

Guyzers Gazette

1886: The Mt Tarawera eruption

A wedding at *Guyzers*

Gettin' wet in Rotorua

Bay Pride Picnic

Buffy & Bimbo

The fabulous
makeover girls




Guyzers
GAYSTAY

Rotorua, New Zealand

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Welcome

Welcome to the autumn edition of our very own quarterly e-magazine "*Guysers Gazette*".

Autumn leaves are falling as we sadly say goodbye to the New Zealand summer and the end of daylight saving. As a visitor or tourist to Rotorua you will still find plenty of activities that can be enjoyed in the cooler autumn weather. In this issue we look at several activities in the area that involve water, where getting wet is all part of the fun!

We meet Buffy & Bimbo – New Zealand's most well-recognised and well-loved drag personalities and speak to them about their achievements.

We hosted guests, Alan & Sean, from Auckland, who stayed with us at *Guysers* after winning a bid at the GABA Charity Auction and chat about their stay.

We look back in history to 1886 when Mt Tarawera erupted – an event that changed the landscape forever and buried the Pink & White Terraces.

In February, Rotorua held the *Bay Pride Picnic* which celebrates our LGBTQ community. We have some photos of the fun and frivolity of the day.

We have a brief mention into the downside and cautions of using erection pills when they are not really needed, and have suggestions on ways you can enjoy the freedoms of nudism in the privacy of your own home, even when it's cold outside.

Peter & Mike

Guysers Gaystay, Rotorua, New Zealand

GUYSERS GAYSTAY

Hosted B&B for gay men

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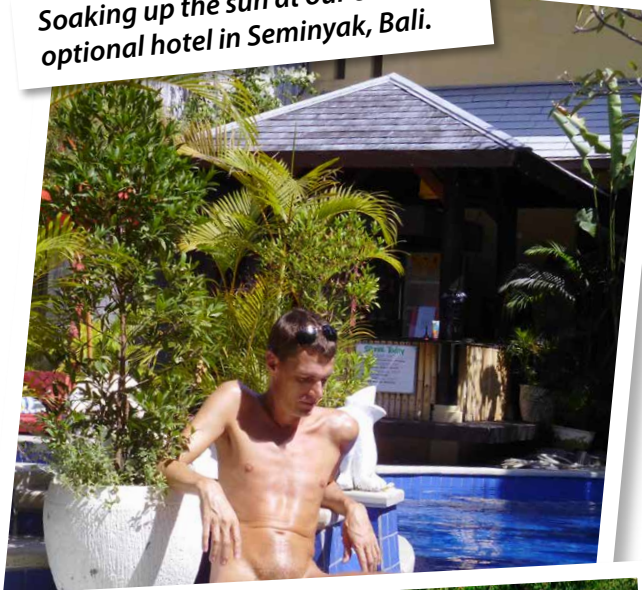
Bringing our love of Bali to Guysers Gaystay



Our passion for Bali has seen us return there for holidays 8 times. We both love the culture, the tropical living, the arts and crafts and the attention to detail the Balinese put into everything. Each time we travel there we bring back a little bit of Bali to *Guysers Gaystay*.

During autumn or winter in New Zealand is when we usually head off to Bali for a few weeks holiday. It is here we recharge our batteries, soak up the warmth and top up our tans.

Soaking up the sun at our clothing optional hotel in Seminyak, Bali.



Enjoying a delicious Balinese lunch in Northern Lovina.



A hot soak at the Banjar Thermal Hot Springs, Northern Bali.

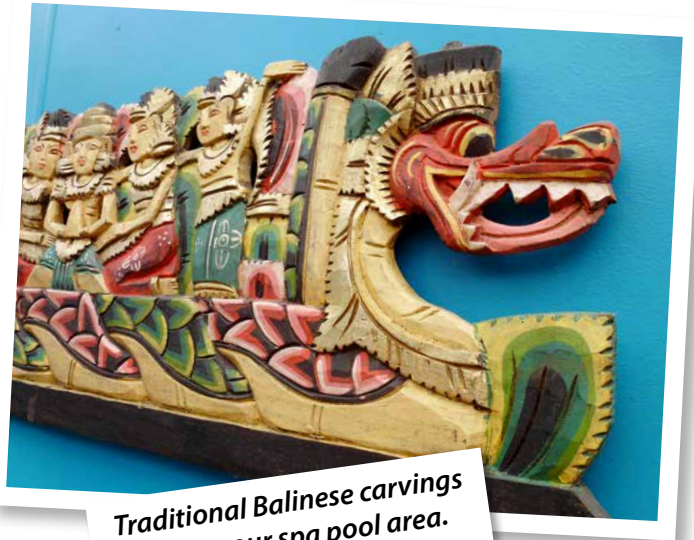
As well as the friendly people, the tropical weather and the lovely food, Bali provides us with loads of inspiration. We usually spend several days in the middle of Bali in Ubud which is the arts and crafts centre of the island where there are streets and markets full of wooden and stone carvings, sculptures, paintings, fabrics, pottery, homewares and Balinese decorative items.

We go over to Bali with near-empty suitcases and come back with them being at full weight capacity!

