

“Growing the potential of information and communication technology for Rotorua communities”

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# ROTORUA ICT PANUI

September/October 2007

## Monthly meeting

The ICT Trust meets once a month from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. The next meeting will be held at the [The Business Hub](#), 1209 Hinemaru St (opposite the Government Gardens) on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

## Rotorua e-Day Saturday 29 September

Rotorua residents can dispose of their old PCs, computer peripherals and mobile phones at the District's first eDay on Saturday 29 September. The drive-through event – being held at the Rotorua Racecourse on Fenton Street between 9am and 3pm – is an opportunity to clear out garages and cupboards of computer equipment and old mobile phones, to be recycled or disposed of for free. Local organiser Paul Killerby said the eDay gives residents a chance to dispose of their e-waste quickly and in an environmentally-friendly way. The Rotorua event is part of a national eDay being held in 13 venues across the country. Computers, printers and other peripherals, gaming consoles and mobile phones can be disposed of, but other electronic equipment including televisions will not be accepted. People are advised to wipe all data from hard drives as well as removable media such as floppy disks and PC cards before handing them over. The event is supported nationally by the CANZ Trust, Ministry for the Environment, 2020 Communications Trust, Divers, Remarkit and TES-AMM. Local partners include the Rotorua Community ICT Trust, Rotorua District Council, Rotorua Trust, Environment Bay of Plenty and the Rotorua Education Centre. For enquiries or offers to help out on the day, phone Paul on 0-27-293 2575 or e-mail [rotict@gmail.com](mailto:rotict@gmail.com).

More information:

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

## Forests of Life engaging students in science

Reporoa College recently joined Mokoia Intermediate and Rotorua Lakes High in adopting the Forests of Life education programme. The programme is managed by Rotorua-based Ensis, located on the SCION campus, and funded through the Ministry of Education's Digital Opportunities fund. With the support of scientists and teachers, students explore the spiritual and cultural values of forests, forest ecology and sustainable forest management, including using ICT to investigate science questions. The programme encourages students to work with each other via the web to share their ideas, learning and experiences.

More information:

<http://www.forestsoflife.org/>

## **Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act 2007**

The Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act came into force on 5 September. The legislation aims to prohibit unsolicited commercial e-messages and hence reduce the amount of spam clogging up people's in-boxes. For marketers this means a message must not be sent unless the receiver has first consented to receive it. All commercial electronic messages must (unless otherwise agreed) include a "functional unsubscribe facility" which allows the recipient, at no cost, to inform the sender that such messages should not be sent to them in the future. The term "commercial electronic message" includes emails, SMS texts and instant messages marketing goods, services, land or business opportunities. In addition, address-harvesting software that searches the Internet and compiles electronic addresses must not be used in connection with unsolicited commercial e-messages. All organisations that manage an electronic mailing list are advised to ensure their personnel are informed about the new Act.

More information:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>

[http://www.chapmantripp.co.nz/resource\\_library/published\\_article.asp?id=4616](http://www.chapmantripp.co.nz/resource_library/published_article.asp?id=4616)

## **Bay Broadband helps advance region's digital technology**

According to a recent media release from Environment BOP, holding a video conference with your GP or downloading video clips quickly from the web could become a reality in the near future. Bay Broadband is a strategy being planned by Environment Bay of Plenty and the region's seven councils to improve broadband service. A project team is researching how to improve investment return and reduce costs for broadband providers. A full report on findings to date can be accessed at [www.envbop.govt.nz](http://www.envbop.govt.nz), along with newsletters updating people interested in the project.

More information:

<http://www.envbop.govt.nz/Broadband-Initiative.asp>