she has been in the position she says she has seen a marked change in the community.

“We work alongside residents and organisations to help them realise their ideas and goals.”

Leigh has a passion for community-led development and loves seeing the positive changes within the Eastside community.

“If every one person does a little bit then we can achieve a great amount,” she says.

“We have a great community here.

People have such a sense of pride and everyone here wants nothing but good things for our community.”

The services and work offered by the community association are wide reaching says Leigh.

“People are more willing to ask for help when they need it, there is more collaboration and there’s strengthened relationships.”

An example of community aspirations and collaboration is the Eastside youth space. The project has been 10 years in the making, and was kicked off by a group of teenagers making a submission to the council for a new youth space. The space was officially opened in October.

The community has been involved in the whole project, from submissions and designs to planning and physical labour.

“The Eastside Lions have contributed more than 300 hours on building the stage, Red Stag Timber and PermaPine donated wood, Mitre10 Mega provided us with resources, we had 100 Mokoia

Intermediate students doing planting and so many members of the community pitching in to spread bark.

“It is great that so many people can look at the finished product and know that they were involved in this successful project.”

The fence around the youth space was taken down, a few weeks before the official opening.

“I saw an older resident walking her dog along the pathway and there were children playing in the park. It really is a community space that everyone can use and take ownership of.”

Mokoia Community Association piripoho navigator Jodi Kelly (pictured front cover) says the youth space is a great addition to the community.

“It’s great and it will be used by so many people, both young and old. It is awesome for the community to see what we can achieve.”

Rotorua East Lions Club president Linda Cousins says the club made a commitment to focus its service activities on the Eastside community and when they were invited to help with the youth space project it was a timely opportunity they had to accept.

“There is now a permanent structure to represent all the effort the club invested in the project. It has not only resulted in an asset that benefits the wider Rotorua community but it is one that the Club can be proud of.”

Going forward, the club will also be involved in building a toddlers’ bike track at the youth space.

“We have turned our attention to the

bike track, which is really a model traffic system for toddlers on trikes, scooters and small bikes.

Linda says one of the most impressive features of the youth space is the effort made to involve the potential users in its design.

“This has been focused on kids and young families as a result. While we were building the stage we watched groups of kids observing with interest the development of the complex taking shape, and a soon as access was permitted the facilities were in use. We are sure it will become the focus for family recreation for the community.”

Mokoia Community Association:

- Community Plunket rooms
- Counselling and social worker support
- Te reo Maori classes
- Workshops to improve spoken language for new migrants
- Support with theory component of Learner Driver’s Licence
- Computer courses to increase confidence and work skills around digital literacy
- Sporting and recreational activities for Eastside youth aged 12 to 20
- Share the Warmth campaign, collecting bedding and warm clothes for those in need

Get involved:

W: insideeastside.org.nz

E: community@mokoia.org.nz

P: 07 345 5971

From the Mayor

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The refresh of Rotorua's 2030 vision and the big moves and projects identified through that process are set to provide direction for development of Council's next Long-term Plan.

Mayor Steve Chadwick says the 2018-28 Long-term Plan (LTP) will be about delivering results for the benefit of the community, based on the direction Council has already set.

"The LTP will essentially be the delivery and funding plan to make it all happen," she says.

Elected members have been engaged in a series of workshops and these will guide development of a 2018-28 Long-term Plan discussion document which will go out for community feedback early next year.

"Development of a long-term plan is challenging – there is a lot to consider but I'm pleased with how discussions to-date have been progressing," the mayor says.

"I believe we have a strong base from which to develop a robust 2018-28 long-term plan that will find the right balance between the community's needs, expectations and aspirations, the challenges and costs involved in providing services and the public's willingness to pay."

"The Rotorua Way, which is the next chapter in our journey towards 2030 and which set the course for the next few years, focusses on the district's strengths and opportunities to build on those. That was work we did with input from a wide range of people across our community and our current annual plan progressed that further. It identified some "big moves" and key projects which won't necessarily be delivered this financial year, but which we will start working on.

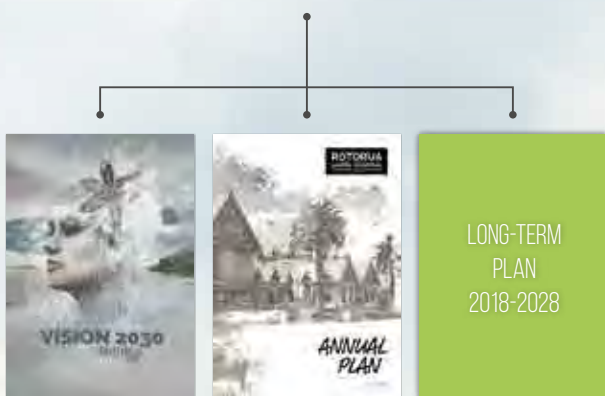


Mayor Steve Chadwick

"It's important that we stick to the direction we've already set to ensure we continue to progress – as a council, as a community and as a district.

"All of this will need to be considered for inclusion in the 2018-28 Long-term Plan and we will come to the community for feedback," Mayor Chadwick says.

TATAU TATAU WE TOGETHER



Have you had your say in shaping Rotorua for the future?

We are committed to ensuring that the local community can participate in the decisions that affect their lives and our environment. Go to rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk or rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai





Kristin Ross, holding baby Te Uruhuia Tuahine, with partner Hohepa Tuahine

Reo Rua

PRONUNCIATION IS KEY

Hohepa Tuahine and Kristin Ross get pretty excited when they hear people “having a really good crack” at pronunciation of Māori words.