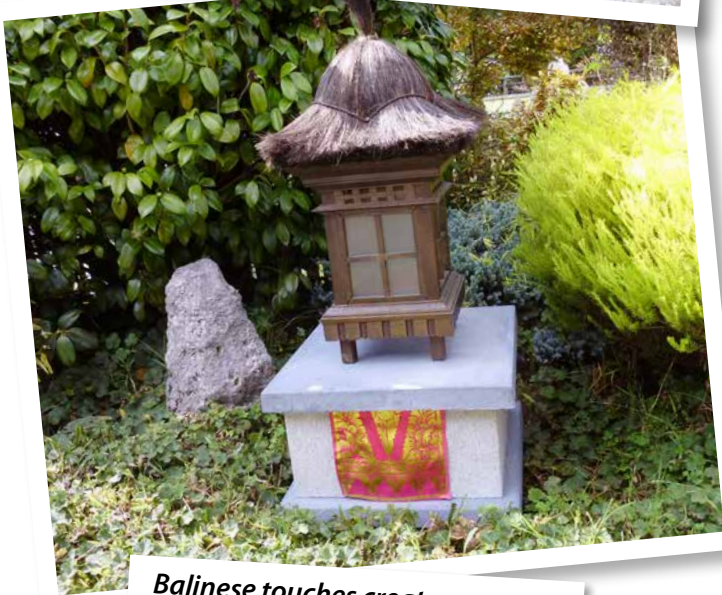
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At *Guysers Gaystay* in Rotorua we have added Balinese touches right through the property, inside and out, to create a real exotic and ethnic feel. From the moment you arrive you will see Balinese items and influences everywhere you look. At the entrance to our property a *Selamat Datang* (welcome) sign and large hand carved statue greets you at the front door. In the garden we have placed Balinese thatched lanterns on plinths, just as they do around the many luxury hotels in Bali.

We have decorated our spa pool area with several traditional Balinese wall carvings and one or two phallic flying objects to create a real talking point!



Traditional Balinese carvings decorate our spa pool area.



Balinese touches create an exotic look and feel at *Guysers Gaystay*.

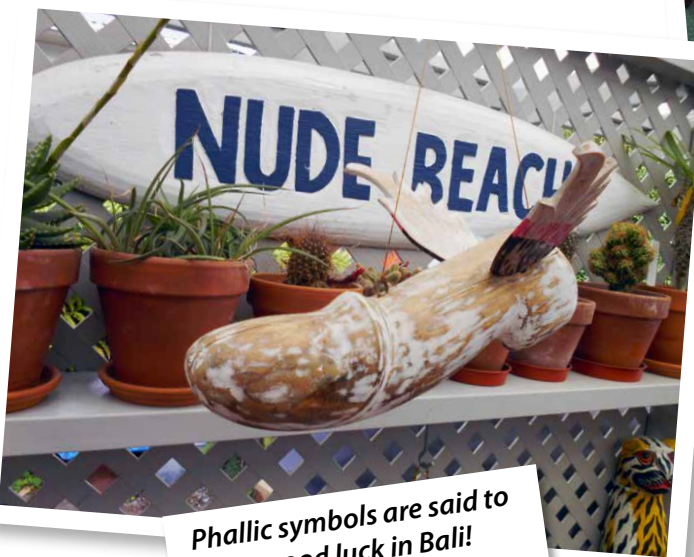


Some sculptures in Bali (as much as we'd love to bring them home) are just a bit too large!



I need to work a bit more on my... eerrr... six pack.

So we try and bring back what little treasures we can fit into our suitcases:



Phallic symbols are said to bring good luck in Bali!

All of our furniture throughout *Guysers Gaystay* has been imported from Indonesia including the bed bases (but not the mattresses), bedside tables, coffee table, bookcases, cabinets, table and chairs and even a traditional day bed (a day bed is what the Indonesian's have a siesta on during the hottest part of the day).



Balinese day bed with Indonesian fabric cover and cushions.



Guest lounge with Indonesian teak furniture.

If you have ever been to Bali yourself, staying with us at *Guysers Gaystay* will bring back fond memories of your time spent there. If you have never been to Bali before we hope staying with us will inspire you to go there one day. 🌺

Buffy & Bimbo

The fabulous makeover girls

Buffy & Bimbo – The fabulous makeover girls, were first discovered at the 1997 Auckland Hero Parade where they entertained the crowds, dressed in hair roller skirts and bras, offering makeovers to willing punters – of which there was no shortage!



Buffy & Bimbo try their hand at spinning the Maori Poi's.

Six months later their unique performance style was rewarded when they were the main entertainment at the 1997 *Mobil Radio Awards* at the Sheraton Hotel, Auckland – their performance career had started.

Buffy & Bimbo are the alto-egos of Kevin Baker and Jonathan Smith respectively. Kevin, a trained physiotherapist, is the manager of Student Health Services at the Auckland Institute of Technology (AUT) whilst Jonathan is a self-employed event manager.

The boys always laugh at how their careers have helped shape Buffy & Bimbo. Buffy often uses his therapy skills to zone in on unsuspecting punters whilst Bimbo focuses on the technical aspects of any production.

Over the past 18 years Buffy & Bimbo have developed their performance style in order



Buffy & Bimbo are Jonathan Smith (left) and Kevin Baker.

to offer entertainment packages that include song and dance, comedy, game shows plus the ability to MC any type of event for any community for any age.

Buffy & Bimbo classify themselves as drag artists or drag performers offering entertainment to meet the client's specific

requirements in order to make the event, no matter how big or small, an unforgettable experience.

Winner of the 'Duo' award 2003 and 2004 and Highly Commended in the 'Community Spirit' award at the *Annual Golden Stiletto Awards* and awarded for 'Recognition of Achievement' at the 2010 *OutFest Auckland's GLBT Festival*, make these girls popular in the community. *Gaynz.com* awarded them their favourite drag queen act 2010 just beating popular dance party diva 'Buckweat' by 12 votes. We understand they are still talking to each other... Yeah right!



