

# ROTORUA ICT PANUI

September/October 2006

## Monthly meeting

The ICT Trust meets on the last Thursday of each month from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the [Rotorua Education Centre](#), third floor of the Public Library building (1137 Haupapa Street). **The next meeting is Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2006.**

## Creative Rotorua – Kia Ora!

A new local website was launched in August for Rotorua artists. The Creative Rotorua website is dedicated to the arts and culture of the District and represents Rotorua District Council, the Rotorua Arts Village Experience (RAVE) and many organisations and individuals who participate, produce and fund creative endeavour. It includes a profile of local artists and their work, contact details for local galleries, the Creative Rotorua Arts Directory, latest arts news, an events calendar, and sections dedicated to the Rotorua Arts Village Experience and Rotorua Arts Trail.

More information:

[www.creativerotorua.org.nz](http://www.creativerotorua.org.nz)

## NZLive.com goes live

Arts, Culture and Heritage Minister Helen Clark launched a new Government-funded website in September designed to enrich New Zealand's cultural life by promoting activities and events. "The NZLive.com website is an exciting development designed to increase awareness of, and participation in, cultural activities and events," Helen Clark said. "The website is funded through the government's Digital Strategy and recognises the importance of culture to New Zealand's national identity".

More information:

<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentID=27068>

[www.nzlive.com](http://www.nzlive.com)

## UPLIFT yourself

A new course delivered under Microsoft's Unlimited Potential programme has been designed to support community organisations. Developed through a partnership of community and voluntary groups, the Department of Internal Affairs and Whitireia Community Polytechnic, the programme has received funding from Microsoft to deliver a series of free training course for community project workers who provide computer training in disadvantaged communities. UPLIFT is a four day residential course focusing on creating more sustainable community ICT projects, customising the MS Unlimited Potential Curriculum, understanding adult learning, and connecting ICT and enterprise development.

More information:

e-mail [uplift@whitireia.ac.nz](mailto:uplift@whitireia.ac.nz)

## Hamilton's community broadband gets a boost

Hamilton has secured \$3.29 million of Government funding towards a major broadband initiative for the city as part of the Digital Strategy. Hamilton is one of five urban centres to be granted substantial funding. The Hamilton urban fibre network is led by Hamilton City Council with support from Wintec, Environment Waikato, the University of Waikato, Waikato District Health Board, and private partner Lite Up Ltd. According to Hamilton City Council's Corporate Group Manager, Mike Garrett, "The funding will be used to develop a publicly owned broadband infrastructure available to any party within the network coverage area and to provide important linkages between the key partners involved with the project." Referring to all five successful applicants, New Zealand's Communications Minister David Cunliffe said, "The envisaged urban fibre networks will be 'open access' to encourage competitive and innovative services and should provide two-way data transfer rates of at least one Gigabyte a second – about 250 times current maximum broadband ADSL download speeds."

More information:

<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/ViewDocument.aspx?DocumentID=27043>

## EBOP recognises e-waste

In April the Rotorua Community ICT Trust made a submission to Environment Bay of Plenty's Ten Year Plan seeking recognition of e-waste as a "special waste" containing hazardous components. As a result of the submission, EBOP amended a section of its Plan dealing with special wastes to read: "Investigate and promote initiatives that benefit the region regarding special wastes – e.g. organic, waste, construction and demolition waste, electronic waste." According to Rotorua ICT Trust Chairman Paul Killerby, "This is a major step forward for the region, and hopefully sets a leadership example for other regional councils to follow." It is expected that EBOP will begin prioritising e-waste as a regional issue within the coming three year period.

## Tip of the Month

New Zealanders throw away 3.6 million tonnes of "rubbish" every year, around 65% of which could be recycled or composted instead. At the end of the day it is individuals' actions that make the difference. To find out what you can do to reduce waste, visit the [reducerubbish](#) website, and be one of New Zealand's "4 million careful owners".

More informaton:

[www.reducerubbish.govt.nz](http://www.reducerubbish.govt.nz)

[www.4million.org.nz](http://www.4million.org.nz)