The creators of the first range of Māori speaking dolls, who won this year’s Rotorua Business Innovation Award, live and breathe the language. It’s their children’s first language and is central to their business success.

The Rotorua couple are the creators of the Pipi Mā – Māori speaking dolls and won the Holland Beckett Law Innovation category at the Westpac Rotorua Business Excellence Awards last month. The judges were impressed by how creative and driven the couple are in business and their unwavering commitment to raise awareness about te reo Māori.

“It’s really awesome not just to be recognised for innovation within business but more so the language gets recognised because it’s a part of the foundations of what we actually do in terms of what we sell as a product,” says Hohepa.

The inspiration for the range was sparked by a desire to produce a Māori language animation programme of the four doll characters.

The couple say many cartoons in Māori which were on television in 2011 were existing overseas animations translated into te reo rangatira (Māori language), but the concept wasn’t widely supported back then.

“We had a concept, we had a Māori world view and we had four characters. We had an idea that maybe we should just make Māori speaking dolls first, because we can achieve that at this point in time and maybe that will convince people that there is a bit of strength there and then we could get social support and other Māori speaking families too because that was at the forefront of the whole design idea,” he says.

His partner, Kristin explains their journey into business came from their individual choice to learn Māori and enrich their personal lives.

Kristin encourages people to learn te reo and not to make excuses.

“It’s not until you make a decision as an individual to learn te reo Māori and not let anything be an excuse to you learning that you’re actually going to learn te reo Māori and fill that void.”

The pair is supportive of Bilingual Rotorua, saying it will help make it easier for their whānau/ family, whose first language is Māori.

“It makes us excited to grow speakers in the community so our kids can feel comfortable when they go to Pak’nSave and if someone says to them ‘kia ora, kei te pēhea koe?’ (kia ora, how are you?), my girl will just be rapt and will turn to me and say, ‘He Māori ia’ (They’re Māori), she gets really excited. She loves to hear the reo,” says Kristin.

One piece of advice Hohepa and Kristin offer to people wanting to support Bilingual Rotorua is to pronounce Māori words correctly because it shows respect for the language and culture.

“We’ve heard so many businesses are on board within Rotorua, there are so many schools and people and the community is really supportive of Bilingual Rotorua. So I suppose the next question is what are you going to do to show your support? I can’t stress enough that there is so much development in the expression to show effort in pronouncing local names correctly; Rotorua, Kuirau park and (most) of our street names are in te reo Māori and the bigger picture of that is that they’re tipuna (ancestors) of the iwi within Rotorua,” Kristin says.

Pronunciation tips:

Vowel	Say it like:	Vowel	Say it like:
a	apple	ā	far
e	egg	ē	bed
i	eat	ī	sheep
o	awful	ō	pork
u	put	ū	boot

Syllable	Say it like:	Syllable	Say it like:
Ta	d-ah (about)	tā	d-aar
Te	d-eh (enter)	Tē	d-ee (bed)
Ti	tee (t-shirt)	ī	sheep
To	daw	Tō	door
Tu	two	Tū	too (boot)

Rolling the 'r'	'Rr' rolls off the tip of the tongue – like a cat purring or like saying the word 'judder.'
Māori has two digraphs, which are the combined sounds of two consonants.	
Ng	Is similar to saying the word singer.
Wh	Like the English sound 'f.'

CR TANIA TAPSELL

Rotorua's youngest councillor Tania Tapsell leads Council's Sustainable living Portfolio, works at accounting firm Deloitte and is completing a Bachelor in Management Studies.

There is a strong youth focus in the work you do. Do you feel the youth voice is heard in local body politics?

Rotorua has great examples of youth voices resulting in positive change. For example the upgrades of Koutu, Western Heights, and Fordlands parks and reserves came from local kids making a submission.

What can young people do to have their voices heard and shape their future?

Although we try our best to promote opportunities for people to have their say, we still don't reach some people. It's important for everyone to sign up to newsletters and updates. Starting to get involved can feel a little daunting so my advice to youth wanting to make a change is to find yourself a mentor who has experience in that area. You will be surprised how happy they are to help.

You are lead Councillor for the Sustainability portfolio. What does the portfolio aim to achieve?

As well as focusing on environmental matters we also focus on being sustainable in economic, social and cultural areas. We have developed a sustainable living strategy – by the community, for the community. Using this as our starting point we have projects such as waste reduction, enhancing our playgrounds and natural environment, and supporting healthy homes.

In 2013 you became the youngest person to be elected as a councillor. What does that mean to you 4 years on?

It's a strong message that young people are capable of being the change they want to see. People are surprised when I say I'm 25 but I've always believed age doesn't define maturity or intelligence.

What else are you passionate about in terms of making a difference to Rotorua?

Our families are the backbone of our community and if we are going to make Rotorua a great place to live we need to ensure we have affordable housing,

a strong economy to grow jobs, and quality infrastructure to cater for our growing population.

What is your favourite "uniquely Rotorua" thing to do?