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Buffy & Bimbo are not only drag artistes with talent and flair... they're drag artistes with heart. They are wonderful supporters of many charities including the very popular annual *Herne Bay House Hair Event* that ran for many years. During their performance years they have supported the SPCA Calendar, KidsCan, many HIV charity events, Neonatal Trust, Breast Cancer and were featured in the *American Drag Cookbook* where they prepared two recipes; green lip muscles drag style and lamb chops with mint sauce. The girls showcased their cooking skills on the popular TV One programme 'Good Morning'. No one was game to eat the food I might add.

The girls continued their TV One relationship with 'Good Morning' appearing as agony aunts, dealing with all those personal problems. As you can imagine, the girls weren't always very caring.

The girls have so many highlights during their careers from being the first drag artistes to get the New Zealand Prime Minister, John Key, to dance with them on the main stage at the ever popular *Big Gay Out*, Auckland.

There was a short period when the duo performed in their own drag cabaret venue in Javea, Spain. What a challenge performing in 30 degree heat to a mainly Spanish, French and German audience. It's amazing how quickly you can learn the naughty words in a foreign language!

They have very fond memories of working with Sir Richard Taylor from Weta Workshop and the Neonatal Trust on Project Born (2010/2012) –



Buffy & Bimbo hosting the hugely popular Queen of the Whole Universe (QWU) pageant.



Buffy & Bimbo camp it up with Prime Minister John Key at Auckland's Big Gay Out.

the most incredible underwear fashion show fused with artistry from Weta. This relationship was created from appearances at *World of Wearable Art (WOW)* when based in Nelson and the NZ Body Art Awards.

The one project the girls are really acknowledged for is the hugely popular *Queen of the Whole Universe (QWU)* – a parody on a beauty pageant. *QWU* is New Zealand's most successful GLBTT theatrical event and ran from 2004 to 2012 breaking two Guinness world records for the largest staged drag show in the world, raising over \$240,000.00 for HIV charities and helped lift the self-esteem and confidence of many people within the community whilst helping to reduce the discrimination of people living with HIV. The show was even featured in the glossy *America Gay Traveller Magazine* as one of the five must see events in the world.

Jonathan was honoured with a 'Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit' in the 2015 New Years Honours List for his work supporting

people with HIV/AIDS. His involvement as artistic director of *QWU* was mentioned in the acknowledgement from the Governor General.

Jonathan and Kevin who have been together for over 20 years were engaged in Central Park, New York on 14 April 2013, the day that New Zealand same sex marriage equality bill was legalised. The boys were married in a very glitzy ceremony in October 2013 with over 22 bridesmaids (drag queens from *QWU* naturally!) 🌟



CONTACT

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Update: Sadly Kevin Baker died in October 2018

Special Guests



Sean (left), Peter and Alan take a photo opportunity at the Wai-O-Tapu mud pool.

Written by Alan J.Thomson

A bid for *Guysers* at the GABA Charity Auction

The Gay Auckland Business Association (GABA) held its yearly Charitable Trust Auction fundraiser in late 2014. *Guysers Gaystay* was proud to support this great cause by donating an accommodation voucher as one of the offerings to be auctioned. Winners of this bid were Sean and Alan from Auckland who stayed with us for a weekend of Rotorua sightseeing, sunny weather and relaxation.

Tell us about your afternoon at the GABA Charitable Trust Auction event

It was a luncheon hosted at the Hilton hotel which is in a great spot at Princes Wharf down at the Auckland waterfront. The food was excellent as was the entertainment, especially the two topless guys selling raffle tickets!

There were three serious bidders for the *Guysers* weekend away in Rotorua, but Sean was determined to win it and treat us to a fabulous weekend. It's a

great cause and it was encouraging to see some big corporations getting behind it – even the *National* and *Labour* parties had bought tables to the event.

When was the last time you visited Rotorua?

Historically I've got down there from Auckland every 1 to 2 years and find it a perfect place to get away to for a long weekend. When overseas visitors come and stay I like to take them down for the attractions, scenery and a *hangi* evening.

Tell us a bit about your time spent staying at Guysers Gaystay

Staying at *Guysers Gaystay* was a delight, as were our hosts Peter and Mike. They have created a homely Balinese style B&B with attention to detail and I particularly liked the flow to the private courtyard garden. There you can strip off "au naturel", relax in the spa pool, read and sudoku the afternoon away.

What were some of the attractions you did while in Rotorua and what was the highlight?

Staying next to Kuirau Park means thermal activity is right on your doorstep! Always worth a walk around the park to see the boiling mud and water as it's a changing landscape. New hot spots can show up and old ones dry up. There are free foot pools where you can soak those tired tootsies.

We also loved the Sunday morning markets on the shores of Lake Rotorua with a fascinating mix of arts and crafts followed up by a lunch at a restaurant on 'Eat Streat' (see picture right).

The new 'Eat Streat' development is a covered street of new eating places to be recommended and the



Alan and Sean take a stroll down Rotorua's Eat Streat.



Pub grub at the ever-popular Pig & Whistle, Rotorua.

flower bed displays are the best I've ever seen by any city council. (See article on page 26).

Would you like to return to Rotorua someday?

Oh yes, can't wait! The actual town has come on in leaps and bounds with a nice mix of shops and restaurants, such that return visits are a given!

