

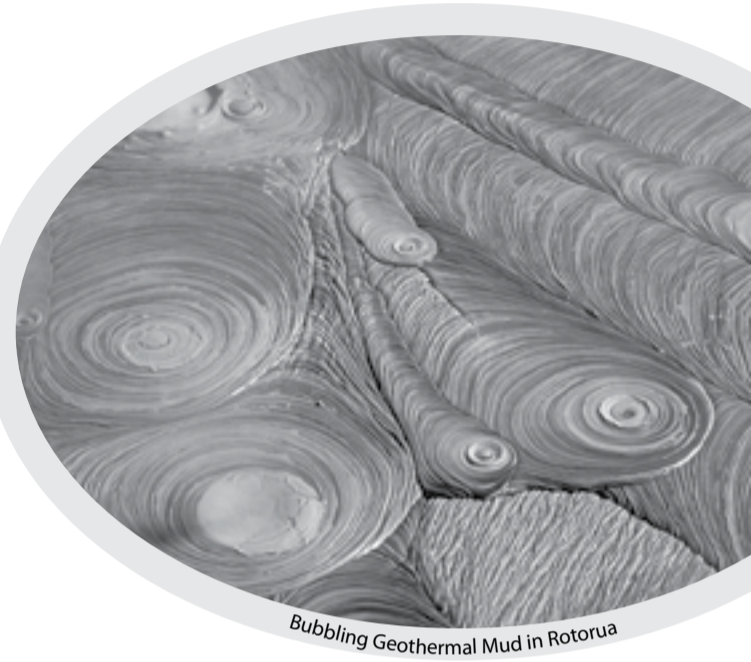


# Rotorua

WEEKLY NEWSHEET, 07 Nov. 2006, ISSUE 16

## *Where can we have a mud bath?*

Unfortunately, mud baths in Rotorua are currently not a visitor attraction. The only facility known to provide mud bathing in Rotorua today is Queen Elizabeth Hospital (for Rheumatic disease and rehabilitation), where the therapeutic benefits of the mud is used as part of a treatment program for their patients.



Bubbling Geothermal Mud in Rotorua

## *Heartland of tourism*

Rotorua—the heartland of New Zealand's tourism and forestry industries and supporting a strong agricultural base is home to 65,000 New Zealanders. Situated in the centre of the North Island, Rotorua is a district with a rich history. Today the district is vibrant and progressive with a diverse and well established business base. There is a sound platform from which an exciting variety of commercial and lifestyle opportunities are steadily expanding.

Rotorua, the district of lakes and natural beauty, offers one of New Zealand's finest life-styles. Its central location and the fact that the area is serviced by major domestic airlines, along with excellent alternative transport, makes Rotorua very accessible for both business and pleasure.

Rotorua is one of New Zealand's most popular visitor destinations and is known as the 'District full of surprises'. The 1990's have seen Rotorua enter a period of substantial growth and development. The Rotorua District Council has taken a leading role in developing a progressive and active programme to create a stimulating environment for existing and new businesses.

As the focal point of the Bay of Plenty region, Rotorua presents a unique cultural blend; Polynesian, Asian and European cultures mix with the very centre of the remarkable world of Maori culture. The relaxed, multi-cultural atmosphere of the city is valued by all who live and visit here.

The city stands on the edge of Lake Rotorua, 300 metres above sea level, and is surrounded by mountains and bordered by mature forests. The rich land around the city enables diverse industries to continue to develop and prosper.

With its mountains, lakes, forests, rivers, public amenities, education centres, health facilities, shopping and industrial developments, Rotorua is a very desirable place to live and work.

## *Polynesian spa*

Polynesian Spa is New Zealand's leading thermal bathing attraction conveniently located in downtown Rotorua.

The complex comprises of 31 mineral pools. Adults have the use of a large hot mineral pool and also eight hot mineral springs set in a landscaped garden next to the lake. A large mineral pool including a toddler's pool is set aside for the use of children and families. There are 17 luxuriously appointed private pools, which are hired out by the half hour.

The new 'Lake Spa' development offers unique bathing in four natural rock pools overlooking the lake with very up-market changing facilities and services and a relaxation lounge.

Aix massage is a highly relaxing massage done under jets of hot water and is available by appointment.

The Hot Springs Café is fully licensed and offers post bathing refreshments and full a la carte dining.