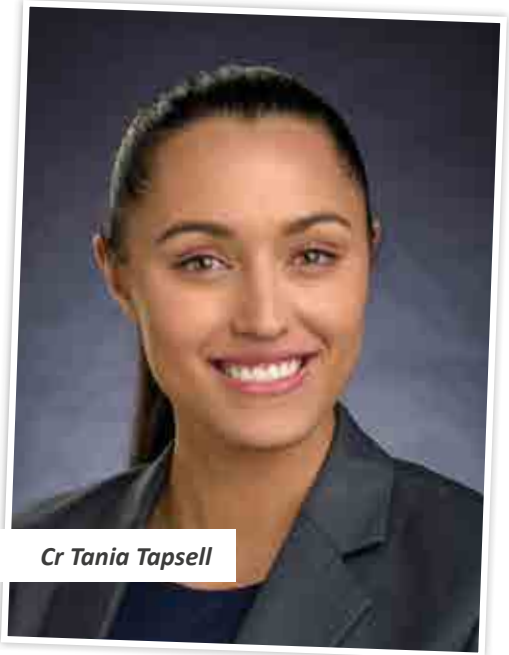
I love our natural environment. My favourite thing to do in Rotorua is spend time at our lakes, going fishing with family and eating freshly smoked trout, and of course enjoying a BBQ over summer.

How do you balance a career, tertiary study and being a councillor?

A busy lifestyle can be very challenging at times but I always remind myself that it is short-term pain for long-term gain. Time management is essential. And when things do get hard remind yourself that a negative mind will never give you positive results, focus on why you are doing it and what you want to achieve.

What advice would you give to someone keen to explore local body politics?

Make sure you know your stuff, make decisions that are best for the people you serve and never stop having a big heart.



Cr Tania Tapsell

For more information on the sustainable Living Portfolio, visit the Council website: rotorualakescouncil.nz/sustainableliving

Register for our e-panui and have your say on current consultations at: rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk or rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai



Photo Credit: MJGroves Media, 2017 Environmental School Speech Competition. Photo captured by student intern Maui Waiariki edited by Melanie Groves.

OUTSIDE THE WALLS

The doors may be closed but a dedicated team of Rotorua Museum docents are still showing off the beautiful building and stunning Government Gardens with free guided tours.

Rotorua Museum volunteer co-ordinator Julie Parsons says a good guide is one who has a passion for history, people and a commitment to studying the material provided.

"They must be able to tell a story in an engaging way and read people so that each tour is a fit for the visitors on that tour."

Weather permitting, the free guided tours run daily from in front of the Museum, at 11am and 2pm.

The tours take in the Museum grounds and people learn some of the interesting history of battles, buildings and the gardens which were transformed from a wilderness of scrub, hot pools and geysers into an oasis of Victorian charm.

Want to be a volunteer or a Government Gardens tour guide? Contact Julie Parsons on 07 351 7823 or email Julie.parsons@rotorualc.nz.



Bill Scott:

"I have been a guide with my wife Josie for the past eight years."

Josie Scott:

"It's about manaakitanga, telling people the story of Rotorua and carrying on our history."

Jill Muriwai:

"Doing the tours outside can be quite intimate. The groups tend to be smaller and they ask more questions."

Mavis Lammas:

"We have thought on our feet. When the museum had to close we had to adapt."

Heather Willis:

"Tours can range from half an hour to an hour and a half. It just depends on what people want to know and the questions they ask."

Julie Parsons:

"A good guide is one who has a passion for our history and a passion for people."



ENHANCING OUR PLACE



Jenny Baldwin



Jenny Baldwin sees her job as much more than simply gardening – she’s helping people to unwind in an often hectic world.

An avid gardener, Jenny is relaxed in the outdoors and greets us warmly – nau mai haere mai.

The expression on her face suggests that as she chats, her mind is ticking over the list of gardening, maintenance and landscaping jobs left on her list.

Jenny is Team Lead at Kuirau Park, managing a team of four for council-controlled organisation InfraCore which is contracted to maintain the city’s gardens. She speaks highly of her small team – they’re enthusiastic and get the job done. “I love what I do,” she says.

Jenny has worked as a city gardener for 28 years, learning what she knows on-the-job. She hopes what she and her team do uplifts and helps people to unwind.

“We have a lot of stress in our day to day lives. Kuirau Park is right in the city. It’s neat seeing the kids, who are amazed when they look through the fences at the park and see the bubbling mud. A lot of people gasp at the smell and what have you, but I think that is what makes Rotorua unique; our thermal landscape and our culture - it is pretty special.”

She smiles as she thinks about people visiting the park.

“You see a lot of people with their cameras, people posing next to sculptures and the beauty of the water and the flowering wisteria over the

footbridge. People are drawn to the beauty of those types of things.”

“It’s such a quiet place, you might hear the hum of the traffic but you are transported from, say, the CBD or from an office somewhere, to the park. You need to de-stress, just to catch your breath every now and then just to re-charge, even if it’s just for five minutes,” says Jenny.

She loves Rotorua because of its environment, the beautiful city and lakes and the friendly people, who she describes as open and outgoing.

“I think the schools are an asset to Rotorua as well. My girl Elly (8-years-old) is at Glenholme School and it’s just the cultural aspect that she’s learning there. She’s coming home and teaching me the Māori language and waiata (songs). I really respect that, I think that’s wonderful.”

Jenny says it makes her appreciate what she does as a gardener.

“It’s given me a better understanding about the land that has been gifted. We’ve got (Mataatua) Marae just over there and just being respectful that we’re lucky to be able to develop these areas for public use and that, it’s like a privilege to be a caretaker and trying to improve everything to make it safe and beautiful for the community.”

