

TE PĀNUI RŪNAKA

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF KĀI TAHU NEWS, VIEWS AND EVENTS

KAIKŌURA RŪNANGA | TE RŪNANGA O NGĀTI WAEWAE | TE RŪNANGA O MAKAAWHIO | TE NGĀI TŪĀHURIRI RŪNANGA
TE HAPŪ O NGĀTI WHEKE | TE TAUMUTU RŪNANGA | TE RŪNANGA O KOUKOURARATA | WAIREWA RŪNANGA
ŌNUKU RŪNANGA | TE RŪNANGA O AROWHENUA | TE RŪNANGA O WAIHAO | TE RŪNANGA O MOERAKI | KĀTI HUIRAPA RŪNAKA KI PUKETERAKI
TE RŪNANGA O ŌTĀKOU | HOKONUI RŪNANGA | WAIHŌPAI RŪNAKA | ŌRAKA APARIMA RŪNAKA | AWARUA RŪNANGA

HARATUA | MAY 2025



Whaea Rakimarie by Bex Wilson-Jennings

Explore Aotearoa with Ngāi Tahu Tourism

20% OFF FOR NGĀI TAHU WHĀNAU

- Let staff know you're Ngāi Tahu when booking to receive discount • Available on bookings made via phone or on walk-up (where available) • All offers valid until 30 September 2025



ALL BLACKS[®] EXPERIENCE

Step into the excitement of the All Blacks, where you learn what it takes to make, shape and be an All Black.

AUCKLAND
www.experienceallblacks.com

Agrodome

Enjoy the Farm Show and Farm Tour and have a cuddle at the Farmyard Nursery, home to our cutest baby animals.

ROTORUA
www.agrodome.co.nz



See conservation in action at one of the largest and most successful kiwi hatcheries in the world!

ROTORUA
www.nationalkiwihatchery.org.nz



Experience 30 minutes of awesome jet boating on the Waikato River and view the majestic Huka Falls.

TAUPŌ
www.hukafallsjet.com



Immerse yourself in an authentic New Zealand experience in some of the world's most stunning scenery.

GLENORCHY
www.dartriver.co.nz



Scale new heights with this renowned glacier-guided experience you will never forget!

FRANZ JOSEF
www.franzjosefglacier.com



The spectacular Shotover Canyons – see their beauty, feel their power. Come on a journey with us, the world's most exciting jet boat ride.

QUEENSTOWN
www.shotoverjet.com



Connect to the night sky in Takapō through our guided stargazing and indoor astronomy experiences.

TEKAPŌ
www.darkskyproject.co.nz

A decorative horizontal border at the bottom of the page. It consists of two rows of repeating geometric patterns. The top row features a sequence of small squares and triangles, while the bottom row features a more complex pattern of interlocking shapes.



Nā te Kaiwhakahaere



**Aukaha, kia kaha i kā rauawa
o te waka kōtuia o Tahu Pōtiki
Tukuna tō takata ki te kei o te waka
Tautiākina kā tauwhā o te rohe
Me ohiti ka tika, pō te ao, ao te pō
Ekea kā puke o te tohe, o te wā, o kā tau e!**

E te iwi, tēnā koutou,

Over the course of March and April, there have been two landmark legal cases for our tribe.

The first is the continued pursuit of legal recognition of our rakatirataka over freshwater across the Kāi Tahu takiwā. This eight-week High Court hearing, which finished on the 4th of April, involved the presentation of extensive evidence that clearly demonstrated our continued exercise of rakatirataka to restore and protect waterways across our takiwā – from wetlands to rivers, lakes, and coastal streams. Despite these efforts, successive governments have forced Kāi Tahu to the sidelines and the result has been the slow but steady degradation of South Island waterways. As our Moeraki Rūnaka Upoko, David Higgins, put it in his evidence:

“But now, when I visit the Kakaunui River, it brings tears to my eyes. I immediately know that the river is in bad health as I can smell it.”

The decision now rests with Justice Harland, and the deliberations may take several months. We’re asking the

Court to make declarations recognising our rakatirataka and affirming that the Crown has an obligation to understand, recognise and accommodate Kāi Tahu rakatirataka over wai māori in the Kāi Tahu takiwā.

I know that the tribe put forward a compelling case, and a huge amount of effort went into ensuring we were well prepared and our case was well executed. Thanks are due to all those who contributed to this historic piece of work. Kei te noho nama tō tātau iwi ki tēnei huka, nā rātau tēnei kerēme i kōkiri – me mihi ka tika.



Ngāi Tahu whānau, Upoko, kaumātua, Te Rūnanga leaders, and Te Kura Taka Pini team members gathered outside the High Court in Ōtautahi.

Meanwhile, in Murihiku, Ruapuke Island Group whānau have had their customary marine title claim go before the High Court. It has taken Ruapuke whānau many years of hui, researching and preparing their case and evidence, all with the backdrop of uncertainty posed by the Coalition Government’s proposed legislative changes to the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACA).

Ruapuke was once a major trading hub and place of refuge for Kāi Tahu. On board HMS *Herald*, off the coast of Ruapuke, Tūhawaiki signed Te Tiriti, one of the three places where it was signed by Kāi Tahu. Ruapuke whānau have rightly asserted, through cultural and historical evidence, that they have maintained exclusive use and occupation of the Ruapuke Island Group coastal area in accordance with tikaka, uninterrupted since 1840. As noted in evidence:

“It’s the voice of the collective whānau that decides what happens on Ruapuke. The wider community have a general understanding that this is how the decisions are made here. That is our tradition and tikanga”
– Colin (Toe) Topi and Ricky Fife.