Next visit will be in the winter when the nippy cold days will make us run that bit faster from the bedroom into the welcoming hot spa at *Guysers Gaystay*. 🌺

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Special Guests



Vino and Ian show off their wedding rings.

A wedding at *Guysers*

Recently we had some very special guests stay with us; Ian and Vino from Bali, who flew all the way to New Zealand to get married here. The intimate ceremony was held on a beautiful sunny day in March 2015, right here at *Guysers Gaystay* in Rotorua.



Vino and Ian exchanging vows.

Where are you both originally from?

Vino and I (Ian) live in Bali, Indonesia. Vino is from the island of Sulawesi, and I am from the big island of Australia, though I have lived in Indonesia for 10 years now.

How did you meet each other?

Vino and I met at one of the gay bars in Bali called *Bali Joe's* in July 2014. After a whirlwind romance, Vino moved into *Jero 1b*, the gay guesthouse we run in Seminyak, Bali.

What was your decision to get married?

We started talking about the future, and Vino suggested we get married. Usually, I wouldn't have thought about marriage, as for gay people it is a new option, and many in the gay community

don't yet feel it is "necessary" to get married. But Vino explained his reasons. He wanted a traditional relationship, with commitment on both sides. None of this "open relationship" stuff for him!

Vino was familiar with the tourists who come and go, fall in and out of love, where "commitment" has meaning only as far as the holiday period extends for the tourist. As Vino talked to me, I realised that he was the right man for me, and I agreed with everything he said and wanted for us.

We talked a great deal about what it really meant to go through with a marriage. We then made written promises and detailed commitments on both sides while exchanging rings in Thailand in September 2014 at a wonderful restaurant called *Cabbages and Condoms* overlooking the beach in Pattaya. OMG! What a decision!

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What made you choose New Zealand to get married?

Well, when we realised our relationship was so serious, it presented all sorts of challenges to meet and overcome. Where would we get married? There was nowhere in Asia that allowed this to happen. Europe? Spain for example? We couldn't handle the thought of going to Europe. Also the laws of Europe are based on a different system.

One thought we had was that our marriage should be recognised in Australia. Then we thought of New Zealand as its laws and heritage are closer to Australia's, but it is socially ahead of Australia in many regards. We saw a *Youtube* video of the New Zealand parliament passing the same-sex marriage law and that sealed our decision.



"You may now kiss the husband"

We checked the rules about marriage there, and neither of the couple had to be from NZ – a real bonus. Next came getting Vito's visa, normally a pretty nerve-wracking process, but actually everything went smoothly.

We then had to decide where to base ourselves in New Zealand for the marriage.

How did you find out about Guysers Gaystay in Rotorua?

Rotorua is of course the most well-known tourist destination in the North Island, with its geysers and thermal mud pools etc, and Hobbiton only an hour away if you are a *Lord of the Rings* fan. Seemed like a great place to stay for the duration. Next came accommodation – and we both preferred a gay atmosphere, so Professor *Google* came to our aid and we found a gay owned and operated B&B in Rotorua – *Guysers Gaystay*.

A few emails with the very warm and friendly hosts, Mike and Peter, had us sold.

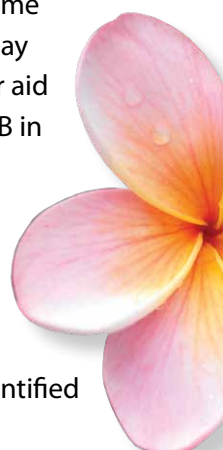
Tell us about your wedding day

Patrick, a good friend of Mike and Peter's, identified a gay marriage celebrant in Rotorua, Carole, who could perform the marriage for us and we communicated with her and took it from there.

Carole was wonderfully helpful and informative. We were able to get our marriage licence organised online ready to pick up from the Registry Office in Rotorua the day after we arrived, and then we had some time touring around the Rotorua area with Mike and Peter in the few days leading up to the marriage on 14 March 2015.

What a day! Mike and Peter's B&B already has a Balinese theme to it, as they are also frequent visitors to Bali, and the beautiful tropical-look garden area at *Guysers Gaystay* provided the perfect venue and backdrop for the wedding itself. The weather was perfect, friends of ours came down from Auckland to join us for the occasion, and Mike and Peter kindly became our two witnesses.

A perfect and fitting ceremony was had because of the atmosphere created by our hosts. Carole, the marriage celebrant, did a great job and the details





Left to right: Peter and Mike from Guysers Gaystay, the married couple Ian and Vino, and their friends Richy and Matt from Auckland.