- InfraCore manages the Queen’s Drive Nursery in the Government Gardens
- About 85,000 flowering plants are planted in 122 garden beds in the CBD, lakefront and Government Gardens every spring and autumn
- InfraCore also plants about 3000 roses in 108 flower beds across the CBD, Lakefront, Murray Linton Appreciation Gardens, Government Gardens and the Rotorua Cemetery
- InfraCore maintains 106 flower baskets in Ngongotaha three times a year
- About 70,000 tulip and daffodil bulbs are planted each autumn
- The Rotorua nursery supplies bedding plants for 10 other districts including Tauranga, Whakatāne, Matamata, Morrinsville, Te Aroha and New Plymouth

Jenny’s summer garden tips:

Water your gardens in the evening:

- It saves water

Your garden will retain water

Mulch your vegetable and flower gardens:

- It helps to reduce weeds
- Mulch also retains moisture, which is good for your plants

De-head plants, especially roses and perennials, that have flowered:

- It also encourages future growth



Making Rotorua home

CELEBRATING DIFFERENT CULTURES

Behind the counter of her colourful café Lily Joy Al Omari greets her customers with a smile and chats to them as if she has known them forever.

Originally from the Philippines, Lily moved to Rotorua from Saudi Arabia 18 months ago and hasn't looked back.

"As soon as I stepped off the plane and the breeze hit my face I knew I was home. It's hard to describe but it was a strong feeling."

Having lived in one of the wealthiest countries in the world, Lily admits it wasn't the place for her.

"Money really can't buy happiness. You have everything there but really you only have material things.

"Moving here has been a struggle and at times it was really hard, but seeing my children thrive and feeling so connected to this place has made it all worthwhile."

A nurse for 28 years, Lily studied health management at Toi Ohomai but has now opened the Teal Kitchen café on Hinemoa Street. She has volunteered at local organisations including Civil Defence and Dress for Success and she wants to be as involved in the community as she can.

"The people here are so welcoming and supportive, they are the best part of Rotorua.

"I want to be positive, a role model, a leader. I want to help people."

Lily has been "adopted" by a couple who she calls her Kiwi mum and dad and she has her extended family through the Rotorua Multicultural Council, where she is the Council's representative for its Filipino members.

The Rotorua Multicultural Council was established in 1996 by then Rotorua Mayoress Sandy Hall and has since grown to hundreds of members.

The group's success was recognised at this year's Westpac Rotorua Business Awards, when it won the Community Organisation award.

Executive officer Waitsu Wu describes the organisation as a bridge which connects migrants to the Rotorua community.

The Multicultural Council works alongside migrants to help them feel like they belong and contribute to the community, as well as celebrating their own culture.

It is all about people, Waitsu says. "We are all very proud to win the award, but we do it for the people."

Waitsu knows how difficult it can be to settle into life here, having moved from Taiwan 30 years ago.

"New Zealand is such a multicultural place but it not easy to adopt the New Zealand culture and lifestyle and we help people as much as we can."

The Multicultural Council encourages its members to be active in the community and volunteer for events and organisations as well as holding several workshops and events to help migrants gain skills.

To find out more about the Rotorua Multicultural Council or to contact the organisation go to: multiculturalnz.org.nz/rotorua



Waitsu Wu




Lily Joy Al Omari

PLACES TO BE THIS SUMMER!



Lake Rotorua

 Lakefront to Sanatorium Reserve Walkway

 **Glo Festival:**
31 Dec 2017
Lakefront



 Kuirau Park

ROTORUA PUBLIC HOSPITAL

LAKEFRONT


VILLAGE GREEN



Volcanic Playground

WHAKAUE



 Eat Street: dining and entertainment

PUKAKI ST

AQUATIC CENTRE



Aquatic Centre

AWA ST


QUEENS

HAUPAPA ST

POLICE STATION

PUKUATUA ST



 Thursdays
5pm-9pm

HINEMOA ST

 **ROTORUA FARMERS MARKET**
Sundays
9am-1pm
Te Manawa

ERUERA ST

AMOHAU ST

TUTANEKAI ST

PERERIKA ST

 Central Mall



ELIZABETH ST

RECYCLING CENTRE

VICTORIA ST

TE NGAE RD

RCH ST

KING ST

F ST

ST

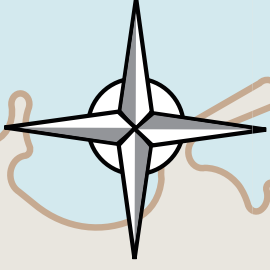
NI ST

ST

ST

ST

NORTH



Okere Falls

IRANGA

IRANGA (main road)

Otago

Lake Rotoiti

Hamurana

Okere Falls

33

Mourea

Lake Rotokawa

MOTUTU GOLF COURSE

Te Ngae

Lake Rotorua



Government Gardens



Redwoods



Boyes Beach

Lake Ōkataina

Lake Ōkareka



Arts Village

Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake)

Tikitapu



Lake Rotokakahi (Green Lake)

Tumunui



Lake Tarawera

Lake Tarawera

Lake Ōkaro

AMOHAU ST



Te Manawa – the Heart of the City

ROTORUA'S FIRST SHARED ZONE

Revitalising the inner city has been a Council priority for about 10 years.

Council recognises that a vibrant and exciting inner city is a major factor in attracting people, activities, events and development to the district. Common around the world, including New Zealand, shared zones prioritise the needs of pedestrians.



