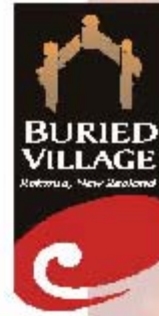


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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For immediate release

21 April 2010

### **GUIDES BRING BURIED VILLAGE TO LIFE**

Guides dressed in period costume are bringing the Buried Village of Te Wairoa, near Rotorua, to life.

The new initiative introduced in November is proving a big hit with visitors and staff alike.

The five guides, along with retail staff, say its fun to dress up and visitors love it.

General Manager, Pam McGrath said, having people wearing clothing of the day really sets the scene.

“It gives visitors more of an idea of what life would have been like here in the 1880s.”

“Visitors really enjoy having the guides available to walk them through the excavations sharing all their fascinating stories.

First established by a Christian missionary in 1848, Te Wairoa, together with the nearby Pink and White Terraces, was wiped out when Mt Tarawera erupted in 1886 killing more than 150 people.

“The guides really do bring Te Wairoa to life. It’s the human element. Visitors get a better appreciation of what actually happened here on that fateful night all those years ago.”

*history alive today...*

Guided tours operate three times daily during winter at 11 am, 1.30 pm and 3 pm, and are included in the entry fee.

First opened in 1931, Buried Village is the only excavation site in New Zealand open for public inspection.

## **Ends**

### **Caption for photograph:**

Guides Lyn Williams (left) and Kiri Tuhakariana greet visitors at the entrance to the Buried Village of Te Wairoa.

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