

ROTORUA-TATAU TATAU

Our people, our culture, our place, our Rotorua

Issue 3 | February 2017

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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 āhuetanga katoa.

He iwi auaha tātau e tuku nei i tā tātau e ako nei.

E kokiri nei tātau i te angitu, i te hihiri me ngā rerekētanga maha.

E kaha tautoko nei tātau i **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.




With its many lakes, active environment and multitude of activities, Rotorua is a great place for whanau (families) – locals and visitors alike.


In this issue of our magazine we put the focus on whānau, exploring some of the wonderful free family-friendly activities on offer as well as upcoming events and profiling community leaders and local organisations contributing to the growth and wellbeing of our whānau and our rohe (district).

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 rotorualakescouncil.nz

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

 **Let's talk
Kōrero mai**

REGISTER

to get involved!



Have your say online

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



LEGEND OF THE LOST TIKI

Said to be the home of a lost tiki from the neck of the daughter of a high born chief, Lake Tikitapu (also known as the Blue Lake) is named after the sacred treasure that is believed to be hiding somewhere beneath its waters.

A firm favourite with locals and visitors, Lake Tikitapu is a popular spot year-round. Whether you prefer running, biking or walking around it, rowing across it, swimming in it or skiing on it, the blue waters of Lake Tikitapu hold something for everyone.

Sheena Searle and her whānau/family are regulars at Tikitapu, enjoying the walks as well as the water activities. "Sometimes we bring [the kids] in the evening and have a swim and then we cook up some sausages on the barbecue," she says.

The Ronalds, who hail from Hamilton, spend a week or two in Rotorua every year and love all the activities on offer with Tikitapu a favourite place to cool off after a full day of activities.

About Tikitapu

- > It was formed approximately 13,500 years ago
- > 150 hectares in size with a maximum depth of 27.5 metres

- > Unlike most other lakes there is no surface outlet (stream or river) that drains from Lake Tikitapu. It is assumed it drains underground toward Rotokakahi (Green Lake) or Lake Tarawera.

- > The lake's blue appearance is due to white rhyolite and pumice in the lake bed

Facilities

- > Two barbeque areas with seating
- > Playground
- > Boat ramp and ski lane
- > Two public toilets
- > Walking/running tracks
- > Access to mountainbiking tracks



Tangaroa Treanor, Rotorua

I like playing around with my brother and going on the boat.

Triston Conwell, Rotorua

At the lake I like to go rowing in my boat. I can even do jumps on the skis!

Tiaki Treanor, Rotorua

In the summer I like to go swimming and play on my slip and slide at home.

Sheena Searle, Rotorua

It's a really good place to go walking or running or bring the kids for a swim and have lunch.

Long Term Plan

COLOUR YOUR FUTURE



E nga iwi puta noa i to tatau rohe o Rotorua

Tena koutou katoa

This year Council will adopt a new long-term plan and we'll be coming to the community for input.

The challenge is to balance the need to maintain and improve existing assets and infrastructure while at the same time catering for growth and investing in the future.

Do you have the confidence in Rotorua to invest in the future of our district and our people? We have an aspirational vision for our district. Are we going to follow through on it to make it a reality?

These are confronting questions Council will soon be asking as we work towards a 2018-28 Long-term Plan (LTP).

Twenty five years ago we considered the likes of our aquatic centre, convention centre, lakefront and CBD to be excellent, modern amenities that met our needs.

That's not the case today and our community needs to decide what standard of facilities to provide for current and future generations. How important is it that the young people of today and tomorrow share the same quality of community assets we enjoyed? It's a conversation we need to have.

Councillors, Te Tatau o Te Arawa and community board members are already working towards a draft long-term plan and we'll come to you with some of these questions to help us in our decision-making.

Prudent financial management remains a focus and we continue to make a concerted effort to ensure Council is efficient, effective and aligned to the current and future needs and aspirations of the district.

Our LTP discussion needs to look at how we will fund the work needed to move Rotorua forward and provide what our community values. It will be about investing in the right things. There's no question Rotorua faces some challenges and these are things we need to discuss as a community, tatau tatau – we together.

Hon Steve Chadwick (JP), Rotorua Mayor

How it all fits together:

VISION 2030

Rotorua 2030 is our district's long term vision which sets seven high level goals for our district.



VISION 2030 The ROTORUA way

Rotorua 2030 – The Rotorua Way is a refresh of the 2030 vision which defines the district's key strengths and identifies opportunities to help build on those.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF ROTORUA

Our district's spatial plan will guide how Rotorua will look in future – where development will go, what type of development and how much. Expected to be adopted in June 2018, it will define the future shape of our district.

COLOUR.YOUR.FUTURE

The 2018-28 Long-term Plan will provide the "colour". It will be the funding and delivery plan to help us achieve the 2030 vision through investing in the future while also maintaining and/or improving what we have now.

We look forward to hearing from the community during the long-term plan consultation phase during March and April this year.

Consultation dates, times, places and methods will be promoted and advertised in various ways including on Council's website rotorualakescouncil.nz where you'll also be able to find all relevant information.

The finalised Long-term Plan will be adopted at the end of June.

The plan affects everyone. Make sure you have your say.



Rotorua Library and Children's Health Hub

OUR REVAMPED LIBRARY AND JEAN BATTEN COMMUNITY PARK ARE OPEN!

Check out the new facilities, new features and new services and programmes on offer.

What's new?

The library building, Te Aka Mauri, has been given a complete makeover and shares space with Lakes District Health Board outpatient child services.

The adjoining Jean Batten park has been extended and turned into a new community space including a playground. A new raised crossing provides a safe zone for crossing and drop-offs.

The name Te Aka Mauri was gifted to the building by the library and child health hub project cultural reference group, Nga Mahinga Toi. Te Aka means the vine

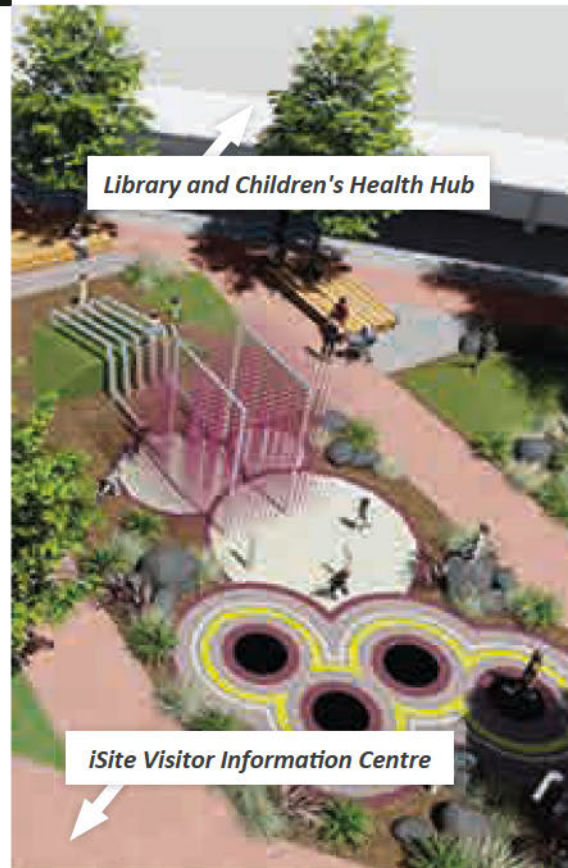
or interconnection and Mauri means life force or essence.