Te Rūnanga supported the Ruapuke Island Group claim with tikaka evidence from Dr Hana O’Regan.

This case is one of the many MACA cases still making its way through the courts more than a decade after MACA came into effect. It underscores the ongoing challenges whānau and hapū face in having their rights legally recognised in the takutai moana. We sincerely thank the Ruapuke whānau for their mahi and leadership in this space and hope it will set a helpful precedent across the takiwā for the broader Te Rūnanga customary marine title claim.



Ruapuke Island Group whānau gathered at the High Court in Murihiku.

Both of these cases go to the heart of rakatirataka and the enduring relationship Kāi Tahu have with the taiao. As an iwi, we don't go to Court lightly, but we do recognise that legal action is a tool we can use to powerfully advocate for our rights when other options have been exhausted. We go to court on these matters to seek a better way forward.

Justin Tipa
Kaiwhakahaere

TE PĀNUI RŪNAKA

CALL FOR COVER ART SUBMISSIONS

Kia ora e te whānau, if you would like your artwork to be featured on the cover of *Te Pānui Rūnaka*, please submit it via email to: tpr@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Whaea Rakimarie

nā Bex Wilson-Jennings (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha. Ki Rakiura)

Ko Bex Wilson-Jennings
(nee Smith) taku ingoa (Kāi Tahu, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha. Ki Rakiura).
Ko Rakiura te kainga tahi.
Ko Phillip Smith taku Pāpā.
Ko Kapiti Takutai te Kainga rua.

My mahi toi is named
'Whaea Rakimarie'.

Woven from cotton cord, with huruhuru, paua shell (added by the tamariki of 'Te Kura O Rakiura' for the jubilee).

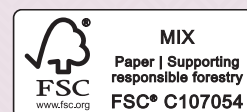
I was asked by Kath Johnson (principal of Te Kura) to weave for the 150 year jubilee in October 2024.

I started my raranga journey for my daughter Star's graduation. A local kuia (Tiahuia Gray) who I spoke to said "If you want to honour your daughter, you make it yourself."

So I learned. Inspired by many weavers including Veranoa Hetet.

I have woven a few pieces and am currently working on a grief kakahu as my husband Mike passed away suddenly from pancreatic cancer 18 months ago. He was 57.

Photo credit: Jaimie Marama-Smith.



Te Pānui Rūnaka uses vegetable based inks and environmentally responsible paper produced from Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certified, Mixed Source pulp from Responsible Sources.



Printed by Blue Star NZ who are Toitū enviro mark gold and a Toitū carbon reduce certified organisation, actively managing their impact on the environment.

Whakahaerehia e Ruruku Ltd (Ngāi Tahu Pakihi Whānau).

Kaikōura Rūnanga

Te Ora Haumanu

Our mahi continues to grow as the year moves swiftly along. Four of our kaimahi had the opportunity to do a five-day remote trip to Lake Sumner, where they tackled some wilding conifer (pine tree control), on some of our toughest terrain yet. This involved hand sawing, chain sawing and 'cut-and-pasting' pine trees of all different sizes, while working on a steep hill side.

During the five-day trip our team learnt new skills to bring home, and got to witness some beautiful views, making the challenging terrain worth it! Lake Sumner is home to many native fish and birdlife species including the kārearea (New Zealand falcon). This is the second remote trip we have done for Te Ora Haumanu and hope to see some more in the future.



Our team has made a strong impact along the beautiful Kaikōura coastline (partnered with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu) doing some much needed weed control. We have also been focusing on our kōwhai site (in partnership with Environment Canterbury) doing some follow up maintenance and clearing some new areas.

Above: Remote team at Lake Sumner.

Right: Kaimahi working at a Ngāi Tahu site.



Te Ara Pūkenga

We've had an amazing start to our third intake of Te Ara Pūkenga. We kicked this off on a stunning day with a pōwhiri at Takahanga Marae for our tauira and business partners.

This round, we have eight new tauira and three returning tauira. A cool variety of courses are being studied – Te reo, Xero, Workplace Communications, Tooth Gems, Project Management, Business Administration, Animal Care, Leadership, Hofa Audio, Holistic Health & Wellbeing and Small Business Management. Our tauira are putting in the hard mahi and already completing assessments within their courses, and we're only seven weeks in!



For our weekly te reo lessons, our tauira started the round off learning their pepeha and mihi. Learning to memorise it and build confidence, standing loud and proud when speaking them out to our rōpū. They have also been learning new waiata and karakia as well as their meaning, and when to use them. They then completed their first aromatawai and all passed with flying colours!

This round for hīkoi, we started at the northern end of our takiwā, having already visited several pā sites to learn our beautiful history. Our tauira are absolutely loving the pūrākau and soaking up all this newfound knowledge.

We're so excited to support another rōpū of tauira to grow to succeed in this journey!

Left: Pōwhiri to welcome our third intake of tauira and business partners.

Right: Tauira putting in the hard mahi during online study time.



Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae

A big mihi to everyone celebrating their birthdays in the months below. If your birthday isn't listed, aroha mai – wishing you a wonderful birthday! Please reach out to the office, and we'll make sure to add you to the list.