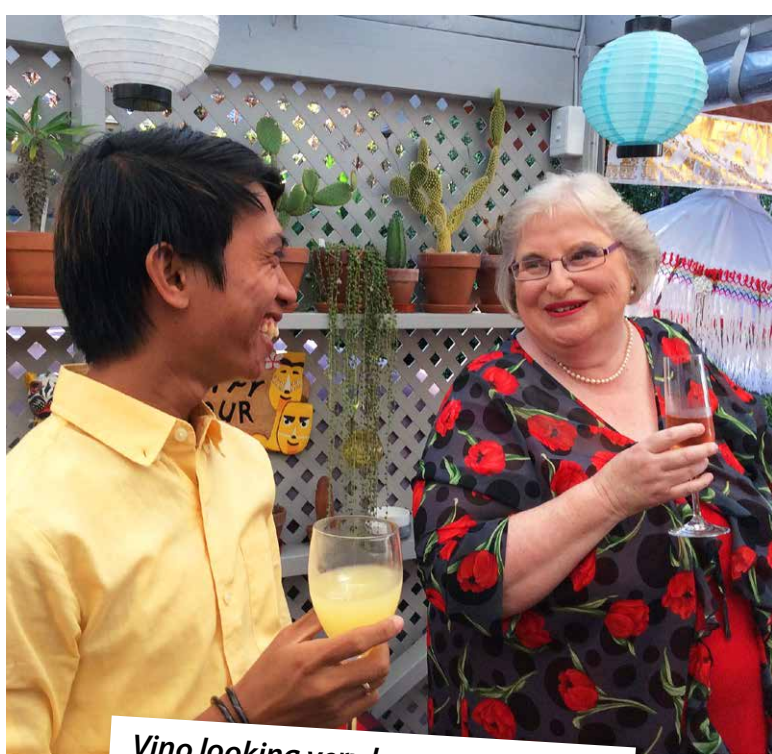
of the ceremony were all agreed to well before the ceremony itself so everything ran to plan.

As for “being married”? Well, after a few days of married life it feels just the same as before, but with a feeling of comfort and companionship secured by a marriage certificate. The future is always uncertain, but then why not make the most of it while we can?

Did you enjoy being in Rotorua?

Rotorua is a small city of 75,000 people set in the geothermal area of the North Island – a very cultural, interesting and lively place to base yourself and is easy to get around. Rotorua offers great restaurants and bars, and the sightseeing and tourist attractions are just magic.

When we return to New Zealand in the near future, Rotorua will definitely be on our itinerary. Staying with Mike and Peter at *Guysers Gaystay* was a joy. After a week here it felt like a second home. 🌸



Vino looking very happy indeed, having a toast with celebrant Carole who performed a great ceremony.

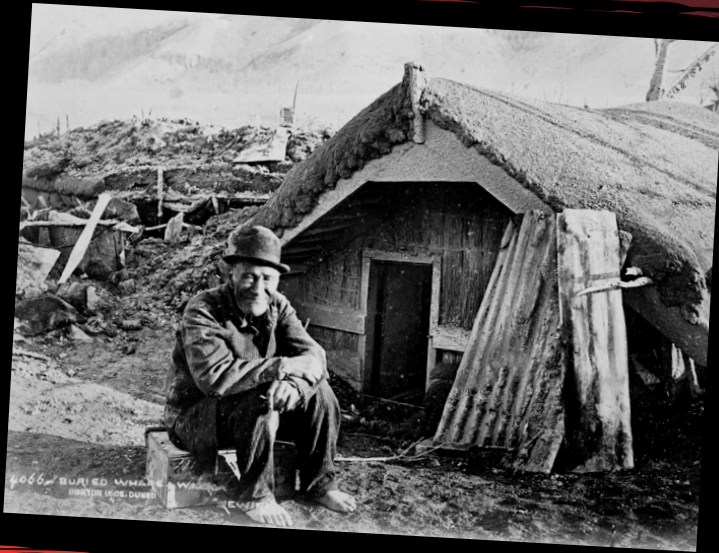
Tourism

1886

An eruption to remember

On the 10th June, 1886, the violent eruption of Mount Tarawera took place – a day in history that is marked as New Zealand’s greatest natural disaster. As well as killing more than 150 people, the eruption destroyed the eighth wonder of the world – the once magnificent Pink & White Terraces.





Shortly after midnight on the morning of 10 June 1886, a series of more than 30 increasingly strong earthquakes were felt in the Rotorua area and an unusual sheet lightning display was observed from the direction of Tarawera. At around 2:00 am a larger earthquake was felt, followed by the sound of an explosion. By 2:30 am Mount Tarawera's three peaks had erupted, blasting three distinct columns of smoke and ash thousands of metres into the sky. At around 3:30 am, the largest phase of the eruption commenced; vents at Rotomahana produced a pyroclastic surge that destroyed several villages within a 6 kilometre radius, killing an estimated 150 people.

The eruption was heard clearly as far away as Blenheim and the effects of the ash in the air were observed as far south as Christchurch, over 800 km south. In Auckland the sound of the eruption and the flashing sky was thought by some to be an attack by Russian warships.

The eruption also buried many Māori villages, including Te Wairoa which has now become a tourist attraction, aptly named The Buried Village. Approximately 2 cubic kilometres of tephra was erupted, more than Mount St. Helens ejected in 1980. Many of the lakes surrounding the mountain had their shapes and areas dramatically altered, especially the eventual enlargement of Lake Rotomahana.



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The Pink & White Terraces were the most famous tourist attraction in New Zealand and considered to be the eighth wonder of the world. Those that made the long and hard journey by way of horse and cart to visit the Terraces were most frequently well to do overseas tourists or officers from the British forces in New Zealand.