The name reflects the shared vision to create a facility of excellence to advance community wellbeing and understanding.

External funders have granted more than \$1m towards special features and equipment for the library and the park.

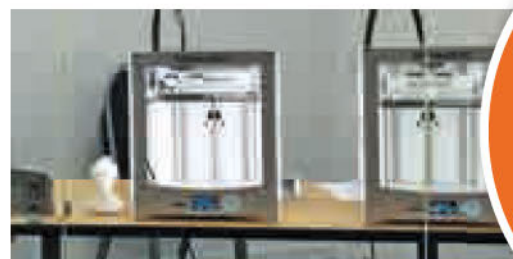
The library is now open seven days a week and offering a range of new services and programmes.

Find out more online
rotorualibrary.govt.nz



Library and Children's Health Hub

iSite Visitor Information Centre



Go into the draw to win one of two tech tours at Te Aka Mauri.

The tour will include a look into the world of 3D printing with a chance to make your own 3D model and a private session putting together and operating an mBot robot in the Makerspace area.

Enter by emailing to:
info@rotorualc.nz and tell us what

you think of our new magazine Rotorua-Tatau Tatau. Include your full name, phone number and email address so we can contact the tour winners. Winners of the prizes will also get the opportunity to feature in the next edition of Rotorua-Tatau Tatau.

The competition is open to families or individuals. Tour activities are suitable for children eight years and over.



Summer time fun

FREE WHĀNAU FUN

It's never been easier to get kids to learn about nature and explore their local parks and reserves thanks to several activities which have taken off around the region.

Activities which encourage children to explore their surroundings are more popular than ever, with initiatives like Rock Hunting, Geocaching and Toyota Kiwi Guardians prompting families to get out, solve clues and find treasures.

Rock hunting

Rock hunting is an activity which can start at home. Participants paint or decorate rocks and then leave them in popular walking tracks or public spaces for others to find.

Rotorua mum Sonia Foote takes part in the activity with her three children. They belong to the #RotoRocks page on Facebook, where members are encouraged to post photos of their rocks and also rocks they have found and re-hidden. Typically, rocks are tagged with the town or city they originated from.

Sonia says Rotorua Rocks is all about spreading a little happiness, making memories and uplifting others as well as being a great way for families to get out and explore Rotorua's local parks, playgrounds and forest trails.

"We stumbled on rock hunting when we were on holiday in Palmerston North. It was the first town in NZ to start the rock hunting craze.

"I love the fact that rock hunting combines some creativity, pay it forward, family fun, and the outdoors. It has been really neat for us. We love the painting and the idea of leaving things for others to find and enjoy. The hunting is of course very fun and exciting. It is also awesome to get out and explore different trails, bush, gardens and play areas in our city.

Sonia says she is glad the activity has become popular in Rotorua because it is "such an accessible" activity for everyone.

"Even those who may not have the resources to participate in the rock creation, can still take part by finding and re-hiding rocks," she says.

"It is also extremely cool when you see your own rocks, or most especially your children see their own rocks, being found and photographed by others and shared on the Facebook page. They get such a kick out of it."

Sonia says it is important to encourage your children not to "expect" to find a rock-sometimes they may not.

"Encourage them to feel the joy of leaving rocks for others, knowing someone will be so excited to find them. Once you set your rocks free you may never see them again, but that's part of the game too."

Popular places to find and hide #RotoRocks:

- 1) **The Mokopuna Track** is a great walk for families with small kids. Beginning from the left of the Redwoods i-SITE & Visitor Centre carpark, it is suitable for pushchairs with native trees and low branches to hide and find rocks. While rock hunting in the Redwoods, you can also try to find the fairy grotto, enter the forest opposite Highfield Place and see if the fairies are there.
- 2) **The Government Gardens** has plenty of open spaces to run, hide and find rocks. Keep a look out around the beautifully planted gardens and historic buildings such as the Blue Baths, Te Runanga Tearooms and the Band Rotunda.
- 3) **Kuirau Park** has one of the most popular playgrounds in Rotorua, with play equipment for children of all ages. There are several tracks winding through the geothermal areas of the park with lots to excite young minds while they search.

For more information visit: [facebook.com/groups/rotorocks](https://www.facebook.com/groups/rotorocks)

Rotorua is the perfect place for families to get out and get active.



Amelia and Christian with a selection of hand painted rocks



Sonia's children (from left: Amelia, Christian and Theo) rock hunting in the forest





Geocaching

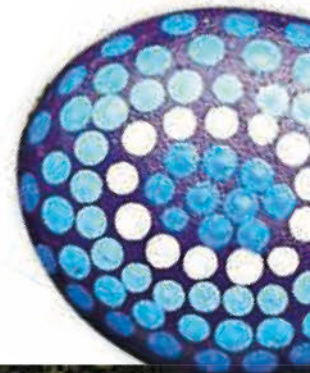
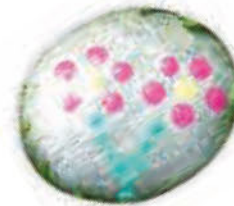
Geocaching is an outdoor adventure where players use a free mobile app or a GPS device to find cleverly hidden containers.

People around the world take part in geocaching as a way to explore their surroundings.

There are hundreds of geocaching sites in Rotorua and essentially, it is a game that reveals a world beyond the everyday, where the possibility of a new discovery hides under park benches, in the forest and probably a short walk from where you are right now. The containers could be hidden anywhere.

There are about 3 million active geocachers worldwide.

For more information visit: [🌐 geocaching.com](https://geocaching.com)



DOC Toyota Kiwi Guardians

Toyota Kiwi Guardians is aimed at helping kids connect with nature by encouraging them to go on self-guided adventures and earn rewards.