March

Nikita Lang, Amber Trevathan, Riley Burke, Alan Russell, Jackie Lang, Gary Lang, Aaron Tainui, Hamiria Hutana, Annabelle Lee-Harris, Rititia Read, Nora McQuarrie, Mahana Coulston, Tyson Hutana, Nadia Tainui, Jackie Curtain, Te Amo Tamainu, Teressa Buckeridge, Judith Stokes, Suzie Gibbs, Nei Meihana, Kaiynah Mason, David Mason, Ayla-Marie Meihana, Emily Duff, Elly Mulholland.

April

Tanya Weepu, Joe Mason, Julie Campbell, Blossom Meihana-Eiffie, Karley Tauwhare, Sue Meihana, Tiare Mason-Couston, Tui Tauwhare, Quentin Johansson, Tamia Osikai, Ngariki Tamainu, Benjamin Price, Awatea Tamainu, Flynn Sargeant, Teena Henderson, Matthew Sollis, Luke Jones, Hektor Simpson, Lucretia Treadgold.

Arahura Pā Picnic 2025



Arahura Pā Picnic 2025

Ngā mihi nui to everyone who came along to celebrate with us today! It was a beautiful day filled with reunions, laughter, and reconnections with whānau from near and far.

A massive, heartfelt mihi to all those who put in the mahi behind the scenes—the hāngi crew, the clean-up team, the game runners, and everyone who lent a hand in any way.

He aha te mea nui o te ao?

He tangata,
he tangata,
he tangata!

It was a perfect example of how many hands make light work, and we couldn't have done it without you!

Ka mau te wehi
e te whānau –
until next time!



Poutini Waiora Opening

The brand new Poutini Waiora Westport facility is officially open, providing expanded kaupapa Māori health and social services to the community. This modern space ensures whānau have a welcoming, safe place to access primary healthcare, mental health support, disability services, and traditional Māori healing in the Kawatiri area.

This development is part of the continued investment of Pokeka Poutini Ngāi Tahu in Te Tai Poutini, with further upgrades in its Poutini Waiora service facilities in Hokitika and Greymouth on the way.

For more info or to book an appointment, visit: www.poutiniwaiora.co.nz or call 0800 252 672.



Final Poupou Installed for Paparoa National Park



Mahana Coulston (left) standing with his son (Tiare Mason) and mother, Diana Panapa (right).

The final piece of mahi for Paparoa National Park has been completed with the installation of this beautiful poupou. It tells the story of the separation of Ranginui and Papatūānuku, depicting Tāne and his brother Paia. As Tāne found himself slightly too short to push their parents apart, Paia stood on his shoulder, giving him the leverage needed to complete the task.

The unveiling and blessing of this significant piece were led by Te Rua Mason, marking the completion of this kaupapa. This piece was skilfully designed by Mahana Coulston and fabricated by Brightwater Engineering in Greymouth.



Child Cancer Foundation Nationwide Street Appeal 2025

As part of the on-going partnership between Child Cancer Foundation and kaimahi of Ngāi Tahu Pounamu and their pēpi from Ngāi Tahu Pounamu, Kai Puku, Poutini Waiora and Pokeka Poutini Ngāi Tahu adopted the collection site at Hokitika New World to help raise pūtea and awareness for Child Cancer during the Nationwide Street Appeal.

The team helped raise over \$1,500.00 to contribute to the nationwide \$225,000.00 goal.

All pūtea raised goes towards supporting tamariki and their whānau on their cancer journey. Each whānau experience is different and thanks to the hard mahi from Child Cancer Foundation they are there to support them every step of the way.

If you would like to make a small koha to help tamariki and their whānau, you can do this via their website:
<https://childcancer.org.nz/donate/>



Flynn Sargeant's Hard Work Pays Off with U18 A | Nelson Rep Selection

Flynn Sargeant has had an impressive start to the year! His dedication over the school holidays has paid off successfully making the U18 A Nelson rep team. With six days a week filled with trainings, Flynn is also benefiting from an exciting opportunity to train with the Nelson Giants Head Coach in the U18 Mainland's Eagles Academy. This additional training, along with his strength and conditioning sessions and nutrition support, is setting him up for a promising season and future in basketball.

It is great to see such commitment and hard work paying off. Best of luck to Flynn for the rest of the year!

Update from Te Komiti Mātauranga o Ngāti Waewae

Kia ora, e te whānau

During 2025 we are continuing our mahi to support educators along Te Tai Poutini by supporting a number of schools and early childhood centres with te reo Māori, pūrākau, strategies and more.

We are also continuing to host a range of wānanga for our whānau both at Arahura Marae, in the community, and online.

For further details on our upcoming events and opportunities, make sure you:

- Join the Poutini Ngāi Tahu Facebook group
- Sign up to our newsletter at: www.ngatiwaewae.org.nz
- Join the rūnanga mailing list by emailing: Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Ka nui te mihi ki a tātou katoa

Nā Te Komiti Mātauranga o Ngāti Waewae

(Ariana Stevens, Davida Simpson, Hamiria Ngaamo, Joe Mason, Andrea Read, Miriama Johnsen, Tina Tainui and Aleigha Ngaamo)

Child Cancer Foundation Nationwide Street Appeal 2025



Section for Sale | Arahura

Kia ora, e te whānau,

There is a section for sale in Arahura. Please contact 021 037 0219 to enquire.

Rūnanga business

If you have any rūnanga business queries including whakapapa registration forms, please contact our rūnanga administrator:

Aleigha – Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz or 037556451.