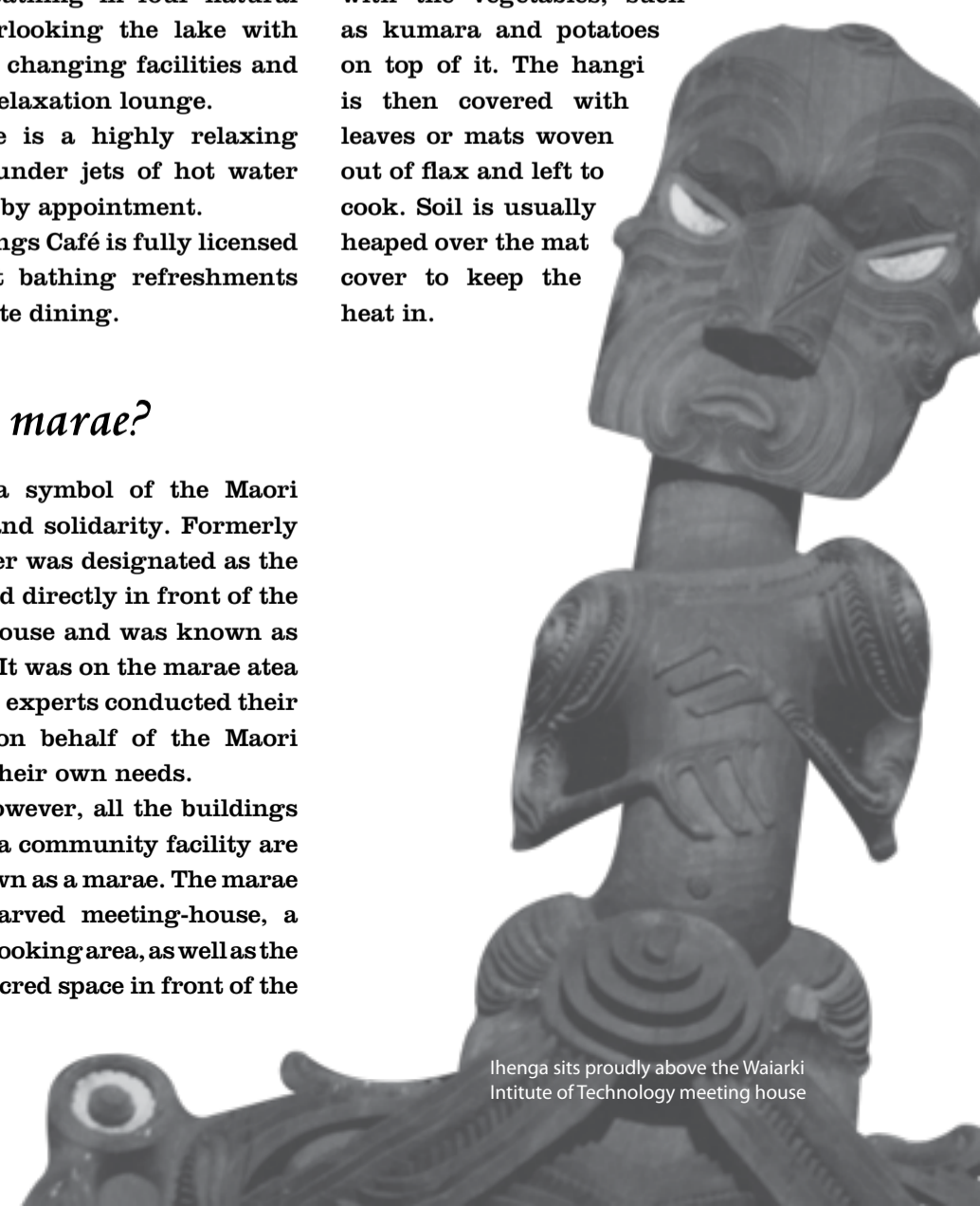
## *What is a hangi?*

A traditional way of cooking food by the Maori people. The hangi consists of a shallow hole dug in the ground. A fire is prepared in the hole and stones are placed on top of it. When the stones are hot the hangi is prepared for cooking by leaving the hot stones and some coals at the bottom of it. The food is placed on top of the stones; the meat is placed below, with the vegetables, such as kumara and potatoes on top of it. The hangi is then covered with leaves or mats woven out of flax and left to cook. Soil is usually heaped over the mat cover to keep the heat in.

## *What is a marae?*

The marae is a symbol of the Maori tribal identity and solidarity. Formerly the marae proper was designated as the open area of land directly in front of the sacred carved house and was known as the marae atea. It was on the marae atea that the priestly experts conducted their sacred rituals on behalf of the Maori people and for their own needs.