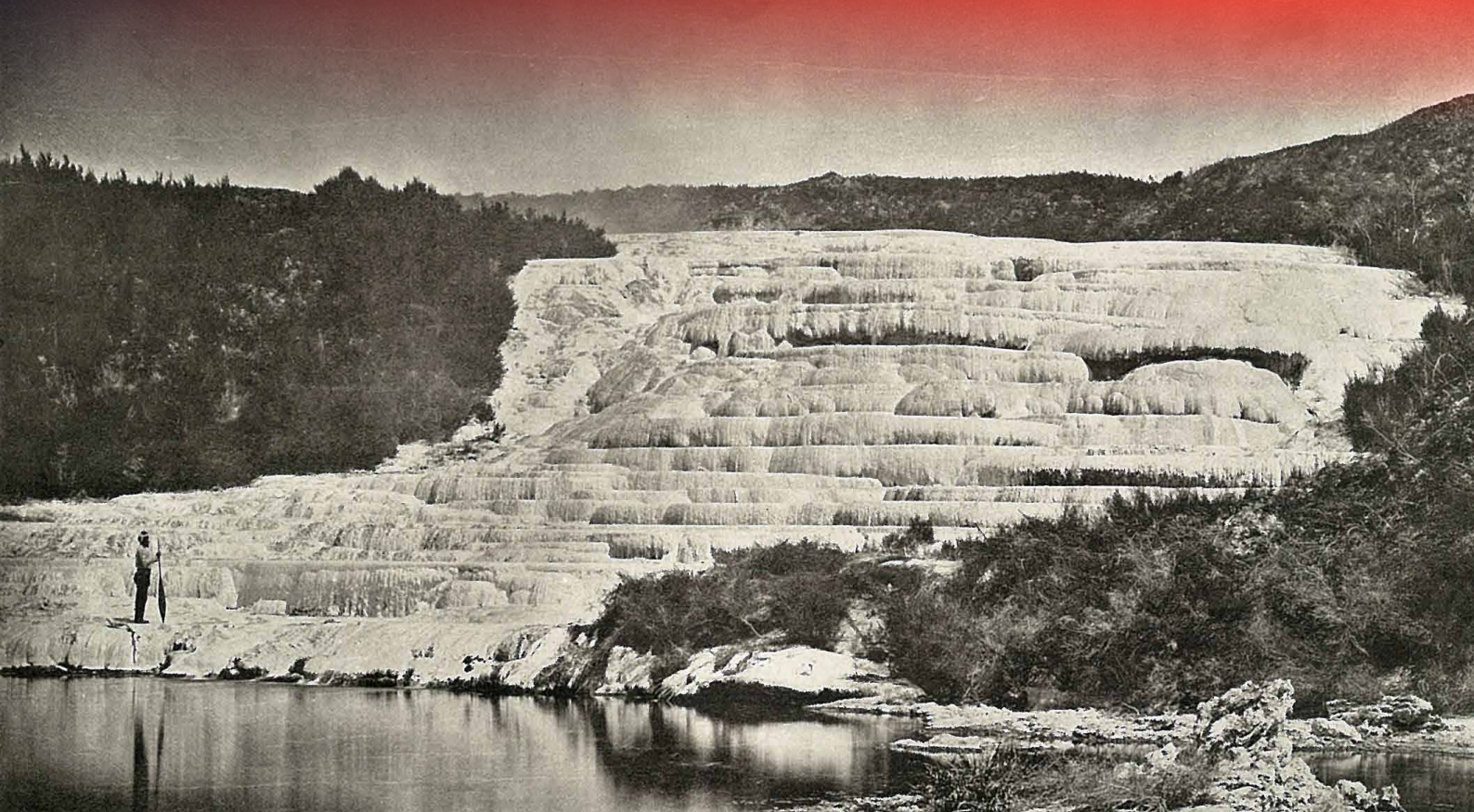
The silica Terraces formed natural bathing pools where the visiting tourists and Māori locals would bathe *au natural* in male/female segregated areas.

The Terraces were formed by geothermally heated water containing large amounts of silicic acid and sodium chloride from two large geysers. These geysers were part of a group of 40 geysers in the nearby area.

The Pink Terraces and the White Terraces were 800 metres apart descending 40 metres to the lake edge of Rotomahana.

They were completely destroyed by the eruption of Mount Tarawera, being replaced by the Waimangu Volcanic Rift Valley.

After the eruption, a crater over 100 metres deep encompassed the former site of the Terraces. After some years this filled with water to form a new Lake Rotomahana, 30 metres higher and much larger than the old lake, thus today the Terraces are now under water and earth. Underwater sonar mapping of the lake floor in 2011 undertaken by Waikato University revealed images of parts of the Pink Terraces.





Despite the loss of the Pink & White Terraces, the Rotorua district remains one of the most visited parts of the North Island attracting over 3.2 million visitors a year.

While Mt Tarawera is now sleeping, geothermal activity around the many lakes and valleys is still very much in action. Tourists flock here to witness the many geothermal parks with their steaming lakes and cliffs, geysers, mud pools, hot springs, craters and fumaroles.

Mt Tarawera itself can be experienced by 4WD/ walking tours or a helicopter landing which gives you a chance to walk along the volcanic crater rim. Alternatively you can witness the

grand volcano by a scenic fly-over in a DHC-3 Otter float plane or helicopter. Boat trips on the lakes of Tarawera and Lake Rotomohana provide stunning and unique scenery.

The recently opened Tarawera Trail is a 4-6 hour moderate-level walk that takes you past historic sites and settlements, over hill ranges, and along isolated lake-edge beaches arriving at *Hot Water Beach* where you get a chance to have a soak in natural hot thermal water pools on the lake edge. The Lake Tarawera Water Taxi will bring you back in the afternoon which will end a stunning and unforgettable day experiencing what is fast becoming one of the great walks of New Zealand. 🌸



GETTIN' WET

If you love watersports, Rotorua has a range of activities where you can get wet, messy or downright dirty!

Experience Grade 5 whitewater rafting at its best, Sledging through rapids and over waterfalls, Globberiding, 'Zurfing' or doing 360° spins in a jet boat.