If you have any marae bookings or queries, please contact our marae manager:

Miriama – Events@ngatiwaewae.org.nz or 037556451.

Keep in the loop

You can keep in the loop with our upcoming wānanga and events by:

- Joining the Poutini Ngāi Tahu and Arahura Rūnanga pages on Facebook.
- Registering at: www.ngatiwaewae.org.nz for access to our whānau portal with resources, updates and upcoming events providing your email address to Aleigha for Rūnanga Comms.

Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

Nau mai – Pepi Hou

Rocky Kākahi Peters, born at home in Ōtepoti on 15 March 2025, to Paisley Bishop and Jamie Peters weighing in at 8-pound 4 oz. Paisley is a mokopuna of Terry and Maureen Scott. Welcome to the world little man.

Canterbury Museum Visit

Director Anthony Wright, Puamiria Parata-Goodall and others from the management team, met with PM and FT, and kaumātua Horia Tootell, to update them on Te Araiteuru, the rebuild of Canterbury Museum and the opportunity to reflect Poutini Ngāi Tahu stories in the future displays. While here they took the opportunity for a guided tour through Pounamu Pathway Māwhera Pā. The same week, we also hosted the Christchurch Art Gallery management team at Māwhera Pā.



Hosting NZ Police Tasman District

Commander Superintendent Tracey Thompson led her senior team in meeting with Poutini Ngāi Tahu chairs about forming a Māori Advisory Board on Te Tai Poutini. She was accompanied by Inspector Tracey Wharehoka, Iwi Liaison Lead Constable Cheyenne Taurima and Senior Sergeant Brent Cook.



Inaugural WCRC Hui On the Marae

Ngāti Māhaki hosted the West Coast Regional Council full management team and councillors at Te Tauraka Waka a Māui Marae, for a history making first full council meeting held on a Tai Poutini marae. The councillors met under the manaakitaka of our whare tipuna, Kaipō.



Ngāti Māhaki in Antarctica

As representatives of 'Murihiku Ki Te Tai Toka' Kara Edwards and Rachael Forsyth had the amazing opportunity to go to Antarctica and many of the sub-Antarctic islands aboard the Heritage Explorer for the month of February. The trip was an incredible experience for the ladies with many highlights including the natural environment and wildlife as well as the incredible staff and fellow passengers. Making it to the Ross Sea and Scott Base was amazing, especially the opportunity to visit "Te Kaiwhakaterere i te Raki – The navigator of the Heaven's", carved by our very own Fayne Robinson. "It was a wonderful and emotional experience to see such a beautiful expression of our culture so far from home. We felt the privilege of the experience as representatives of our whānau and hapū" – Rachael Forsyth.



Methodist Church Guest Speaker – Paul Madgwick

Paul Madgwick was invited as guest speaker at the Methodist Church South Island Synod in Christchurch, speaking on the history of Karaitianatanga ki Te Tai Poutini - history of Māori churches on the West Coast. This is the whānau tautoko who came along on the day.



True West Adventure Race in Awarua (Haast)

We are thrilled to continue to support True West, a Coast based adventure raced developed and delivered by the incredible Nathan Fa'ave and his team. This year in February the race was held in Haast. This is the most southern township on the West Coast, providing the perfect backdrop for this year's **True West Adventure Race**. We were proud to have Nicole Wilson-Harris (Ngāti Māhaki) as a competitor in the 12-hour event alongside fellow Haast residents, Rachel Black and Hailey Miller.

Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio – Hui ā-Tau – 1 November

Please note the date for our Hui ā-Tau this year, to be held at Te Tauraka Waka a Māui Marae to be held slightly later to work in with the auditor and accountant time frames. We will send out further reminders but wanted to let whānau know early. We will also be holding a series of whenua Māori land block meetings the following day on November 2nd. We will also be having a 'kawē mate' as part of the weekend activities so please keep in touch if this is of interest to you.

Hariata Jamieson, Pūmanawa for John Paul II

Congratulations to Hariata, eldest moko of Maria Whina Russell and Paul Madgwick, who is Pūmanawa (Head Māori Girl) at John Paul II High School in Māwhera, Greymouth this year. Hariata is also kaea for the school's Kapa Haka team and part of the school leadership team. A Year 13 student, she is focusing this year on te reo. Taua and Pōua are very proud!



Oceania Wrestling World Champs

Congratulations to Jaxon Friend, who is competing in American Samoa, representing New Zealand in the under 16, under 65kg division. Jaxon is a tough competitor who lives for wrestling who will be coming home as a medal winner including silver and bronze.



Ngāti Māhaki Whānau Picnic

Our annual whānau picnic was well supported by whānau this year. Many thanks to Toihi Wright and her small rūpū of dedicated helpers. The whānau who attended had a fabulous time! Thanks to all who helped make the day such a success.

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga

Christmas Party

Well, here we are, well into 2025! Before I begin, I wish you all a very happy healthy year to come. Our kaumātua had their annual Christmas lunch at the Papanui RSA. The kai was delicious! The best thing about our Christmas lunch is getting to see our whānau, especially some that we may not have seen since last year, talking up with all their news and sharing lots of laughter. Thanks to all our organisers within our very own kaumātua group who decorated the tables with our little gift bags and created a photo booth area. We all had great fun taking photos with different whānau. I hope you all enjoy seeing some of your whānau in these photos, especially our dear Wiki who has since passed away. Moe mai rā Wiki, see you again someday.

