

Newsletter

March 2018

Tauranga Rotary Centennial
Trust for the Kopurererua Valley
Reserve Development

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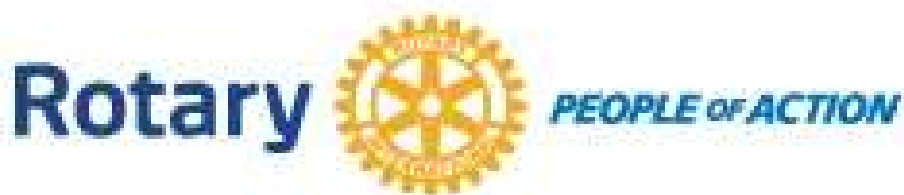
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*Tauranga Rotary Centennial Trust for the
Kopurererua Valley Reserve Development*



First a bit of history about us.

Our Trustees are Rotarians from the Tauranga, Tauranga Sunrise, Otumoetai, and Tauranga Te Papa Clubs.



Mark Dean a Founding Trustee and Innovator – Tauranga Rotary Club



Cyclists on the track and the opening of the bridges

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Go to our Facebook page
and "like" us.



<https://www.facebook.com/KValleyTga/>

HISTORY

As Rotarians you have been instrumental in helping build and sustain the K Valley Reserve but some of you don't know what it is about, so here is a quick summary.

The Kopurererua Valley Reserve is a 300-hectare block of low lying rural land situated between residential neighbourhoods in Tauranga. Running from Judea in the north to Tauriko in the south, the valley is bordered by the neighbourhoods of Te Reti, Gate Pa, Greerton, Westridge and Cambridge Heights, bordering the Route K Toll Road.

This Rotary Trust has raised over \$1.2 million to date and has planted over 250,000 trees.

In November 2017, Kopurererua Valley won a merit award in the Outstanding Park category of the New Zealand Recreation Association Awards.

Kopurererua Valley features

- This is the largest known wetland restoration in the Southern hemisphere.
- 12km of walkways and cycle ways
- an eye-catching entranceway to the city including large stands of Kahikatea trees and entrance sculptures
- an extensive programme of native planting to enhance views and screen the roadway at key locations
- wetlands, birds, and aquatic life
- passive and active recreational areas.

The Valley Reserve is sustained by three partners; the Tauranga City Council, Ngai Tamarawaho, and our Rotary Trust. Our contribution so far has been in planting native plants, and funding various facilities such as \$200,000 worth of bridges, and extensive rat trapping.

Here is Ngai Tamarawaho history

Ngai Tamarawaho hold mana whenua for Kopurererua Valley. For the hapu the Waikareao Estuary and the Kopurererua Valley are collectively regarded as being the kete kai the food baskets of Ngai Tamarawaho. The swamps and (once navigable) Kopurererua stream were valuable for their fish, birds, flax and raupo – all important resources for the people in their various kainga.

Click and watch and learn:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBPzRS4ZBaA>

The Great K Valley Adventure Race

From the Rotary Club of Tauranga
Sunrise

Rotary
Tauranga Sunrise



More than 100 people took part in The Great K Valley Adventure Race on Saturday 3rd March, raising an estimated \$1400 for the Graeme Dingle Foundation.

This event was organised by the event committee for Rotary Tauranga Sunrise and offered a cycling-styled scavenger hunt on the cycleways in and around K Valley, which runs alongside Route K.

This event exceeded expectations with many families taking part competing alongside teams and individuals. The debut of a cycling scavenger hunt was such a success, with plans of making it bigger and better next year.

The objective of the whole day was to raise the profile of the K Valley cycle tracks, involve as many family groups as possible, and raise money for the Graeme Dingle Foundation. This event met all of these objectives.

Spot prizes including a new bike were given away throughout the day as people competed to solve puzzles.

The racing and puzzle parts of the challenge became a leveller among those taking part so a person's fitness or cycling skill was not so important.

From a survey carried out after the event, the feedback has been very positive. People loved it and said they would come back next year. There will be another event next year, with plans to make it bigger and better. The key will be to use these learnings to scale up the event even further.

Because many Rotary Clubs have been so involved with K Valley with projects such as planting, it made sense to take advantage of the cycle tracks while also showcasing them to the community; raising the profile of the area to the general public.

About the Graeme Dingle Foundation

The Graeme Dingle Foundation aims to inspire all school-age New Zealand children to reach their full potential through programmes that help build self-esteem, promote good values and which teach valuable life, education and health skills.

Our Plan for this Year.

We have no intention of resting on our laurels this year and with the assistance from Tauranga City Council we intend to carry out some major works.

- Increase our Pest Control activity by setting more traps
- Carry out two planting days (weather permitting)
- Complete the project to get the electronic stories of the valley so you can access them on your smartphone. (You really should google Arataki Cultural Walking Trails and download the app. It is already functioning for Mauo and over the year more walks and points of interest will be added).
- Build a bird hide for the bird watchers to use.
- Arrange a Rotary Members walk in the valley
- Hold a Pub Quiz night as a Fund Raiser (More on this soon)
- Get better communications going among all the stakeholders in the Valley

ROTARY – SERVICE ABOVE SELF