Pedestrians

- > Pedestrians have right of way within Te Manawa but must not directly hinder traffic.
- > Without typical streetscape (kerbs and footpaths) to rely on, users become more aware of their surroundings and take greater care



Drivers

- > Motorists must give way to pedestrians. It is important to reduce your speed to walking pace (about 10kmph).
- > The roadway is purposefully narrow to slow drivers, with street furniture added to help direct traffic flow.



Bike riders, scooters & skateboarders

- > Bikes and other wheeled recreational devices are considered vehicles in a shared zone and must give way to pedestrians.
- > Follow the directional signage to stay on the Green Corridor cycleway.
- > Be respectful and courteous of all other users.



Rotorua Library and Children's Health Hub

TE AKA MAURI



Te Aka Mauri, Rotorua's new Library and Children's Health Hub, will be opening soon. A collaboration between Rotorua Lakes Council and the Lakes District Health Board, Te Aka Mauri will see modern library services co-located with outpatient child health services in one community facility, opening out to an extended, revamped Jean Batten Square.

The name for the facility, Te Aka Mauri, was gifted by the project's cultural reference group, Nga Mahinga Toi. Te Aka means the vine or interconnection and Mauri means life force or essence. The name reflects the shared vision to create a facility of excellence to advance community wellbeing and understanding.

The unique collaboration has attracted the interest of external funders who have granted more than \$1m towards special features and equipment for the library and Jean Batten Square.

Te Aka Mauri will operate seven days a week from its opening and staff are looking forward to being able to offer a range of new services and programmes.

[Find out more about Te Aka Mauri, details about opening celebrations and new library hours online rotorualakescouncil.nz/teakamauri](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz/teakamauri)





TOP FIVE PLACES FOR A WHĀNAU-FRIENDLY RIDE:

1 Tahī Mokopuna Trail

Designed specifically for families with children learning to ride, this is a 3.6km long trail in the heart of the Redwoods forest. With no steep hills or sharp corners it's great for all ages.

2 Rua Ngongotahā Cycleway

Venture out of the city with a trip to Ngongotahā on the off-road cycleway. The 8km sealed shared path runs along the old railway line from Lake Road to the lake edge at Ngongotahā domain.

3 Toru Green Corridor

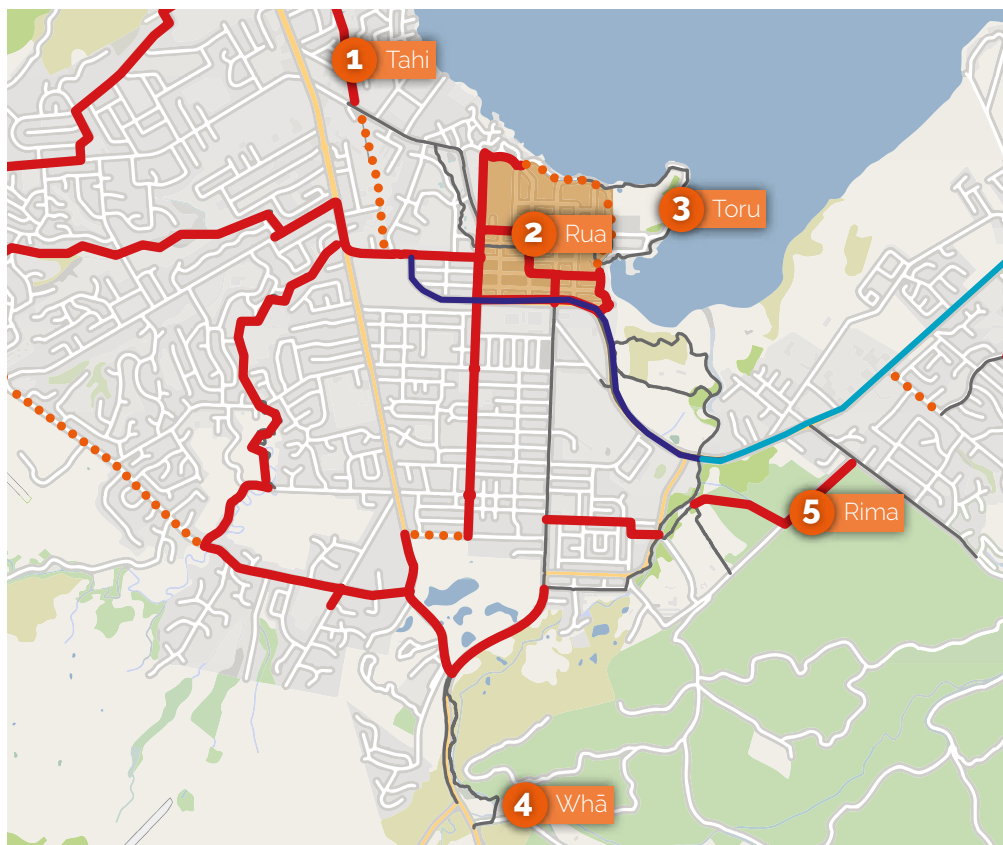
Connecting Kuirau Park to Government Gardens, the Green Corridor meanders through the inner city, giving riders the opportunity to check out the shops or stop for a picnic at Te Manawa. The mixed surface track is 1.8km long and suitable for all ages.