If you'd rather relax and take it easy, Rotorua offers world class spas, hot thermal rivers, and New Zealand's only mud spa where you can cover yourself in the silky smooth mineral-rich mud from Hells Gate.



Sledging



Zorbing



Zurfing



Spas



Hells Gate

For more info on these activities see our website <https://guysersgaystay.com>

IN ROTORUA

Stand Up Paddle Boards



The Big Splash at Rainbow Springs



Hot waterfalls



Aix Massage



Rafting



NZ RiverJet



Thermal Hot Pools



Bay Pride

BAY PRIDE

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY, DIVERSITY & TOGETHERNESS



Rotorua's spectacular drag personality, Anna Konda, mingles with the crowd handing out sweets.

Bay Pride Picnic

Rotorua's 2015 *Bay Pride Picnic* was held at the Village Green on Sunday 15th February. It's an event that celebrates Rotorua's LGBTQ community, diversity and togetherness with an underlying cause aimed at addressing the problems of youth suicide and bullying. The *Bay Pride Picnic* signals the start of further LGBTQ event's organised for 2015 culminating in the *Bay Pride Festival* next summer.

Rotorua put on a beautiful sunny day for the *Bay Pride Picnic in the Park* that saw many people gather on the Village Green near the shores of Lake Rotorua for an afternoon of fun, live music and entertainment.

Bay Pride co-founder and local gay support advocate *Ms Mama Laid* along with other well-known Rotorua drag personalities were there to bring life, colour and frivolity to the public who were sitting enjoying a picnic on the grass.

Former television presenter and *Dancing with the Stars* champion Tamati Coffey and his partner Tim were there along with Rotorua Mayor Steve Chadwick to announce and preview the "Proudly Rotorua" float for the *Auckland Pride Parade*, (21 February 2015).

Tamati Coffey has been the driving force behind the project and together with support from local council has made the Rotorua float entry possible.

Continued over...



Tamati Coffey, Rotorua Mayor Steve Chadwick (Patron of Bay Pride) and Ms Mama Laid introducing the "Proudly Rotorua" float performers and about to draw the raffle prize winner for a trip to Sydney, kindly donated by Rotorua Airport.

Continued...

There were spot prizes being won throughout the afternoon that included *Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland*, *Agrodome* and *Zorb* tickets, a *Waiora Resort & Spa* package and a major prize of tickets for two to Sydney (courtesy Rotorua Airport) which was won by one of the Rotorua volunteer Maori Warden's.

Prizes were also awarded for the best dressed/ most creative outfit – the winner going to the 'Ugly Green Witch' (pictured below).



The 'Ugly Green Witch' takes the prize for the most creative outfit.



Co-founder and organiser of Bay Pride, Ms Mama Laid, looking dashing in lime green and orange.

The live music and drag performances going on attracted many curious people over from the *Soundshell Weekend Market* that was also taking place on the Village Green. Everyone was having a good time – both young and old, gay, lesbian and straight, tourists and locals.

The after party continued into the evening at the *Lava Bar* with a special 'Rainbow Pride' cocktail on offer being expertly mixed by barman Cody, pictured far right.

While Tamati Coffey missed out on securing the Labour Party Rotorua electorate seat (2014), his presence in Rotorua will now be recognised as the brand new owner of the '*Ponsonby Road Bar*' opening up on Eat Street. No doubt this will become Rotorua's most gay-friendly bar – a place of community and acceptance for all. 🌟

The gorgeous barman, Cody, from the Lava Bar was there with his shirt off wearing a feather headdress handing out tickets to the after-party event.





Eat Street Rotorua

Rotorua's Eat Street has recently undergone a \$2 million dollar upgrade with a glass covered canopy, retractable roof sections, coloured LED lighting and underfoot thermal heating for the ultimate year round alfresco dining atmosphere.

Eat Street is one of Rotorua's trendiest hot spots in the city attracting visitors and locals to enjoy the many quality restaurants, cafés, bars and salons, as well as the famous Lady Jane's Ice Cream Parlour.

Now the upgrade is complete, Eat Street has become a buzz of lively activity.

One of our personal favorite restaurants in Eat Street is the *Indian Star Restaurant*. Not only are the meals reasonably priced but the quality of the food and the service is hard to beat. They serve a good selection of meat, seafood and vegetarian curries, entrées and mixed platters and their range of fluffy Naan breads are delicious. It's no wonder they constantly win food excellence awards in Rotorua and are highly rated on Trip Advisor.



If you love a good steak, *Mac's Steaks* is the place to head to. Serving the finest quality New Zealand beef and lamb dishes for over 13 years Mac's Steaks produce meals with passion, flair and innovation and the friendly staff are happy to advise a range of boutique New Zealand wines to best compliment the dishes. Although slightly pricey, you won't be disappointed with the quality.



Solace Café & Restaurant offers diners a modern, warm and inviting atmosphere for relaxing with a partner, family or friends. Specialising in gluten free food, the menu is an eye opening introduction to great New Zealand cuisine, and features fresh NZ beef and seafood options.



BREW Craft Beer Pub is home to the award-winning Croucher Brewing Co, bringing you the best craft beers, NZ wine and Gastropub food in a comfortable, contemporary environment. BREW is where you will find the full range of Croucher beers on tap, along with an ever-changing selection of other great NZ craft beers. If you'd like to sample several of the Croucher beers head down for a guided tasting flight of 4 beers for just \$20 including nibbles.



Another popular restaurant within the Eat Streat complex is *Atticus Finch* that not only serves delicious tapas-style plates but also creates the best, most imaginative cocktails in town.



Or try the stylish *Ambrosia Restaurant* with its crisp white table cloths and dark wooden floors serving global contemporary dishes from around the world.

There is so much choice on Eat Streat Rotorua. ✨

The downside of erection pills

For men with erectile dysfunction (ED), erection pills such as *Viagra* and *Cialis* provide that much needed lift when its required. But for men who are young, fit and healthy, taking these pills unnecessarily can do more harm than good.

Most men love the thought of a rock hard cock that can last for hours. *Viagra* became a smashing financial success for the drug company *Pfizer*, exceeding annual sales of \$1 billion every year since its introduction in 1998.

For young healthy men without ED, popping the little blue pill every time they intend to have sex can lead to becoming reliant on the pill to get an erection. Imagine being 25 years old and not being able to get it up without taking a pill!

With the pills becoming easier to get hold of and with cheaper options on the market such as *Avigra*, young men worldwide are using them recreationally and they are being handed out among mates like Tic Tacs.

On the internet it is common to come across advertising of erection pills as low as \$1 per tablet or offers of 'free trials'. The problem with these generic tablets is they are made in

factories in China or third-world countries often in unsterilized, unhygienic conditions with no quality control or ingredient consistency.

On beaches in Thailand hawkers sell generic *Viagra* at very cheap prices. They either contain very little active ingredient or far too much, which could land you in hospital or worse.

Evidence suggests gay men who do not have ED and take erection pills do so to be able to have sex with multiple partners in a single night retaining a firm erection (at a sauna for example). If combined with unsafe sexual practices and not showering between partners this is a high risk way of spreading or catching SDI's or STD's.

If you are taking erection pills never combine this with sniffing poppers (amyl) – it will put too much strain on your heart and could be fatal.

If you genuinely have an ED problem always obtain your tablets through your GP or Pharmacist. Never buy off the internet. In New Zealand our Customs Service will more than likely seize tablets being brought into the country if they discover them and you will need a doctor's prescription to have them released to you anyway.

Always speak with your GP before starting these pills to make sure they are right for you.

For natural alternatives to *Viagra* or *Cialis*, try Horny Goat Weed or other herbal combinations available from most health shops and pharmacies. Eating several slices of watermelon is said to have great effects down below too! 🍉



Would you want to swallow generic *Viagra* pills made in this factory?

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Ways to enjoy nudism when its cold outside

Naturism as a philosophy goes beyond simply sunbathing at a nude beach on a summers day. Whether you consider yourself to be a true nudist/naturist or are just getting interested in the concept of naturism and the health and well-being that it brings, we've suggested here ways in which you can enjoy being naked in the privacy of your own home all year round.

If you work 5 days a week (or more) often you'll come home wound up and stressed feeling uncomfortable and irritable in your work clothes. You may even jump in the shower to freshen up or take a hot bath or try and soak away the troubles of the day.

Straight away after taking off your clothes you feel light and free, and after a shower or bath you'll feel calm and relaxed. But before you cover yourself up in synthetic clothes again, have a go at remaining naked while you go about your daily activities at home and see how good being naked feels.

During the autumn and winter months when its too cold or wet to be nude outdoors or going to the beach, you can still be naked indoors in the privacy of your own home and still enjoy the same feel-good senses that being naked brings.

We've suggested here ways in which you can be naked in your own home, either by yourself, with your partner, or with like-minded friends.



Ensure your home is warm. Start by cranking up the heat pump or light the fire.



After dinner, do the dishes naked. It'll make this awful job much more enjoyable!



If you have a partner, take a shower together. Sensual touch is a great way to de-stress.



Relax and read a book or lay on the couch and watch TV or a good movie naked.



Cook dinner naked. Do wear an apron if you are frying with oil though to avoid any splash burns.



Do any homework, study or computer work naked. You'll find it much more comfortable.



If you're into gaming, try it naked with a friend or partner while you battle it out on screen.



If you have a partner, give each other a naked massage before going to bed. You'll sleep well.



Be sure to put a heater on in your bedroom too, so you don't catch a chill coming from a warm lounge.



You'll get a better night's sleep by sleeping naked. It's good for your health and well-being too.



In the weekend, do the house work naked. Again it will make this boring job more enjoyable.



Need to do some DIY home renovation? Do it naked! Put some music on and have fun.



If you're artistic, try painting or doing crafts in the nude. It's a great way to get in the zone!



Organise a naked potluck dinner party with like-minded mates. Body acceptance overcomes fear.



Buy a cheap ping-pong table and play a game with a friend or partner in the nude.




Buy a nude yoga DVD on *Amazon* and practice yoga exercises in the nude. You'll feel much more free.



If you own a home gym or a weight set, do it naked for a lighter, more airy experience.



Lastly, for a holiday or few days break away from your routine, be sure to head to *Guyzers Gaystay!* 



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The site is, and always will be free, to guarantee its independence, its quality and, most importantly, its friendly atmosphere.

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RAGS

Rotorua Area Gay Society (RAGS)
Rotorua's weekly gay men's social group

The RAGS group meets every Wednesday evening from 5pm at a selected bar for a few drinks followed by dinner at a local restaurant. This social get-together is for both Rotorua locals and tourists/visitors alike who would like to join us.

To attend 'RAGS on Wednesdays' please email info@gayrotorua.com with your name and mobile number and we'll be in touch with details.