Nā, Aunty Joan



Above: Michelle Philpott is pictured making shortbread for the gift bags. Above right, from left to right: Wiki Crofts, Pauline Crofts, Tuk Hoeta and Mary-Jane Moody.

Christmas Party



Pictured above are the kaumātua who helped make the gift bags for each kaumātua. Above right: Kaumātua Photo Booth.

Taurite Tū ki Tuahiwi 2024

2024 marked the first time our kaumātua have participated in Taurite Tū, and they absolutely love coming to the marae every Thursday to work on their strength and mobility. The feedback has been incredible, with many kaumātua sharing how this programme has helped them feel more mobile and confident in their movements.

A huge mihi to Katrina and her team for creating such an amazing initiative – we truly hope Taurite Tū continues for many years to come. The kaumātua are also deeply grateful to Lori McDaniel, whose dedication and encouragement make these classes possible. She not only guides them through the exercises but also ensures there is plenty of laughter along the way, allowing everyone to move at their own pace. Adding to the experience, Lori's son, Christian, has been providing delicious kai for the classes, making sure our kaumātua are well looked after – what a treat!

The programme has seen an incredible response, with 38 kaumātua signed up and an average of 26 attending each week. While we wish we could welcome even more, space and coaching limitations mean we must prioritise safety. Heoi anō, Taurite Tū has brought an amazing energy to our marae, and we couldn't be more thrilled with its success.



Taurite Tū ki Tuahiwi class of 2024.

WHĀNAU SUBMISSION

Rangatahi Success

Nathan Moore (21) Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Mamoe, Waitaha is the son of Ben and Leonie Moore. Nathan has whakapapa back to his 5th great grandfather Taki Hikaeko, who is the brother of Kararaina Hinehou, partnered to Richard Barrett, hence connected to the Barrett family.

Some may remember Nathan from the Te Ataarangi classes held at Tuahiwi Marae in 2020.

At the end of last year Nathan successfully completed his Bachelor of Architectural Studies Degree at ARA. He also received three Awards: Eke Panuku Māori Achievement Award in Architecture, Te Puna Wānaka Community Engagement Award in Architecture and Architectural Designers NZ Design Technology Award.

His love of creating whakairo and incorporating tikanga practice was incorporated into his final architectural project at ARA's EXIT Exhibition.

Nathan is now studying towards his Masters of Architecture at AUT in Auckland.



Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke

Office Conference Centre Build Project

Work is progressing steadily on the build with the main concrete pour taking place at the time of writing. The project is due for completion in December 2025, meantime staff are enjoying life in the port-a-coms.



Lyttelton West Papakāinga Project

The recent completion of a masterplan for a papakāinga development on the old Lyttelton West School site means we are now in the whānau consultation phase for the project, and we are seeking expressions of interest and feedback from our hapū members. To have your say, go to the whānau section of the website (if you haven't logged in before, please email rapaki@ngaitahu.iwi.nz).



Architects image of possible site layout.

Māketē Reo ki Ōhinehou

The inaugural Waitaha Māketē Reo, a te reo Māori speaking market was held in Lyttelton on Sunday 16 March. Hundreds attended the māketē organised by Te Rōpū Wahine Māori Toko i te Ora ki Rapaki (Rāpaki Branch Māori Womens Welfare League). Māngai Mere Skerrett says it was a place where te reo Māori was normalised for all regardless of their te reo Māori proficiency.

Tautiaki Moana Coastguard Canterbury Building Opened

On Saturday 15 March, Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke warmly welcomed the Governor-General, The Right Honourable Dame Cindy Kiro, to officially open the new Tautiaki Moana Coastguard Canterbury building at Te Nukutai o Tapoa with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Over the years, we have built a strong partnership with the Tautiaki Moana Canterbury unit, supported by their involvement in key events such as our annual waka ama event, Pioke Pursuit, the Tuia250 commemoration in 2019, and the SailGP regattas in 2023 and 2024, where they towed Kotukumairangi from Okains Bay to Whakaraupō and back.

As the primary maritime search and rescue organisation, Tautiaki Moana plays an essential role across the motu, ensuring whānau can enjoy our waters safely.



Te Taurapa Tūhono NZTE Staff Get Busy in the Taiao

Recently the Ōtautahi staff at Te Taurapa Tūhono NZTE led by Hare Pitama, supported our Tiaki Taiao team in their mahi to 'release' from the weeds some of the recently planted native trees on the slopes of Te Poho o Tamatea. The goal was to ensure that the trees will survive the next year of growth, until they are self-sustainable and ultimately provide a home for the kererū to return. The team enjoyed a tough but rewarding day on the mauka doing something positive for the taiao and building stronger bonds as a team. They preceded the mahi with a waka ama journey on a beautiful Whakaraupō morning.

Right: Te Taurapa Tuhono NZTE and Rāpaki Tiaki Taiao Staff on Te Poho o Tamatea.



TE HAPŪ O NGĀTI WHEKE INCORPORATED

Notice of Intention to Hold a Postal Ballot

Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Incorporated wishes to inform current and potential members of the rūnanga of its intention to conduct a postal ballot for the purposes of electing the members of the Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Appointment Committee. Once elected, the Appointment Committee will be responsible for appointing the Representative and Alternate Representative of the rūnanga to represent the interests of the rūnanga at meetings of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu ("TRONT").