4 Whā Sulphur Point – Te Ara Ahi

This portion of New Zealand's national cycleway ventures through Rotorua's thermal wonderland, exploring the picturesque sulphur flats and wildlife sanctuary along the edge of Lake Rotorua.

5 Rima Low grade trails – Waipa Mountain Bike Park

There are plenty of family friendly trails close to the Waipa Mountain Bike carpark. Start out on the Grade 1 Kids Loop and grow your confidence as a family, moving up the grades as you go.



Try out the newly opened Hemo Gorge roundabout tunnel on your way to the Waipa trails!

- Cycleways under review
- New cycleways receiving urban cycleways funding
- Existing cycleways
- NZTA SH30A Revocation Project
- NZTA Eastern Corridor Project

CyWay on track!

The 11 project CyWay programme is halfway through at three year plan to construct a cycleway network that connects neighbourhoods to schools, shops, the inner city and recreational spaces.

Finished and ready to ride:

- > Morey Street/Brent Road – an off and on-road cycleway connecting schools, retirement villages and childcare centres in Rotorua's eastern suburbs.
- > Ward Avenue/McIntyre Reserve – a direct route from Fenton Street to Whakarewarewa Forest and Te Ara Ahi national cycleway.
- > Inner City Link – Hospital Hill – connecting the inner city, lakefront,

Kuirau Park and Rotorua Primary.

- > Springfield cycleway – phase 1 – a safer route for biking in the southern suburbs. This cycleway links to Ōtonga School, Toi Ohomai and Waipa Mountain Bike Park via Hemo Gorge.

Underway:

- > Springfield cycleway phase 2 – the remaining portion from Springfield shops to Devon Street West.
- > Western Heights Link – linking seven schools in the Western Heights area the 5.3km shared path will create safer connections to key community destinations.
- > Ranolf Link – currently in the detailed

design phase this link will connect two existing cycleways via the inner city, the lakefront and three schools catering for more than 1000 children.

Proposed:

There are five proposed cycleways in the programme including two off-road paths:

- > Utuhina Stream Link
- > Linton Park Link
- > Whakarewarewa Forest Link
- > Ngongotahā Link
- > Ngongotahā Cycle Trail to Skyline Mountain Bike Park

Find out more about these projects at cyway.nz.

FAMILIES THAT RIDE TOGETHER, STAY TOGETHER



It's fun, it's cheap and the kids love it

Rotorua local Selina Ihaia has a large family and a small car but that isn't a problem for her. It just means the family gets to spend more time together on their bikes.

With summer approaching and school holidays just around the corner, entertaining kids can be hard work.

Not for Selina. She rides every day with her four children Ashlee (7), Joseph (7), Colin (3) and the baby of the family Lance (1), who rides in his trolley behind mum or dad.

"We often go for rides to visit friends or the kids like the Mokopuna Track in the Redwoods. They love the space at Puketawhero Park because it's new and exciting and they have the pump track," she says.

With more and more family friendly bike facilities like cycleways and pump tracks popping up around Rotorua, getting the kids outside and active is a lot easier.

Selina says there are some myths about bike riding that might become barriers for other parents who want to give it a go.

"Cost would be a myth, but we have done everything mega budget. Lance's trolley came from TradeMe and I just bought a new bike for Ashley from a Facebook buy, swap, sell page.

"I do choose to spend a bit more on good quality helmets but the bikes and the rest of the gear that goes with it costs next to nothing."

Organisation doesn't seem to be an issue for the family either.

"I find the kids are far more likely to want to go somewhere and get ready quickly if they know they are going out on their bike," Selina says.

Following the Government's decision in 2014 to dedicate more than \$400million to a nationwide urban cyclways fund, Rotorua Lakes Council is half-way through its 11 project CyWay programme with three cycleways completed, two under construction and three to start in the new year.

In June this year urban cycleway counters around Rotorua recorded an average daily increase of 42.7% on the same time last year.

Council has also supported the establishment of the Bikes in Schools programme in two eastside schools. The programme aims to give as many children as possible the knowledge and confidence to ride safely on their own.

Selina says more people biking will hopefully raise awareness and create more respect for bikers on the road.

"I'd like to see less road rage when it comes to drivers versus riders. I want to know that my kids will be safe when they go out for a ride."

"I'm not sure if some parents are embarrassed to give it a go, or maybe think it's too hard, but it really works for our family," she says.

"It's fun, it's cheap and the kids love it."



PLAN CHANGE 5: SIGNS AND MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES



Council is proposing changes to the District Plan provisions controlling signs.

The design and large numbers of signs can adversely affect the amenity of an area and the approach in the current District Plan is to control the design and location of signs. Most signs are permitted, but resource consent is required where they do not relate to the business or activity that is occurring on the site.

The proposed changes continue this approach but provide a higher level of protection of amenity within residential and rural areas, and within the industrial entranceways to Rotorua city.

Council aims to further support businesses and community groups' ability to advertise through other initiatives. Council is progressing a project that will designate up to seven sites around the district where event organisers can display information about upcoming events. Sites have been investigated in prominent locations around Rotorua.

In addition, Council is providing funding towards ongoing development of the 'Around Town' app. This is another vehicle specifically designed to enable

community groups and businesses to advertise activities and events.

Council is also proposing various miscellaneous changes to the District Plan. The main direction changes cover issues such as temporary stockpiling, parking of heavy vehicles in residential areas and subdivision connectivity provisions. Various other minor changes are also proposed.

These changes are outlined on Council's Let's Talk– Korero Mai online engagement platform.