Department of Conservation Rotorua supervisor community Caraline Abbott says that while kids are outside enjoying fresh air, having fun and creating memories; they're also building good conservation habits.

"Ultimately, we want Kiwi kids to become guardians of the land and sea."

Those taking part follow clues which lead them to the Guardian Post. This has a code, which enables them to earn a Guardians medal.

"DOC and Toyota launched this programme because we wanted to help families and Kiwi kids explore New Zealand's outdoors and take action for the benefit of conservation."

"It gives young people rewards and offers adventure at little to no cost."

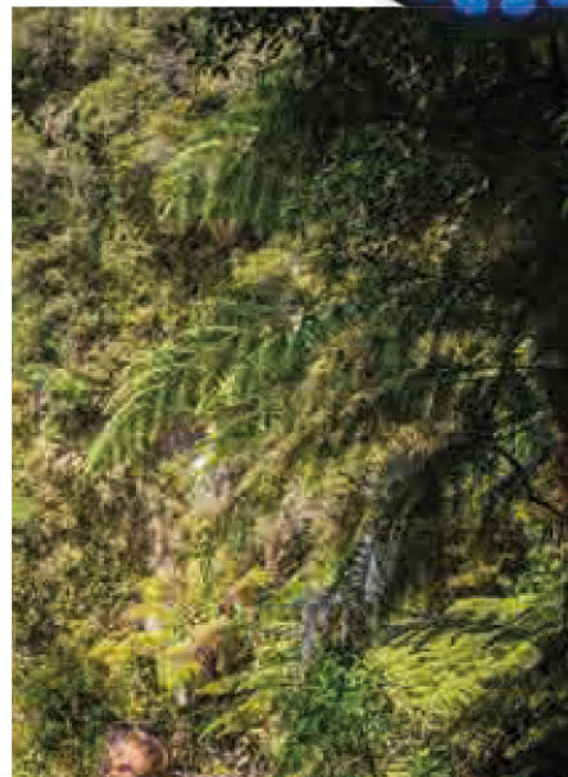
The programme was started in April 2016 with Rotorua's Kiwi Guardian site at Okere Falls launched in July 2017. So far 85 children have claimed their guardian medal for this site.

"There are currently over 240 children from Bay of Plenty, mostly from Rotorua, who have received a Kiwi Guardians medal," Caraline says.

"The walking track at Okere Falls was the perfect location to launch Rotorua's first Toyota Kiwi Guardian site because it's family friendly, accessible and has lots of interesting stopping points for families to explore such as the old turbine, the look outs and Tutea's steps. It's one of our most visited locations in the whole of Rotorua, with around 50,000 visitors each year and is a site with strong historic and cultural ties."

For more information visit: [🌐 kiwiguardians.co.nz](https://kiwiguardians.co.nz) or

[f facebook.com/kiwiguardians/](https://facebook.com/kiwiguardians/)



WHĀNAU-FRIENDLY BIKE RIDES:

1 **Tahi** 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 Ngongotahā Village.

2 **Rua** Green Corridor

Connecting Government Gardens to Lake Road via Kuirau Park, 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.

3 **Toru** Sulphur Point and Te Ara Ahi Cycle Trail

Venture through Rotorua's thermal wonderland. Begin the Te Ara Ahi Cycle Trail under the Prince's Gate archway in the Government Gardens and explore the picturesque sulphur flats (Te Arikiroa Bay) and bird sanctuary along the edge of Lake Rotorua. The path follows the Puarenga Stream all the way to Waipa Mountain bike Park, and further if you are feeling energetic.

4 **Whā** Low grade trails – Waipa Mountain Bike Park

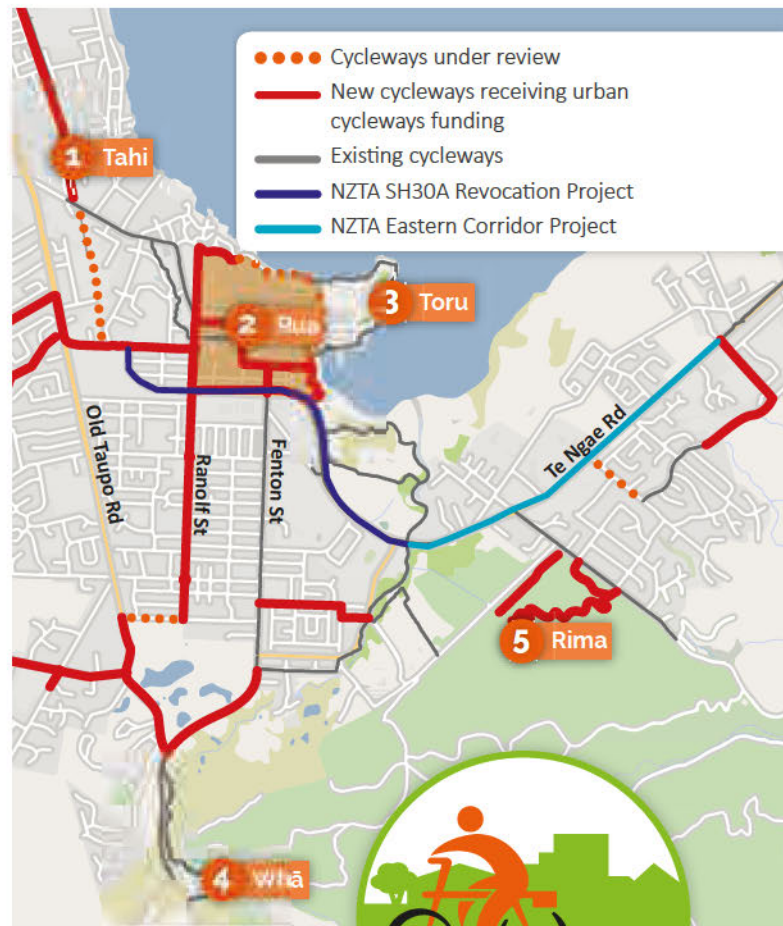
There are plenty of family friendly trails close to the Waipa Mountain Bike carpark. Start out on the Grade 1 Kids Loop and grow your confidence as a family, moving up the grades as you go.

5 **Rima** 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.

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

* **Note:** correction from November issue.



Share with care

Look out for children on bikes before and after school.

Find out more about cycling in Rotorua and the CyWay network at cyway.nz



FreeParking

DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS

Get off your PlayStation and couch and come join FreeParking – that’s the message from Hone Morris to rangatahi (young people) in his Fordlands community.

FreeParking is a youth programme which supports rangatahi aged 12 to 20 to become more active via free regular informal sports and recreational activities on Rotorua Lakes Council reserves.

The programme is run in five areas- Fordlands, Western Heights, Eastern suburbs, Te Koutu and Ngongotahā- and aims to reduce barriers such as cost and transportation which prevent some rangatahi from participating in outdoor activities.

The programme was a joint Rotorua Lakes Council and community initiative that’s now led by hapori (communities).

An enthusiastic young man with an infectious laugh, Hone is the FreeParking co-ordinator for Fordlands Community House and has held the role for over a year-and-a-half.

On a hot summer’s day outside the community centre, across the road from the Bellingham Crescent Recreational Reserve, Hone talks warmly about what FreeParking means for his community.

“Instead of being down on the reserve, [our programme is] up here at the community centre – getting rangatahi familiar with our staff here,” he says.

He’s looking at building on its māra kai (garden) project of growing and cooking vegetables. He assures us planning for 2018 will be interesting and hints about one idea on the cards.

“This year, I’m looking at developing a little something in FreeParking to [teach them] about our natural medicines as well.”

The idea was motivated by his participation in the youth leadership development programme, Tuia, which is mentored by mayors who select young rangatahi Māori from their rohe (district) and encourage and enhance their leadership skills.

Last year as part of Tuia, Hone spent time with Rotorua Mayor Steve Chadwick. He says like Tuia, the FreeParking programme aims to develop future leaders.

People casually walking by the centre, wave and smile at Hone, while he explains why it’s important to develop future leaders.

“Because there are a lot of stereotypes in the media about rangatahi Māori in general,” he says.

Hone wants to develop more future leaders in order to quash a negative stereotype of underachieving Māori.

“It’s important to have more Māori leaders not only in our communities, but to show leadership in our schools as well [as back on our] Marae.”

“There are a couple of marae [where] their kaumātua (elders) aren’t there no more and they’re looking [to] our young leaders to step up and I think that’s important for us as well.”

He can’t explain why it’s imperative to him to be involved in the community but says he’s still coming to understand why he’s drawn to it.



Hone Morris

“I can see our Utuhina [Stream] and the current, and a leaf being carried towards the mouth of the lake.”

His vision embodies a path towards a healthy waterway and community.

Hone encourages more people to take park in FreeParking.

“Come out and interact with your community members. They [want] to meet you and if you’re around Fordlands here, you’ll hear me say, get off your PlayStation, get off your couch and come down to the [centre].”

Visit rotorualakescouncil.nz/freeparking for more.

Quick facts about FreeParking:

- More than 200 rangatahi (young people), who wouldn’t normally have the chance to take part in sport and recreation activities are participating in FreeParking across four communities on a weekly basis;
- The FreeParking Programme has developed to become Youth Spaces Plus which helps engage young people on issues that affect them and develop community-based solutions;
 - Provides a pathway to develop youth leaders
 - Many of these rangatahi move from participating to delivering the programme



SCHOOL LUNCH YUMMY TO MUNCH

Making sure tamariki (children) get a healthy lunch is important to help them learn and to establish good food habits.

Jasmin Jackson is one of a team of people dedicated to making sure Rotorua children are able to access a healthy, nutritious and affordable lunch.

She is a registered nutritionist and chairperson of Ka Pai Kai Rotorua Charitable Trust, an organisation which makes and distributes 350 lunches a week to Rotorua children at five schools. Jasmin wants the programme to be available to all primary and intermediate schools in Rotorua.

Having seen children with nothing but a cream doughnut or a packet of biscuits for lunch, Jasmin is on a mission to help people understand that healthy lunches don't need to be expensive.

"I've seen canteens that sell pies, hot chips and sausage rolls, with not a vegetable or fruit in sight. The standard lunch box these days seems to contain a muesli bar, a sandwich (white bread), a biscuit, flavoured yogurt and some chips. Even this lunch box can still contain in excess of 100 per cent of the child's recommended sugar and salt intakes in just one meal, and have inadequate amounts of protein, vitamins and minerals to nourish the child," she says.

"We wanted to find a way to change this, and to make healthy food affordable for everyone."

As well as educating parents on affordable ways to pack a nutritious lunch, Ka Pai Kai organises for lunches to be made and delivered to schools. Volunteers help in the kitchen, which currently runs out of Waikite Rugby Club, and help with deliveries. Funding grants and sponsorships help to cover costs.

"We know that what many children are eating is not good food. We want to do what we can to nourish the minds of the future generation, so that they can reach their full potential," Jasmin says.

"Teachers tell us that when children are eating good food their behaviour improves, they are absent from school less, and they are able to concentrate for longer and learn better.

"What we eat in childhood has a huge impact on our health for the rest of our lives. If we establish good eating habits during childhood, these eating habits tend to stick."

The team at Ka Pai Kai was recently recognised at Rotorua X's pitch night, which is aimed at supporting businesses to grow.

"Winning pitch night was great for publicity, and has attracted a huge amount and variety of support, from donations of free range eggs, to legal advice and business development support. This is really valuable to us as we try to grow and develop income streams so that we can be self-sustaining, and so that our lunches can continue to be affordable for families regardless of income level."

Future plans for Ka Pai Kai include establishing school holiday programmes where kids can learn to make tasty, nutritious kai, and a lunch order service for workplaces so staff can order a healthy lunch that is delivered to them at work, while contributing to subsidising the lunch of a child at the same time.

Jasmin Jackson from Ka Pai Kai Rotorua Charitable Trust



Get involved;
become a volunteer to
help make or deliver lunches.
Deliveries take only 25
minutes a day. Email:
kapaikairotorua@gmail.com



**TOTAL
COST:
\$2.05**



**TOTAL
COST:
\$2.95**

Visit:  fuelled4life.org.nz
for more awesome lunch
box inspiration and recipe
ideas for children.

CR MEREPEKA RAUKAWA-TAIT

Merepeka Raukawa-Tait is in her third term as councillor and as People portfolio lead sees the need for all to benefit, as her portfolio's greatest challenge.

You are the lead Councillor for the People Portfolio. What does your portfolio aim to achieve?

What we are trying to achieve is a district that caters for our diverse population. We have families with young children, a growing youth population, older citizens and everyone in between. We want to make sure we are inclusive of their needs when providing services; this includes cultural needs as well.

You've been involved in community development for many years, how have your past experiences influenced your current role in Council?

We've often gone ahead developing solutions and services thinking we know best. Often we don't. I have found by talking and listening to the primary users of the services that we arrive at better outcomes. I have tried to include and consult with those who often felt they had no voice. Many do not belong to representative groups yet still would like their views given consideration.

There are many great community groups here in Rotorua, what part do you see them playing in the decision making processes of Council?

Through the various portfolios we have had terrific input from groups and individuals. Council is encouraging ideas and views that can be considered and incorporated in services. We only had to ask. They are informing better services and outcomes.

Vision 2030 – The Rotorua Way focuses on what makes Rotorua special, what does that mean for residents in 2018?

Vision 2030 allows Council to take a planned approach to the future. Our citizens have high expectations. They see what other councils are providing and many want the same, particularly families with young children. Vision 2030 wasn't just plucked from thin air. It is based on what our community wants to see in the future and we're working to fulfill that.

What do you consider your greatest challenge as the People Portfolio lead?

Remembering we have a community with diverse needs. Income levels vary greatly too. Whatever we do at council we must remember ratepayers want value for money. Growth is important, so is ensuring we don't leave any in our community behind. Everyone must benefit from Vision 2030. That is challenging, but do-able.

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

Because I live in an apartment in the city I love to walk around the city and its outskirts. I know everyone heads for the Redwoods, good for them, but it is the changes taking place daily that I see on my walks that confirms Rotorua is heading in the right direction.

What are you most excited to see happen this year?

Progressing our major projects like the Spatial Plan, affordable housing, improving forest entrances, lakefront revitalisation and development including the Eastern corridor. These are important for the district's future and I look forward to seeing them progress.



Cr Merepeka Raukawa-Tait

I have learnt our citizens don't hold back so I always know exactly what they think and how well they think we are doing. From their feedback I believe we are on the right track. I hope 2018 will be a great year for everyone.

For more information on the People portfolio, visit the council website:

 rotorualakescouncil.nz/people

The People Portfolio encompasses a wide range of issues which recognise the diversity and value of Rotorua's people, and workstreams which contribute towards strengthening our communities.

Portfolio Lead Councillor Raukawa Tait, assisted by Shirley Trumper (Rural Community Board), Phill Thomass (Lakes Community Board) and Kingi Biddle (Te Tatau o Te Arawa).



Councillor Merepeka Raukawa-Tait at the Spatial Plan workshop in 2017.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

Rob Griffiths, Partnership Advisor at Rotorua Lakes Council tells us a little about what makes his job great and what he loves most about life in Rotorua.

What does a Partnership Advisor do?

I work with others to involve them in the decision-making of council, mainly around major plans and projects.

What is the best thing about working with your community?

The thing I most enjoy is when people are aspirational and forward-focused. Young people are amazing at this and so refreshing to be around. I find people who see opportunities, not issues, really motivational.

What is your favourite, uniquely Rotorua thing to do?

Mountain biking – hands down my favourite. I grew up riding so moving to Rotorua 9 years ago was fantastic. The Rotorua Single Speed Society run the best biking events!

What are you most excited to see happen in 2018?

During the first half of 2018 Council will be developing its Long-term plan. It will be a busy time, supporting elected members so the public can be heard.

Rotorua's community is really diverse, so the challenge is to ensure that's reflected in the plan.

What are your favourite family activities?

We do a bunch of adventure activities in our weekends- from riding bikes or heading to the lakes to tramping, rock climbing and the odd adventure race. We pretty much have everything you could want within a two-hour drive of Rotorua.

What do you love most about living in Rotorua?

If I had to choose one it would be the relaxed lifestyle but the active environment is also important. The ease of lifestyle and lack of commuting gives our family time and space to do the things we love. Living in a place where we can run in the forest with our dog, ride our bikes to work or school and have easy access to shops and services (no carpark needed) is something we cherish.

Rob's top 3 picks for free family fun:

1. Riding in Whakarewarewa Forest.
2. Tramping.
3. Geocaching (it's the global treasure hunt).



Partnership Advisor, Rob Griffiths

He aha ō whakaaro?

ROTORUA SPEED LIMIT REVIEW

Have your say on proposed changes.

As the local road controlling authority, Council is responsible for reviewing and setting speed limits on all local roads in accordance with the Government's Setting of Speed Limits 2017 rule which is aimed at reducing the number and severity of crashes on NZ roads. That means reducing the number of whānau/families affected by the loss and injury of loved ones involved in serious crashes.

The 24 local roads included in the review are:

Manawahe Rd, Tarawera Rd, Vaughan Rd, Pongakawa Valley Rd, Spencer Rd, Owkata Rd, Western Rd, Brunswick Dr (incl side Roads), Hamurana Rd, Brake Rd, Okareka Loop Rd, Kaska Rd, Oakland Pl, Millar R, Turner Rd, Pioneer Rd, Waiotapu Loop Rd, Te Waerenga Rd, Mohi Cres, Road to Wastewater Treatment Plant, Paradise Valley, Endean, Te Miri, Te Manu

New Zealand Transport Agency is also proposing a reduced speed limit from 100km/h to 80km/h at Waiotapu as part of a safety improvement project on State Highway 5 between Wairakei and State Highway 38 which claimed the lives of 12 people last year.

How to submit feedback:

View the proposed changes and submit your feedback at rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk

Submissions can also be emailed to info@rotorualc.nz or posted to Rotorua Lakes Council, Private Bag 3029, Rotorua 3046.

Submissions will also be accepted on behalf of The Transport Agency for the proposed change at Waiotapu on State Highway 5.





OUR BILINGUAL JOURNEY GAINS MOMENTUM

Te Tatau o Te Arawa is in the process of implementing a two-phase work plan to elevate Rotorua's efforts to become the country's first bilingual city and district.

Former Māori Development Minister and former Waiariki MP, Te Ururoa Flavell, advocated for the idea of becoming a bilingual city in 2016, which gained support from Te Tatau o Te Arawa and Rotorua Lakes Council.

Rotorua declared its commitment to the kaupapa (initiative) in August last year.

Te Tatau o Te Arawa is leading the charge, and with help from Te Puni Kōkiri,

has developed a two-phase plan which the Council has endorsed.

Te Tatau forecasts the plan (phases one and two) will cost about \$100,000. It aims to implement the plan ahead of this year's Māori Language Week in August.

Te Tatau believes becoming a bilingual city can help establish Rotorua as a leader in normalising te reo Māori in the community, while also benefitting tourism. This has been the experience of Ireland's Galway city which has been a leader in reviving the Gaeltacht language.

Te Tatau is developing a reorua website

and online inquiry hub to support the community. These initiatives are part of phase one, which is expected to be in place by May.

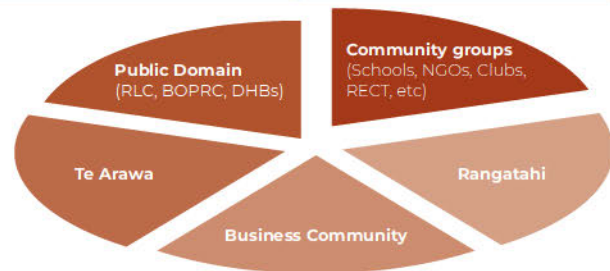
In the meantime, people wanting to learn more about Rotorua Reorua (Bilingual Rotorua), can check Rotorua Lakes Council's website:

rotorualakescouncil.nz/reorua

The council webpage includes information about how you can support and promote the initiative as well as useful resources to help you on your language journey.

PHASE ONE: A SERIES OF ACTIONS THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED QUICKLY <i>Using primarily existing resources</i>	Establishing Te Tatau as the single point of contact for Reorua enquiries	Assisting the RLC to develop a te reo Māori policy	Create and promote a digital hub/website of information
	Install bilingual road signage at entry points to our city	Collate and promote current available resources ie Kōrero pins	Create te reo Māori zones in playgrounds and reserves
	Create a bi-lingual business award (and others!)	Establish and promote easy access to reo Māori lessons for the community	Broker relationships at a local and national level to find investment partners

PHASE TWO: A ROBUST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS <i>To create a fit for purpose reorua strategy for Rotorua</i>	What are our aspirations for Reorua Rotorua and what are our barriers to achieving them?
	What do we need to do to achieve our aspirations for our city?
	What entity and resources do we need to implement this strategy?



Key stakeholders for community engagement phase

Kohitātea Jan 18	Huitanguru Feb 18	Poutū te rangi March 18	Paengawhāwhā April 18	Haratua May 18	Pipiri June 18	Hōngongoi July 18	Hereturikōkā August 18
Appoint Project Manager and implement phase one actions and prepare for phase two.				Appoint Project Manager and implement phase one actions and prepare for phase two.		Launch ahead of Te Wiki o Te Reo Maori	

Source: Te Tatau o Te Arawa

What is Te Tatau o Te Arawa?

The board is a partner to Rotorua Lakes Council and is made up of 14 members, elected by Te Arawa. The board has five key objectives:

- > Strengthening Te Arawa participation in Council decision-making;
- > Building Te Arawa capacity and capability to participate in Council decision-making;
- > Via strategic and integrated development, identifying opportunities to work collaboratively for the betterment of Rotorua;

- > Improving communication and information sharing;
- > Improving Council's delivery of its obligations to Māori.

Te Tatau o Te Arawa members represent the tribal confederation's collective interest and come from a broad cross section of Te Arawa. Descendants include koeke (esteemed elders), rangatahi (young people), Ngāti Whakaue uri (descendants), Te Arawa hapū (subtribes) and iwi as well as pan-Te Arawa entities and Māori Land Trusts and Incorporations.

You can find out more about the board by visiting the website: tetatau.nz



Lisa Reweti

A BRIGHT BILINGUAL FUTURE

Teacher Lisa Reweti is committed to helping Rotorua become a bilingual community and destination by teaching the language to her entire school.

A Māori immersion kaiako (teacher) at Whakarewarewa School, Whaea Lisa is passionate about te reo Māori and is pleased the district, under the leadership of Te Tatau o Te Arawa, aims to become a bilingual takiwā (district).

"It is a huge stepping stone for us. I mean, our city is putting it out there that bilingualism is in."

Promoting Māori in her own school is nothing new for Whaea Lisa and her class as they facilitated Māori language activities for the kura during campaigns such as Māori Language Week.

However this year she wants to develop more bilingualism across the school and points out how her pupils are helping to teach their own families te reo.

"A lot of tamariki (children) do not have the reo (language) at home. A minority of them - about 10 per cent - do; and the other 90 per cent don't. They take te reo home and they're actually teaching their whānau so that's where bilingualism is starting to happen, in the home."

Whaea Lisa is heartened when she hears positive feedback from families who are talking to other whānau about the value of te reo Māori.

"That goes straight to your heart. That's a big tug."

Four of her students are thrilled about the Rotorua Reorua initiative and share their teacher's dream to help more people learn Māori.

Here's how they want to see Rotorua in 30 years' time:



Samantha Makiha (10)

"I want people to speak (entirely) in Māori. I want my parents to speak Māori to me."

Ambition: Become a singer and singing coach who teaches Māori as part of students' lessons.

Māori language tip: Tiakina – Care or look after/ help.

Te Ihooterangi Kapa (10)

"I want to be a scientist so I can develop medicines to help people and teach them how to make rongoā (medicines) when they are sick."

Thought: It would be awesome to become a bilingual rohe (district). Te Ihooterangi looks forward to filling the shoes of kaumātua.

Anahera Wikingi (10)

"I want my whānau just to talk Māori to me."

Ambition: Become a Māori language teacher. She likes teaching people te reo.

Advice about te reo: Enrol in a course where you can learn Māori.

Rangianiwaniwa Tuimauluga (10)

"We are the only country that speaks Māori. I would like to hear people speaking Māori more often so more people can understand it."

Ambition: Become a builder (like her father) and mentor others using Māori instructions (tohotohu).

Advice for people learning Māori: Ask someone who speaks Māori to help you learn.

What's on

CRANKWORX 2018

Get amongst the action

The defining celebration of world-class mountain biking, Crankworx Rotorua is back for nine days of action with epic new events added to the line-up from 17 – 25 March.

Descend upon the first four days for free with access to the GIANT Toa Enduro, The Professionals Rotorua National Schools Cross Country and Teams Relay, and Redwoods Downhill at Whakarewarewa Forest's Waipa hub, the gateway to some of Rotorua's best riding.

Then hit Skyline Rotorua Gravity Park where the competition will be on to fight

for King and Queen of Crankworx 2018 with crowd favourite events including the Crankworx Rotorua DH, Mons Royale Dual Speed & Style, RockShox Rotorua Pump Track Challenge presented by Torpedo7 and Crankworx Rotorua Slopestyle in memory of McGazza .

Crankworx Rotorua is the first stop on the Crankworx World Tour which features four locations across the globe: Rotorua, Innsbruck and Les Gets, before bringing it home to Whistler for the 15th year.



Main events – see the full event schedule at: crankworx.com/rotorua

Date	Time	Location	Event	Tickets
Fri 16	7.30pm	Eat Streat	Opening Ceremony	Non-ticketed
Sat 17	9am – 6pm	Waipa	Giant Toa Enduro presented by CamelBak	Non-ticketed
Sun 18	8am – 5pm	Waipa	Redwoods Downhill	Non-ticketed
Mon 19	9.30am- 4pm	Waipa	The Professionals Rotorua National School MTB Championships – XC Race	Non-ticketed
Tue 20	9am – 1pm	Waipa	The Professionals Rotorua National School MTB Championships – XC Teams Relay	Non-ticketed
Tue 20	4.30pm – 6pm	TBC	100% Dual Slalom	Non-ticketed
Wed 21	10am – 3pm	Skyline	The Professionals Rotorua National Schools MTB Championships – DH Race	Ticketed event (free for locals)
Wed 21	2pm – 5.30pm	Skyline	Crankworx Rotorua Air DH	Ticketed event (free for locals)
Thur 22	7pm – 9pm	Skyline	RockShox Rotorua Pump Track Challenge presented by Torpedo7	Ticketed event (free for locals)
Fri 23	10.30am – 12.30pm	Skyline	Kidsworx Hipster DH race	Ticketed event
Fri 23	5pm – 7pm	Skyline	Mons Royale Dual Speed and Style	Ticketed event
Fri 23	7.30pm-9pm	Skyline	Official Oceania Whip-Off Champs presented by SPANK	Ticketed event
Sat 24	10am – 12pm	Skyline	Kidsworx Sprint Warrior DH Race	Ticketed event
Sat 24	3.30pm – 6pm	Skyline	Crankworx Rotorua Slopestyle in memory of McGazza	Ticketed event
Sat 24	8.30pm – 9.30pm	Eat Streat	Rotorua Deep Summer Photo Challenge	Non-ticketed
Sun 25	10.30am – 12pm	Skyline	Kidsworx Pump Track Challenge	Ticketed event
Sun 25	3.30pm – 5.30pm	Skyline	Crankworx Rotorua Downhill	Ticketed event



Non-ticketed (free access)



Ticketed event (free for locals with proof of address and ID)

Gates open at Skyline Gravity Park from 10am daily. For the full schedule of events including Kidsworx, practice sessions and schedule changes or to lock in your tickets visit: crankworx.com/rotorua

Stay up to date with event timings and other activities by following Crankworx Rotorua on social at:

[facebook.com/crankworx](https://www.facebook.com/crankworx) [instagram.com/crankworx](https://www.instagram.com/crankworx) twitter.com/crankworx

KIDSWORX

Crankworx is back this March with even more action, including the popular Kidsworx.

The annual event brings hundreds of competitors, thousands of spectators and media from around the world to Rotorua and locals are encouraged to get in on the action.

A great way to get the whole whānau (family) involved is to take part in Kidsworx, a series of events designed for tamariki (children) under 12, offering a great introduction to mountain biking. Kidsworx features a specially-built skills track area, pump-track, scavenger hunts, a hipster downhill race and a chance to meet Crankworx stars. Tamariki can enjoy all the fun of the main Crankworx festival as well as some additional activities and coaching opportunities through Kidsworx activities and events.

Kidsworx was launched to get tamariki and whānau (families) involved and connected with Crankworx, not just as spectators but as participants.

"Some kids come to see the pros, others look forward all year to simply riding the Tamariki track and Kidsworx pump track all day, every day, soaking up the Crankworx vibe," Kidsworx activities manager Marcello Ojerio says. "That's the standout feature of Kidsworx – there really is something for every kid every day of the festival, and the parents really appreciate that."

Marcello says the organisers want to maximise the fun for kids by giving them their own space to play, learn new skills and be inspired.

"For kids who aren't able to bring bikes with them, there are bikes available to borrow and all kids walk away with their

very own personalised Kidsworx number plate, stickers and lots of bike bling to 'pimp their rides'.

"A real highlight of Kidsworx for me is the self-management of the children, the civility and the good sportsmanship they show," Marcello says. "We manage to give kids the freedom to ride on their own and the kindness towards each other that comes out of it is really special."

The number of youngsters taking part in Kidsworx has grown every year. One thousand tamariki took part in 2015 with the number tripling in 2016 and another significant increase in 2017. Half of the young participants were aged five and under.

Marcello says the event's popularity is great to see.

"The parents absolutely love Kidsworx and the kids just can't get enough- we have kids who ride the trails all day and return 18 hours later amping to do it all over again."



TWO FREE LOCALS DAYS!

This year the Crankworx team are opening up the fun to Rotorua residents with TWO free locals days:

- > Wednesday 21 March, 10am (gates open) – 5.30pm: The Professionals Rotorua National Schools DH Champs and Crankworx Rotorua Air DH
- > Thursday 22 March, 10am (gates open) – 9pm: RockShox Rotorua Pump Track Challenge presented by Torpedo7

Bring along some ID and proof of your Rotorua address and watch the action free!

Love to learn

LEARNING FOR ALL AGES

Whether you're back at school or an independent learner, there are great education programmes on offer here in Rotorua.

Rotorua Museum Craft Revival Café

Join the handmade brigade and learn a traditional craft that's now modern day cool.

Cost: \$15 per person

Location: Te Rūnanga Tea House, Government Gardens

Bookings required. Please go to:

🌐 rotoruamuseum.co.nz/events or phone: (07) 350 1814

- > **Embroidery:** Revive the lost craft of embroidery and make your own piece to take home. Tuesday 13 February
- > **Macramé:** Try your hand at Macramé to create a funky wall hanging. Tuesday 13 March.

Māra Kai – A Traditional Māori Garden, Museum education programme

Available from Monday, 12 March 2018 to Friday, 11 May 2018

Cost: \$1 per student

Duration: 2 hours

Location: Children's Art House, Government Gardens.

Curriculum link for this programme is Social Sciences and is suitable for Year 1-10 students. Classes take part in a

hands-on, thinking based session exploring the use of Māra kai by early Māori.

To book this programme for a Rotorua school, please go to:

🌐 rotoruamuseum.co.nz/education/booking-enquiry or phone 07 350 1816

Beginner conversational Te Reo Maori

Taught by June Parata over 7 weeks. Thursday nights starting 15 February to 29 March 2018, from 6pm – 8pm.

Cost: \$10

Location: Adult learning at the Mokoia Community Association Hall.

Bookings essential. Please phone: 07 345 5971

Absolute beginner computer course

Learn the basics over 5 weeks. Tuesday nights starting 20 February to 20 March 2018, from 6:30pm – 8pm.

Cost: \$10 Computers provided

Location: Adult learning at the Mokoia Community Association Hall

Maximum 10 students per course.

Bookings essential.

Please phone: 07 345 5971

Rotorua Library

Rotorua Library has many learning opportunities for young and old.