Please note only those people who have established their entitlement to be members of the rūnanga before 5.00pm **Tuesday, 3 June 2025** will receive voting papers for this postal ballot, therefore all persons eligible to become a member of the rūnanga are encouraged to apply to be registered with TRONT. Members of the rūnanga who have previously been registered with TRONT are encouraged to ensure that their contact details as held by TRONT are correct.

Online and Paper Voting

Eligible members can vote by paper or electronic ballot. All current members aged 18 and over are encouraged to ensure their details are updated with TRONT by the deadline.

Online Voting

If we have your email address, your ballot will be sent electronically.

Paper Voting

If we do not have an email address for you, a paper ballot will be mailed to your physical address.

Requesting a Paper Ballot

If you prefer to receive a paper ballot instead of an electronic ballot, you must notify TRONT by the deadline.

Appointment Committee Nominations

Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke is also calling for nominations for the Appointment Committee and you can contact Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Office Telephone: 03 328 9415, or email: rapaki@ngaitahu.iwi.nz for information regarding criteria and nomination forms. Written forms and requirements are to be received by Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke office before 5.00pm **Tuesday, 3 June 2025**, to: Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, 18A Rāpaki Drive, Rāpaki or PO Box 107, Lyttelton 8841 or by email on rapaki@ngaitahu.iwi.nz.

Te Taumutu Rūnanga

Whakaora Te Waikewai update

The project continues to progress well with the maintenance of riparian planting on participating properties and the commencement of the consented construction works. Papatahora in-stream works (sediment removal and installation of a sediment trap) alongside re-battering of most of the true right and parts of the true left of Papatahora stream upstream from the marae grounds, was completed in late February.

Sediment run-off control measures are being put in place and riparian planting will begin in late April. Construction of Te Repo o Papatahora, adjacent to Te Pā o Moki, began in early March. Three deeper pools have been dug out and have filled with water. The grassed pathway on the Pohau cottage side is to be completed and will be followed by the installation of a boardwalk and the replacement of the Papatahora footbridge. Planting will commence in late April.



Mātauranga Māori Monitoring continues with monitoring occurring in early February. Copies of the monitoring reports can be provided.

The next round of monitoring is scheduled for April/May. Project funders, Ministry for the Environment (MfE) staff visited the project works and project team in early March. MfE staff were excited to see the progress of works.

Planning and preparations for the next project: 'Whakaora Te Muriwai o Whata' (the restoration of Muriwai o Whata / Coopers Lagoon) continues. Staff applied to the Department of Conservation Community Funding for the 2025 round but unfortunately were unsuccessful due to the vast number of applications. This means the project is unlikely to commence in full until the 2026/2027 financial year. Staff are working to progress partners and funding options. Staff will present the project to the Whakaora Te Waihora Co-Governance Joint Officials Group in April to seek support, partnerships and funding.



Jake Benny – Taumutu Tuia Representative

The first TUIA i runga wānaka at Pōhara Marae in Waikato was great.

From the get-go, connections to Pōhara and the Kingitanga were made to each of us rakatahi and it was cool to hear mention of my tipuna Te Mātenga Taiaroa who ventured north during the naming of the first Māori King Pōtatau Te Wherowhero.



It was refreshing to be around so many like-minded rakatahi Māori and to hear matua Marcus' inspiring kōrero about issues facing Māori today, and how he has changed the lives of many around him. We also visited Maungatautari, a fenced predator-free sanctuary and heard from takata whenua Ngāti Raukawa about their restoration mahi. Here they mentioned that kākā they had reintroduced to the sanctuary from captivity had lost their ability to communicate with each other, which they likened to the language loss of Māori whānau across the motu.

I am looking forward to continuing the kaupapa until the next wānaka in Rotorua.

We also send out a bi-monthly e-pānui and other important communications to our whānau via our whānau emailing list. If you would like to be added to the list, please email us at Taumutu@ngaitahu.iwi.nz



Wairewa Rūnanga

Wairewa Kaumātua Ora

On 14 February, Tim McIntosh and Clayton Wallwork (Tautoru Mautai Project Managers), took our kaumātua out to Te Kaiō to show us the mahi they have been doing. While there, we got to plant trees, doing our part for the whenua! Huge mihi to Tim and Clayton for sharing their mahi and mātauranga with us!

On 14 March our kaumātua headed to the Canterbury Museum pop-up to see Wharenuī Harikoa – the full-size wharenuī made from 5000 balls of brightly-coloured yarn, crocheted by hand.

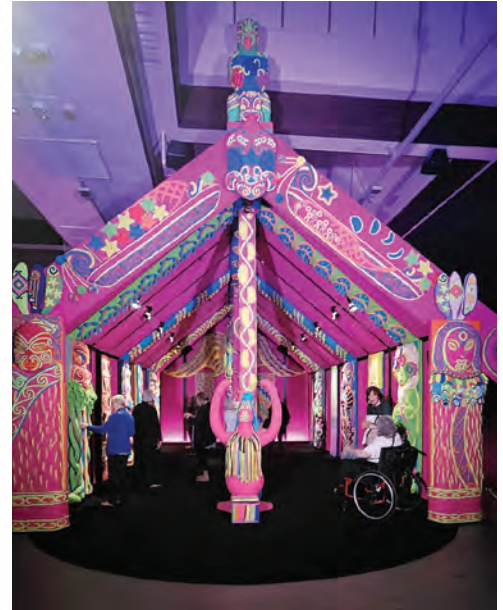
If you are a Wairewa kaumātua aged 60+ and would like to join in on the fun, contact SJ on 0220852953.

