

Welcome to Digi Talk - keeping you informed about digital activity and events taking place across the King Country.

Otorohanga Wi-Fi network - helping to connect the community

The Otorohanga Free Wi-Fi was made public on the 28th of July with the festival of #ALWAYSCONNECTED. With over 3000 residents in attendance over the ten days, the network met expectations despite the massive influx of users. The community came together and enjoyed the festivities, food, giveaways and stalls. Over the upcoming summer month's digital events are planned on the Village Green using the town's Wi-Fi as the host.

The convenience of Wi-Fi allows users to stay connected in a multitude of different places.

The Otorohanga Wi-Fi network is broadcast from access points at six key locations enabling full coverage of Maniapoto Street. The access point on Beattie Home has been identified as high-density or an environment with a large concentration of users. This could be due to the number of visitors to the popular skate park catching up on homework, sending

snaps (Snapchat), or the residents of Beattie Home embracing technology! The network sees on average 800 to 1000 unique users daily with hundreds of gigabytes of data consumed every week.

It has empowered the Otorohanga District like never before, providing users with continuous connectivity and a consistent flow of communication.

In conjunction with the Wi-Fi launch a social media page was created for everyone who has connections to the town of Otorohanga, a place to find out about upcoming events and learn about what is happening back home. ALWAYSCONNECTED was launched with over 40,000 views on its Facebook page in the first two weeks, excellent reach for a District with just over 9,000 residents. Follow the ALWAYSCONNECTED Facebook page to stay informed of exciting community events.



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Faster broadband speeds for Hanganiki

Chorus has an upgrade scheduled for the broadband switch in the telecommunications cabinet located on the corner of Mangarino Road and State Highway 3. The upgrade is scheduled for the last week in November.

Broadband speed at your property is determined by the length of the copper line from your house to the cabinet. The closer your property is located to the cabinet the faster your speed will be. The high frequency signal from the broadband switch travels only so far down the line before it starts to deteriorate.

If you live along Mangarino Road and Waitomo Caves Road in vicinity to the junction and would like to find out more please visit www.waitomo.govt.nz/events/digitaljourney/infrastructureupdates/



Are you looking for a rural broadband supplier?

Wireless Dynamics are a local telecommunications provider passionate about the internet. Over the last four years they have been building their own internet distribution network based on high speed terrestrial wireless technology which is fed by fibre. This allows them to supply high speed, reliable and fairly priced internet services to urban and rural areas. They currently have seven sites from which broadband can be received including Te Kuiti, Otorohanga, Puketutu and Rangitoto. Wireless Dynamics have recently commissioned a project to supply **Marokopa township and the surrounding area** with internet and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). This project is estimated to be completed by late October 2016.

Wireless Dynamics are always looking for prospective sites for property internet services. If you would like to discuss getting internet coverage in your area, please phone 0800 003 441 or email: info@wd.net.nz

Protecting Portable Devices

Tablets, laptops, and smartphones are all too appealing to thieves and hackers, and vulnerable to online threats. Mobile devices can also unfortunately be misplaced or damaged, taking their contents with them. Here are five tips to keep your devices secure:

1. Make it a priority to install **security software** and keep it up to date. Android is especially vulnerable to malware attacks, so be sure to protect these devices with anti-malware software.
2. Lock your device and ensure your password is memorable and strong i.e. at least eight characters, including upper and lower-case letters, numbers and symbols.
3. Make it a habit to regularly **back up** your laptop, tablet or smartphone to the cloud and/or portable storage device, so your important information and photos do not get lost if your device is damaged or stolen.

4. Shop safely online:
 - Beware of amazing deals and free offers - they may not be a genuine bargain.
 - Don't use public WiFi for financial transactions.
 - If paying with a credit card, ensure two-factor verification has been set up.
 - Make sure the shopping site URL begins with 'https' or that the browser bar contains the locked padlock symbol.
5. Don't leave your enticing gadgets in view – put small portable devices in an inside pocket of your clothes or in your bag, and keep your bag with you. Keep laptops safely **out of sight** when you're not using them.



Find out more about keeping your digital device and information secure by visiting: www.digitalresources.nz/article/i786Ppa

Accessing the internet and WiFi in your community

Check your emails, update your facebook status, access research resources or google the latest trends using the free WiFi access available in your community.

The library environment is perfect for studying. Find a quiet spot and plug in your laptop or sit in the sun outside enjoying free WiFi access. Book a FREE 30-minute time slot at:

Waitomo District Library

28 Taupiri Street, Te Kuiti
Phone: (07) 878 1028

Otorohanga District Library

27 Turongo Street, Otorohanga
Phone: (07) 873 7175

FREE WiFi is also available at:

Otorohanga i-SITE,
27 Turongo Street, Otorohanga
(behind the Otorohanga Library)

COMPUTING SKILLS
Learn for work,
study or to stay
connected!

FREE*

The 6 modules include keyboarding, internet and email. Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Publisher. You can complete module 1 or 2 or all 6.

Otorohanga Regional Hub

(128-30 Maniapoto Street). Classes run every Tuesday and Thursday 4.30pm - 7.30pm

Te Kuiti Learning Centre

(Railway Station Building No.3 Rora Street)
Classes run every Tuesday 8.30am - 2.30pm, and every Thursday 9am - 2.30pm

For more information and to apply, contact **07 873 6158** or visit www.wintec.ac.nz/study-at-wintec/wintec-in-the-regions

*Some conditions apply