Public Submissions invited on Proposed Changes to Rotorua District Plan

Plan Change 5: Signs and Miscellaneous Changes

Summary: Council is proposing changes to the District Plan provisions relating to signs, earthworks, temporary stockpiling, subdivision connectivity, parking of heavy and light vehicles, and heritage inventory. Changes include correcting errors, adding cross references and amendments to provide clarification, and to improve the implementation of the District Plan.

Plan Change 6: Holiday Rentals

Summary: Council is proposing to include new provisions in the District Plan relating to Holiday Rentals (this includes houses that are used for short term holiday

accommodation, e.g. houses let on Book-a-Bach, Air BnB and other similar sites).

The plan change will affect Holiday Rentals within the Residential and Rural Zones.

More Information on both plan changes

If you would like to have a say on the proposed changes you can make a submission. Full information on the plan changes are available as follows:

- > rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk or rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai
- > Customer Service, Rotorua Lakes Council, 1061 Haupapa Street
- > Rotorua Library, 1238 Pukuatua Street

Closing date for Submissions:

Friday 12 January 2018.

Geoff Williams, Chief Executive.

On behalf of Rotorua Lakes Council.

**ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL**
Te kaunihera o ngā roto o Rotorua

PLAN CHANGE 6: HOLIDAY RENTALS

Recent issues related to the impact of holiday rentals on surrounding neighbourhoods has prompted proposed changes to Rotorua's District Plan.

Holiday rentals are houses that are let out for short term holiday accommodation, typically on websites such as Book-a-Bach, Air BnB and Holiday Houses.

The proposed changes would require holiday rental operators to apply for resource consent if:

- More than 12 people stay on site per night;
- If there is inadequate car parking (one car park needs to be provided for every four guests).

The intention is to address houses being let to large groups and causing issues relating to noise and parking and

changing the character of an area.

Properties will need to continue to comply with current District Plan noise standards and the Regional Council's on-site effluent treatment where required.

Most holiday rentals will not require resource consent as they cater for 12 or fewer guests and have not prompted complaints to Council.

If the plan change is approved in its current form property owners catering for more than 12 guests will have the option of either reducing their guest numbers to meet the District Plan Standards or applying for resource consent.

The plan change will affect holiday rental operators within Rotorua's residential and rural zones. No changes are proposed for properties within the Lakes A Zone (including lakes Okareka and Tarawera) because the Lakes A rules of the District Plan will be reviewed in future.

The proposed changes are open for submissions until 12 January, after which there will be the opportunity for further submissions, and a hearing before decisions are made.

Any changes adopted will apply to both existing and new holiday rental operators.

[See public notice on previous page.](#)

How to find out more

If you are interested in, or affected by, the proposed District Plan changes go to Council's online consultation platform Let's Talk - Korero mai rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk or rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai for information about what's proposed and to find out how to have your say.

Submissions are open to all members of the public. If required following the close of the current submissions period, further submissions will be called during the first quarter of next year with hearings expected to be in the second quarter of 2018.

 **Let's talk | Korero mai**

REGISTER to get involved!



COUNCIL ENDS 2016/17 YEAR BETTER THAN LONG-TERM FORECAST

Rotorua Lakes Council finished the 2016/17 financial year better than was anticipated in the 2015-25 Long-term Plan.

That was despite a challenging year which was marked by unexpected events – the closure of Rotorua Museum at the beginning of what was anticipated to be a record busy season and damage caused to roads by rainstorms.

An operating surplus was offset by significant reduction in revenue due largely to the museum closure, and additional costs were incurred due to weather-related damage to roads and through the changeover to new waste collection services. Council also purchased a previously leased museum storage facility to save costs in the longer term.

Council achieved a high work completion rate which impacted on capital expenditure while high demand for consenting services required additional staff resources and funding which had been allocated to 2017/18 for the library building redevelopment was brought forward due to quick progress on the project.

Annual plans and annual reports fit within the context of the Long-term Plan which, in turn, follows the direction set by the district's 2030 vision.

The long-term plan had anticipated \$6m in borrowings across the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years but there were no new borrowings in 2015/16 and \$3.1m in 2016/17. Council's total debt is within its debt ceiling and remains lower than was anticipated in the 2015-25 Long-term Plan.

Council's 2017 Annual Report provides a summary of the organisation's performance for the 2016/17 financial year (to the end of June 2017).

You can view the 2016/17 Annual Report (and previous reports) online at: rotorualakescouncil.nz/publications

This is where you will also find the 2017/18 Annual Plan which sets out what Council is doing this financial year.



SUMMER TIME IS LAKES TIME! MAKE SURE IT'S A SAFE TIME

Boaties...prep your boat, check your gear, know the rules before heading out on the water this summer.

