

“Growing the potential of information and communication technology for Rotorua communities”
e-mail rotict@gmail.com website www.rotict.orcon.net.nz

ROTORUA ICT PANUI

May/June 2007

Monthly meeting

Thursday 31st May 2007 is the Trust's AGM. New members and interested parties are welcome to attend. The ICT Trust meets once a month from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the [Rotorua Education Centre](#), 114 Sunset Road (old Sunset Junior High campus).

Website aims to connect whanau

A new website was launched in Rotorua during May, aimed at helping to connect whanau with their marae. Naumaiplace.com aims to strengthen relationships towards 'whanau ora' within New Zealand and worldwide. According to the website's general manager Tahi Tait, whose previous ventures include the awarding winning webhealth.co.nz, “Naumai is about flax roots for Maori, taking viewers back to their marae and reconnecting people with who they are and where they come from.” The new website currently covers ten Rotorua marae, each with content managers who have been trained to update local news and event information.

More information:

<http://www.dailypost.co.nz/localnews/storydisplay.cfm?storyid=3732705&thesection=localnews&thesubsection=&thesecondsubsection=>
<http://www.naumaiplace.com/Vision.aspx>

Bay of Plenty broadband update

Environment Bay of Plenty Chairman John Cronin issued a media release in April following his meeting with ICT Minister David Cunliffe. “We need a regional network of affordable broadband here”, said Mr Cronin. “We’re behind the rest of the world in this respect, and we are most at risk in the Bay of Plenty due to a lack of true competition and investment in broadband”. Environment Bay of Plenty is working with the region's city and district councils, economic development agencies and industry on broadband issues. In 2006 it commissioned a study of how local government could support the development of a regional network in the region.

More information:

<http://www.envbop.govt.nz/publications/media/070322broadband-ac2.doc>

ICT facts and figures

The acronym ICT, short for information and communication technology, was hardly heard in New Zealand five to ten years ago. Now it has its own page on the Statistics New Zealand website. Available information includes the national ICT Supply Survey, Internet Service Provider Survey, Household Use of ICT Survey, Government Use of ICT Survey and Business Operations Survey. According to these surveys, sales of ICT goods and services rose 7.9 percent to \$17.6 billion in the 2006 financial year, more than one million households now have home access to the Internet, and almost all Government agencies have broadband connection.

More information:

<http://www.stats.govt.nz/economy/industry/information-communication-technology.htm>

Dealing with e-waste

Environmental challenges of dealing with electronic waste are now well known, and progress is being made to establish systems for dealing with 'closetware' and keep it from going to landfill. For a quick overview of the global e-waste issue, check out the YouTube link below. Locally the Rotorua Community ICT Trust has started planning towards a Rotorua e-Day, scheduled for late 2007. Rotorua businesses, schools and groups are encouraged to store old computers or other equipment they are planning to take to landfill, awaiting further information about the e-Day. If you have surplus equipment which is only a few years old and could be re-used by schools or voluntary organisations, check out the CANZ website or contact the Rotorua ICT Trust.

More information:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sl2j83LCHss>

<http://www.canz.org.nz/>

Lifelong learning made easy

A new website has been set up to store free video-based lessons, tutorials and lectures. [Sutree.com](http://www.sutree.com) contains video lessons on car repairs, maths, sports, cooking, foreign languages, and just about anything else you'd like to know. Users are encouraged to make a habit of learning something new every day by checking out a random lesson. Our thanks to Simon Riley of the 2020 Communications Trust for forwarding the link below.

More information:

<http://www.sutree.com/index.asp>

Tip of the Month

A wide range of advice is now available for community and voluntary organisations to improve their Internet presence and general communications. For example, the ICT Department of the Australian Government has compiled a step by step [e-Strategy Guide](#) with tips on setting up and using a website. Closer to home, the University of Waikato's Management School and a range of partner organisations have established the [New Zealand Webguide](#) project, providing on-line and hardcopy tips for community groups, iwi group and not-for-profit organisations. Webguide's progress has benefited from input by Miraz Jordan, the CommunityNet Aotearoa web maestro, who provides additional how-to information through [CommunityNet](#).

More information:

<http://www.e-strategyguide.gov.au/home>

<http://www.webguide.net.nz/>

<http://www.community.net.nz/how-toguides/it/>