- > Stepping UP computer classes
- > Parenting Toolbox workshop
- > STEAM club, MBot: have a go at assembling one of the library's new 'MakeBlock' robots from scratch.
- > Legal Education
- > SPCA talk on dog safety
- > Introduction to Ancestry.com
- > Drones Workshop
- > WW1 Workshop for school students
- > Introduction to using Cenotaph database
- > Under 5's music and craft
- > Beauty Matters Talk- Internationally renowned furniture designer David Trubridge presents a talk about creativity, and why it matters so much.

To find more information on any of the libraries available programmes go to

🌐 rotorualibrary.govt.nz



9 year old Courtney shares her water saving tips



(SAVE)
(WATER!)

DO NOT
TAKE
WATER

FOR GRANTED!



Celebrating home-grown talent is the theme of this year's Lakeside concert.

The annual free, family concert is proudly supported by Rotorua Lakes Council and this year, the concert is going back to its roots.

Lakeside 2018 is about celebrating Rotorua's own. Rotorua punches way above its weight for producing New Zealand's talented performers and this celebration of home-grown talent promises to deliver a Lakeside concert like you've never seen before.

This family-oriented, sound and lighting spectacular with high impact digital visuals telling the unique and genuine history of our rohe and the tangata whenua within it through song, dance and narration will leave you feeling very proud to be a part of the Rotorua Community.

Artistic Director, Richard Anaru has put together an incredible line up of acts with local connections to Rotorua which includes: host Stacey Morrison, Sons of

Zion, Moana Maniapoto performing as Moana and the Tribe, Maimoa featuring Turanga Merito, Modern Maori Quartet, Alayna Powley, Strangely Arousing, Kelly Makiha, Cairo, Hohaia Macfarlane and Noelle Dannenbring.

There will be a gold coin collection on the night for the Waiariki Women's Refuge, Rotorua. Please give generously.

While Lakeside 2018 is a free production, there is special reserved seating located at the front of stage, ensuring you have the best view possible on the night. Reserved seating costs \$42.90 per seat through Ticketmaster.

Bring your picnic hamper and rugs, and enjoy Lakeside 2018 with friends and whānau.

Starting at 7.30pm at the Rotorua Lakefront and finishing with the fireworks finale at about 10.30pm.

Lakeside 2018 – Whenua #itsabouthome.
Visit: rotorualakesideconcert.co.nz



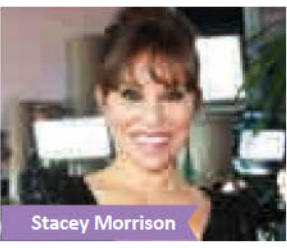
Alayna Powley



Modern Maori Quartet



Maimoa feat. Turanga Merito



Stacey Morrison



Sons of Zion



Moana Maniapoto

The magical Mary Poppins flying into Rotorua – March 2018

*Wind's in the east ..
There's a mist coming in ..
Like something is brewin' ..
And 'bout to begin ..*

Rotorua Musical Theatre's production of the supercalifragilistic international hit Mary Poppins – The Broadway Musical is coming to Rotorua's Energy Events Centre next month.

Families will love this brand new production of Disney & Cameron Mackintosh's global sensation which will be Rotorua Musical Theatre's big show for the year.

"We have an extremely experienced and gifted director in Dean McKerras who will be joined by talented local Elisha Hulton as vocal director," Rotorua Musical Theatre president Elisha Hulton says.

"We're also very excited to be working in partnership with Rotorua Lakes Council on this show and very appreciative of the support we have received."

Rehearsals are well underway and Elisha promises some exciting new twists to the show.

"It will definitely be one to remember but I can't give it all away – you'll just have to come along," she says.

Energy Events Centre staff have been working alongside Rotorua Musical Theatre, to enable the show to be staged in Rotorua, helping with the technical equipment needed, including specialist rigs required to enable Mary Poppins to fly across the stage.

Don't miss out!

**Show dates: 11 – 24 March 2018
(matinees and evening performances)**

Join Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, Bert, Mr and Mrs Banks and the many other beloved and colourful characters as the Energy Events Centre is transformed into Cherry Tree Lane for Rotorua's must-see theatrical event of 2018.

Based on PL Travers' beloved book series of the same name, Mary Poppins became an immediate hit when it premiered as a movie musical in 1964, starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. Forty years later, Cameron Macintosh's stage musical

version combines elements of Disney's film with material inspired by Travers' books.

Get your tickets online at ticketmaster.co.nz or from the Ticketmaster office at the Energy Events Centre. Family concessions available.



What's on

Your district,
your events

WELCOME TO
LAKESIDE 2018



LAKESIDE 2018 – WHENUA #ITSABOUTHOME

Lakeside 2018 is Rotorua's free concert and fireworks spectacular, this year featuring the best artists and talent from Rotorua.

When: 17 February 2018

Where: Rotorua Village Green



DONELLEY SAWMILLERS LEGEND OF THE LAKE

With four different swim events, the Donelley Sawmillers Legend of the Lake provides a swim event for all ages and abilities.

When: 17 February 2018,
9am – 3pm

Where: Blue Lake, Rotorua



VODAFONE WARRIORS VS STORM

Vodafone Warriors take on 2017 premiership winners Melbourne Storm, headlining the two-day 'BOP Rugby League Festival'.

When: 17 February 2018,
3pm – 5pm

Where: Rotorua
International Stadium



ART IN THE PARK

An annual festival of Art and Music. Wander among the market stalls of local artists and artisans, with live demonstrations and lots to see and buy.

When: 18 February 2018,
10am – 4pm

Where: Government Gardens



CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

Grab your event passport and enjoy a wide range of free international activities celebrating children.

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

When: 3 March 2018, 10am – 3pm

Where: Various locations,
Rotorua CBD



REDWOOD CHILDREN'S DAY

From art to music, stories to forest adventures, there is something for everyone.

When: 4 March 2018,
1.30pm – 4.30pm

Where: Redwoods, Long Mile Road



MARY POPPINS – THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

The supercalifragilistic international hit Mary Poppins – The Broadway Musical is coming to Rotorua. Tickets at

ticketmaster.co.nz

When: 11 – 24 March 2018

Where: Rotorua Energy
Events Centre



Image © Crankworx, 2017

CRANKWORX

Crankworx Rotorua brings nine jam-packed days of gravity mountain biking to the Southern Hemisphere.

For more information go to:

crankworx.com/festival/rotorua



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

For more information
on these events go to:

rotorualakescouncil.nz/whatson

rotorualakescouncil.nz

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

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

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