- ⚓ Service your engine, check and change the fuel, check the battery and give your boat a good once-over
- ⚓ Ensure life jackets are still fit-for-purpose and you have enough on board, get inflatables serviced
- ⚓ Ensure you have more than one way to call for help that works when wet like a cell phone in a waterproof bag
- ⚓ Make sure you know the rules and understand local requirements
- ⚓ Look out for others and slow near the shore
- ⚓ Jetskiers...make sure it's registered – that's now a legal requirement
- ⚓ Wear a life jacket
- ⚓ Slow down near others in the water and near shore
- ⚓ Be considerate of other water users
- ⚓ Waterskiing...remember, it takes 3 to ski
- ⚓ Wear a life jacket
- ⚓ You must have someone on board watching the skier at all times
- ⚓ Reduce your speed to 5 knots when 200m of the shore or 50m of another boat/person in the water

Keep our lakes and reserves beautiful

- ⚓ Please don't litter
- ⚓ If the bins are full, take your rubbish home with you
- ⚓ Report any problems or broken equipment to Rotorua Lakes Council (07) 348 3199

Go to Bay of Plenty Regional Council's website for more tips and information:
boprc.govt.nz/safeboating





ROTORUA

MUDTOPIA

FESTIVAL

KICK-START SUMMER WITH THREE MASSIVE DAYS OF MUD AND MUSIC.

Rotorua's inaugural Mudtopia Festival takes place at Rotorua Racecourse from 1 to 3 December. Inspired by the famous Boryeoung Mud Festival this event will have a uniquely Rotorua flavour with 350,000 litres of mud being shipped in from a local quarry.

Get down and dirty in the Mud Arena, challenge your mates to Mud Games and see superstar music acts Shapeshifter, Peking Duk and Chores at the R18 Mud Stage on Saturday night.

Find out more at mudtopia.com or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/mudtopia



Rotorua's New Year's Eve Party

The perfect New Year's destination for families, Glo Festival is a great night full of fun, free entertainment for all ages.

With food stalls, visual art, music and TWO fireworks displays, there will be plenty to keep the kids busy.

Bring a blanket and a picnic and settle in to celebrate under the stars.

Programme

- > 6pm – Arrive and get comfy
- > 6.30pm – Children's movie
- > 8pm – Party in the Park family entertainment begins on the big stage
- > 9.15pm – Party in the Park family entertainment concludes, move to lakefront
- > 9.20pm – Fireworks
- > 9.30pm – Fireworks conclude
- > 10pm – Entertainment continues on the big stage
- > 11.30pm – Entertainment concludes on big stage, move to lakefront
- > 11.50pm – Countdown to midnight
- > Midnight – Fireworks

Glo Festival is an alcohol-free event. For more information check out facebook.com/rotoruanglofestival

What's on

Your district, your events



MARKETS

Rotorua Farmers Market

When: Every Sunday, 9am – 1pm

Where: Te Manawa – the Heart of the City

Rotorua Night Market

When: Every Thursday, 5pm – 9pm

Where: Tutanekai Street (between Te Manawa and Haupapa Street)

For wet weather cancellations follow the market Facebook pages.



GIANT 2W GRAVITY ENDURO SERIES

Take part or enjoy watching the excitement from amongst the trees. This summer series is great for social riders and top gun competitors.

Race 2: 9 December

Race 3: 10 February

Race 4: 14 April

Find out more at 2w.co.nz



LIGHTING THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Come down to the Rotorua Night Market and stay on for the special lighting of the Christmas tree at Te Manawa.

When: Thursday 30 November at dusk

Where: Te Manawa – the Heart of the City



GALLERIA EXHIBITION

Autauhinerā: Sisterhood – Legacies of the Te Arawa Women's Health League. Celebrate 80 years of brave Te Arawa women.

When: opens Friday 1 December (week days from 8am – 4.30pm)

Where: Rotorua Lakes Council Galleria (first floor)

The Galleria will be closed for Christmas holidays from 22 December to 8 January.



ROTORUA CHRISTMAS PARADE & FESTIVAL

This year an exciting festival has been added to the parade with a mix of interactive entertainment and activities for the kids, food vendors and a Christmas movie on the big screen.

When: Saturday 2 December

4pm – Parade & Festival start

5.15pm – Prizegiving

6pm – Family Christmas move

Where: Village Green – Rotorua lakefront



GLO FEST – ROTORUA'S NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

The perfect New Year's destination for families, Glo Festival is a great night full of fun, free entertainment suited for all ages. Start off with a children's movie followed by music and entertainment on the big stage and two fireworks displays.

When: Sunday 31 December from 6pm

Where: Village Green – Rotorua lakefront

Glo Fest is an alcohol-free event.

For more information go to facebook.com/rotoruaglofestival



ECOMIST BLUE LAKE MULTISPORT FESTIVAL

A series of events over two days including a 'reverse aquathon', triathlons for kids and adults, an open water swim and a fun run/walk.

When: Auckland Anniversary Weekend- 27/28 January 2018

Where: Lake Tikitapu (Blue Lake) Rotorua



MUDTOPIA – TICKETS AVAILABLE

Party, pamper or play at Rotorua's inaugural 3 day Mudtopia Festival. Tickets on sale now at mudtopia.com

When: 1 – 3 December

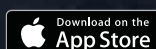
Where: Arawa Park Racecourse, Fenton Street

AROUND TOWN

WHAT'S ON IN ROTORUA.

Everything in one place: Live music & concerts, markets, family activities, clubs, sports games, business networking and more. This is your guide to know what's happening in Rotorua, a free app for both Android and Apple.

aroundtown.co.nz



ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Rotorua Lakes Council,
Customer Centre
Phone: (07) 348 4199

rotorualakescouncil.nz

[RotoruaLakesCouncil](https://facebook.com/RotoruaLakesCouncil)

[RotoruaLakesCouncil](https://instagram.com/RotoruaLakesCouncil)

[rotoruaCouncil](https://twitter.com/rotoruaCouncil)

Have your say online for public consultations:
rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk
rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai