

For immediate release

9 September 2008

## **ROTORUA LIBRARY TARGETS TEEN READERS**

Rotorua teenagers will soon have a larger and more 'teen-friendly' section in the Rotorua Public Library.

The library is undergoing an upgrade in the next six months and the revamped and increased teen section will be part of that. Jane Gilbert, library manager, said it is hoped the upgrade will encourage teenagers to use the library. "Already there are about 5 - 6,000 members in the 12 to 18 age group and we are aiming to create an environment that is of interest and value to teenagers. Over the years we have carried out various initiatives to encourage teenagers to come to the library and there are now a reasonable proportion of the members in this age group." Ms Gilbert said encouraging teenagers to join the library is a way of helping improve literacy by reading. Funding from the Rotorua Trust will be used to purchase some bigger ticket items including a big screen TV and listening posts for the upgrade.

Schools, clubs and other sport and physical activity organisations are being actively encouraged through the No Exceptions Project to make sport and physical activity inclusive for people with disabilities.

Sport BOP's sport opportunity advisor, Cheryl Thompson, provides No Exceptions training workshops for these organisations. Sonia Lynds, Sport BOP active youth team leader, said while the project is run nationally through the Halberg Trust, support from Rotorua Trust enables it to have a "local Rotorua flavour". This includes visiting Rotorua community groups and schools on a regular basis to make sure that they have the up-to-date information about the support available. "This year we will be following up with the individuals in Rotorua who have accessed the Halberg Activity Fund to make sure that the adaptive equipment is working well for them to increase their opportunities to be active." The Halberg Activity Fund is aimed primarily at those aged from 5 to 18 years, while the No Exceptions Project includes all age groups. "The aim is to create an environment where people with disabilities are included in sport and physical activity. This could mean modifying equipment, environments or just ensuring events run categories to include those with disabilities."

Rotorua's Aroha Mai Cancer Support Group will be hosting a breast cancer awareness walk on Wednesday, 29 October at 6 pm.

Dell Gee, walk organiser, invites everybody in the community to join their friends and neighbours, and children of all ages in a walk for health. "All proceeds from the walk will be used to help support people in Rotorua affected by cancer, by providing services and opportunities currently

available in larger cities but not in provincial areas.” She said it will be a fun event and she is encouraging everyone to dress in pink. “Other cities organise Pink Walks – let’s really ‘feel the spirit’ and make Rotorua’s Pink Walk one of the biggest and brightest in the country,” she said. The walk will start and finish at the Village Green and will proceed along the lake front to Sulphur Point, and back past the Rotorua Energy Events Centre, a distance of approximately 3.2 kilometres. Dell Gee said aside from supporting those with cancer, the ‘feel the spirit’ walk is also about supporting the community to take part in a fun event. “We are hoping about 300 – 500 people will come along and join in.” Entry is \$5 for adults and under 13s are free.

Community groups and organisations to receive funding from the Rotorua Trust in its latest donations round were:

<b>Aroha Mai Cancer Support Group</b> Feel the Spirit Pink Walk	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Arts Rotorua Charitable Trust</b> Mayoral Command Concert for the Elderly in association with the Rotorua Trust	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Epilepsy New Zealand</b> New Vehicle	<b>\$9,591</b>
<b>John Paul College</b> Student Role Model Programme	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Mamaku Services and Citizens Club</b> New Roof	<b>\$12,500</b>
<b>RAVE</b> Rotorua Artists at RAVE and Blues Feast	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Rotorua Budget Advisory Service</b> Pilot Project	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Rotorua Civic Arts Trust</b> Promotion of the Arts	<b>\$70,000</b>
<b>Rotorua District Council</b> Project CARV – Parenting Resources	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Rotorua District Principals’ Association</b> Rotorua Education Centre	<b>\$90,000</b>
<b>Rotorua Girls’ High School</b> Student Role Model Programme	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Rotorua Lakeside Trust</b> Lakeside Concert	<b>\$125,000</b>
<b>Rotorua Montessori Primary Trust</b> Tour de Lakefront	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Rotorua Public Library</b> Teen Section of Library	<b>\$20,000</b>

**Sport Bay of Plenty** \$20,000  
No Exceptions Project

**Te Papa Takaro** \$7,500  
Rangatahi Awards

## **Ends**

### **For more information please contact:**

Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust  
Stuart Burns  
Chief Executive  
Telephone 07 347 6239  
Web [www.rotoruatrust.org.nz](http://www.rotoruatrust.org.nz)

Aroha Mai  
Dell Gee  
Telephone 021 050 2440

Rotorua Public Library  
Jane Gilbert  
Telephone 07 3484 199

Sport Bay of Plenty  
Wayne Werder or Sonia Lynds  
Telephone 07 578 0016

### **Issued by:**

imPRove it Public Relations Ltd  
Telephone 07 348 1444  
Mobile 027 430 8876  
Email [annette@improveit.co.nz](mailto:annette@improveit.co.nz)  
Web [www.improveit.co.nz](http://www.improveit.co.nz)

### **To unsubscribe, change or update your email address:**

Please click this link <http://www.improveit.co.nz/unsubscribe.htm>