Nowadays however, all the buildings associated with a community facility are collectively known as a marae. The marae consists of a carved meeting-house, a dining hall and cooking area, as well as the marae atea or sacred space in front of the meeting house.



Ihenga sits proudly above the Waiarki Institute of Technology meeting house

Maori art: Pigment Pot

## Gondola Cableway

A Swiss Meuller system with a vertical rise of 178.5 m, is capable of carrying 500 people an hour in four seater cabins.

## Skyrides Restaurant

Our fully licensed restaurant can seat up to 350 guests. Take in an uninterrupted 180° view whilst you sample our full buffet lunches and dinners or cafe style meals throughout the day.

## The Complex

Located 3 kms from Rotorua's town centre, Skyline Skyrides can carry you to 487 m above sea level to a fun park environment overlooking the city, Lake Rotorua and the surrounding area.

## The Luge

A world first! The luge is a one kilometre gravity ride. The three wheeled luge cart has a unique braking and steering system which allows the rider to travel as fast as they dare. Two separate sealed tracks cater for both the thrill seeker and the less adventurous rider. Riders return to the top of the luge on a specially designed chairlift.

## THC Rotorua Hotel's hangi and concert

The THC Rotorua Hotel's award winning hangi & concert allows you a rare chance to experience the unique culture of Maori and meet the Maori performers. You will share the customary hospitality and cultural heritage in the age-old spirit of friendliness and courtesy Maori as hosts always accord to welcomed visitors.

Since 1977 the cultural group has been organised, managed and presented by John and Maureen Waaka who, as the Rotorua International Maori Entertainers, have travelled widely overseas as ambassadors of New Zealand. They vary their presentation every night to include action songs, poi games, the haka and farewell songs. This is a living, dynamic show which reflects the variety of Maori heritage. The programme therefore changes from evening to evening—a good reason to come again.

Your food for the 'hakari' (feast) has been cooked in a steam hangi. The hangi is not a tourist 'gimmick'. This method of cooking is still used regularly by the Maori in the Rotorua region, even though all homes have modern electrical or natural gas appliances.

The THC Rotorua Hotel and the Rotorua International Maori Entertainers look forward to treating you to a hangi & concert experience you will cherish and remember for the rest of your life.

## New Zealand Maori Arts & Crafts Institute incorporating Te Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve

Wander through 60 hectares of spectacular thermal activity including our world famous geyser Pohutu. View percolating turbid or clear hot water pools as well as bubbling hot mud pools from the safety of cobblestone pathways.

View master crafts people displaying traditional art forms of the Maori including wood and greenstone carving. Weaving and the performing arts (Maori Concert at 12.15 m daily). Guided tours in English begin at 10 am and thereafter on the hour until 4 pm which take in the Institute and the Thermal Reserve. You may choose to wander through the complex on your own moving at your own pace.

## Lakeland Queen

The Lakeland Queen is a traditional paddle-steamer offering daily scenic cruises on picturesque Lake Rotorua. With a total capacity of 250 passengers and a full on board restaurant, the Lakeland Queen can offer a memorable experience for parties large or small.

The Lakeland Queen offers a variety of different cruises such as; breakfast cruise, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea cruises with a fascinating commentary from our captain. By night our most romantic cruise is the evening 'dine and dance' which includes live entertainment.

Highlights of the cruises include views of Ohinemutu Village, Saint Faith's Church, Sulphur Point, Government Gardens, Hinemoa Point, Mokoia Island, Mount Tarawera and impressive views of Kawaha Point—one of Rotorua's most exclusive suburbs.

The Lakeland Queen operates from the Rotorua Lakefront, where the paddle-steamer and booking office are situated.

## Rainbow Springs wildlife experience

Enter a world where New Zealand's wildlife can be seen in their natural habitat. The general public can walk through the park at their own leisure, while guided tours (available in 17 different languages) take visitors around the natural freshwater springs which feed both streams and pools teeming with thousands of Rainbow, Brook and Brown trout.

The Springs are surrounded by one of the largest collections of native trees and ferns in New Zealand and have been labelled to enable visitors to identify them.

Visitors can walk through the native aviary and visit the nocturnal 'kiwi house' where they can see the world renowned flight-less bird of New Zealand. Also on display are wild pigs, goats, emus and the near extinct Tuatara.

You can also walk through our specially designed tunnel to Rainbow Farm.

## The Ultimate Jump Embrace The Fear



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Lake and Mount Tarawera, Rotorua