Beautiful view at the site where the blessing was held.





At the farmhouse. (Back Left-right) – Mark Creamer, Tanith Petersen, Jenny Robinson, Clayton Wallwork, Frances Creamer, Helen Day, Gwen Rolleston, (front left-right) Te Koha, SJ Terekia, Tim McIntosh, Maia McIntosh, Gary Robinson.



He rā pai i te māra

We had a great day in the māra on 9 March, with our whānau coming together to get the mahi done. It was awesome to see everyone pitching in, sharing kōrero and making sure our whenua continues to thrive. Ngā mihi nui to everyone who helped!

Below: whānau getting it done!

Linda Rangipunga and Patty-Anne Oberst cleaning up the pā harakeke.



Irakehu Jogging

Want to improve your health and connect with whānau? Join our Irakehu Jogging Club! We meet weekly for a walk (or run, kei a koe!), and a bit of whanaungatanga. All ages/fitness levels welcome! Nau mai, tauti mai!

Email Wairewa.comms@ngaitahu.iwi.nz for more details!

Below: After one of our hīkoi around Hagley Park; and Irakehu Jogging Club takes City2Surf!



Wairewa Mana Whenua Mana Moana

Our Wairewa Mana Whenua Mana Moana Pou has been hard at work across our takiwā!

Takaroa Project

Check out some of our diving rōpū at Makara/Magnet Bay, fulfilling our vision: “We’re experts in our rohe moana, the sustainability of our mahinga kai, and feeding our whānau.”

With the increase in recreational and commercial activity in our southern bays, our dive training course has been key in strengthening our presence in and on our rohe moana. This mahi supports our whānau, our mahinga kai protection strategy, and growing our tangata tiaki network.

Te Ara Māhuri

On 22 February, Iaeen Cranwell and Aaria Rolleston represented Wairewa at the opening of a new track for the Rod Donald Trust. The track, which starts at the Rod Donald Hut and loops back (20-minute walk), was created to encourage rakatahi to engage with and learn about our ngahere and its incredible inhabitants.

As part of this kaupapa, Iaeen and Aaria officiated the tikanga and gifted the name Te Ara Māhuri, the path of the saplings, a beautiful reflection of growth, learning, and the connection between our people and whenua.



Iaeen Cranwell and Aaria Rolleston at Te Ara Māhuri.

Below: Tanya Weepu, Stevie Hadfield, Ana Verdult, Irai Weepu, Jesse Daniels, Raniera Bartlett and Robin Wybrow.



Whakapā mai

0800 WAIREWA (924 7392)

PO Box 15011, Christchurch, 8643

wairewa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Email Wairewa.comms@ngaitahu.iwi.nz to sign up to our monthly newsletter.

Like and follow us on Facebook to keep up-to-date with Wairewa! [Facebook.com/Wairewa](https://www.facebook.com/Wairewa)



Scan the QR code to take you to the Wairewa FB page.

Ōnuku Rūnanga

Waitangi Day

On 6 February, Ōnuku marae hosted Waitangi Day commemorations attended by Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon and Governor-General, Her Excellency The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro.

This was a memorable day for whānau, especially for those who contributed on the day.

Jackson Robinson signs with the NZ Warriors

From a young age, Jackson Robinson has been passionate about all sports but especially rugby league. Jackson has made a name for himself with stand-out performances in the Aoraki 14s Boys' team and played a crucial role in securing a victory for the team at the South Island Rugby League Tournament in 2024.

His hard work and dedication on the field were noticed by Warriors' selectors and earlier this year, Jackson was invited to a trial game in Auckland.

During the trial, Jackson showcased his natural talent and abilities, resulting in an offer for a three-year contract with the NZ Warriors. He will embark on pre-season training with the Warriors 17s squad in November 2025, preparing to compete in the 2026 Harold Matthews Cup competition in Australia.



Jackson lives in Temuka with his parents, Nathan Robinson and Charlotte Bowan, and sister Millie. Jackson is a mokopuna of Ōnuku and Wairewa. He is the grandson of Carol Robinson and great-grandson of Buck and Molly Robinson.

Jackson's whānau are incredibly proud of the hard work, determination, and humility he has demonstrated and are excited to see where this journey will take him.



WHĀNAU SUBMISSION

Kia ora, my name is Nicol-louis Robinson.

He uri ahau nō Puai Tuhaewa me James' Robinson Clough.

Topi Patuki Rapatini (Toby Robinson) and Hinehou Hawkins nō Waitaha, Kāti Māmoe me Kāi Tahu ki te taha o tōku matua.

He uri ahau o Tairawhiti Anaru me Wi-Totoru Ratapu Iwi Morehu Rongomaiwahine ki Te Māhia, nō Ngāti Kahungunu ki Te Wairoa ki te taha o tōku Mama.

I am a student at Ara institute trades and these are the achievements that I have been honoured for. I am still striving for more:

- New Zealand Certificate in Construction Trade Skills – Level 3
- Pacific Trades 'Tradie of The Year' (2024)
- Top Construction Level 3 student
- Level 3 Te Kāhu Kōrako award: New Zealand Certificate in Construction Trade Skills – Level 3

Ngā mihi nui.



Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua

Arowhenua Reserve Regeneration Project

Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua teamed up with Boffa Miskell to support the creation of a regeneration plan aimed at guiding the restoration of the Awarua Creek and the surrounding wetland area. The project sought to demonstrate leadership through an iwi-led, science-informed design and best practice kaitiakitanga. The goal is to regenerate mahinga kai, enhancing the broader cultural values of the whenua, and build the site's resilience to flooding.

A one-day wānanga was hosted with the rūnanga, tamariki and rangatahi of Arowhenua Māori School and the consultant team to map and gather knowledge, data, and ideas for the site.

The mahi included walking the site with ecologists, engineers, and designers to record information about the land, water, plants, wildlife, history, and cultural values. This was followed by a co-design session to develop concept ideas that the consulting team will refine into the final restoration plan.



Ō Tū Wharekai

Building on from the cultural monitoring progress wānanga hosted by Aoraki Environmental Consultancy (AEC) in February, rūnanga members visited Ō Tū Wharekai in March to observe the ongoing progress, and gain further insights into the work of AEC's cultural consultants. The whānau enjoyed exploring whenua and learning from our cultural consultants, Sally Reihana and Karl Russell.



Te Rūnanga o Waihao

Waihao Whānau Celebrate the Achievements of their Kaimahi

After what we know has been an incredible journey with lots of hard work and speed bumps along the way, we are very proud of our Executive Officer Trudy Heath, and our Project Coordinator, Karen Timihou, who both recently graduated from Otago Polytechnic.

In just nine months, through Capable NZ, these two have achieved Bachelor of Applied Management Degrees, with A+ grades and Distinction.

They both immersed themselves fully in the graduation experience, attending the Māori Pre-Graduation Ceremony, the Capable NZ morning tea, joining the parade, and of course their formal graduation ceremony at the Dunedin Town Hall.



Karen and Trudy were well supported by their whānau, with Karen's son traveling home from Perth to share in the celebrations with his mum. He even managed a rousing haka as she crossed the stage.

*Above: Karen Timihou with her three children, from left to right, Ihaia, Kauri, and Hoani.
Right: Trudy Heath with her Mum, Helen Heath.*

Kaitiaki Taiao Update

The ranger team have been busy on the ground, around the water and engaging with key staff within DOC to learn more about various water testing techniques. One of the projects they conducted over the summer was trapping eels at the Wainono Lagoon to monitor their health and quantity before they move upstream. This helps determine the state of the lagoon, which corresponds to the water testing they have been conducting.



The rangers were fortunate to be joined by Brittany Earl, DOC Geraldine, who spent the day with the team conducting EDNA testing at the lagoon to monitor biodiversity, detecting invasive species and tracking ecosystem changes.

More recently Patrick attended a Waimate District Biodiversity hui in conjunction with the Waimate District Council and DOC, where they discussed developing

a district-wide strategy around enhancing biodiversity outcomes – ki uta ki tai. Waihao will have a strong presence in this strategy.

In March we welcomed Environment Canterbury staff, more specifically their senior water scientists to help us record data, determine the best locations to source data (water testing) and how to report any environmental issues i.e. algae bloom.



Waihao creatives/Toi Ora

Whether you are a weaver, a writer, a carver, a songwriter, a painter, or just a haututu with one million projects on the go – join the Waihao creatives! The next weekend planned is **1-3 August**.



Upcoming events at Waihao. Save the dates!

Wānaka Kaikaraka 9-11 May

Wahine Retreat 23-25 May

Wānaka Kaikaraka 6-8 June

Wānaka Tāmoko 25-27 July

Waihao Creatives / Toi ora 1-3 August

Details and registration information will be made available closer to the dates via our weekly pānui and registered members Facebook posts.

Keep in touch!

Do you receive our weekly pānui? Please get in touch if you think your details might need updating:

Waihao.manager@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

or phone 0800 924 426.

Te Rūnanga o Moeraki

Te Kotahitanga Church

Recently some whānau gathered for the removal of the stained-glass windows of Te Kotahitanga Church which are going under renovation by Stained glass maker and conservator, Peter Mackenzie.

The stained-glass windows are very special to Moeraki whānau. The three stained glass windows are known collectively as the “Sermon on the Mount” and were made in Birmingham in 1891 by John Hardman & Co and were installed in 1893. The window on the left depicts Moeraki rakatira, Matiaha Tiramōrehu.



Stained glass windows in Kotahitanga Church.

Below, L to R: Ross Kean, Ana Tangaroa, Daria, Mauriri McGlinchey, Rangī McGlinchey, DI Ralston, Trevor McGlinchey, Justin Tipa, Stacey Reynolds, Jamie Carroll, Maddox Carroll, Hoani Tipa.



Celebrating the success of our whānau member – Nick Tipa

Nick Tipa had success with his recent production of *Babyface* at the Dunedin Fringe Festival. The show was well-attended with a sold-out out season at the New Athenaeum Theatre in the Octagon. The production garnered three awards at the Fringe Festival awards night: the Theatre Award, the ‘Beyond Words’ Award, and the Most Promising Māori Artist Award.



L to R: Aidan Taira Geraghty and Nick Tipa.



Marlon Williams Concert

Local kura were recently provided with an opportunity to learn about music composition and to learn new waiata from Marlon's new Te Reo Māori album, *Te Whare Tiwekaweka*. This was followed by an evening concert for whānau who had the opportunity to listen to his soulful waiata with support from rangatahi who had participated in the wānanga.



Top left: Marlon Williams leading a workshop with rangatahi.

Top right: Marlon performing to whānau.

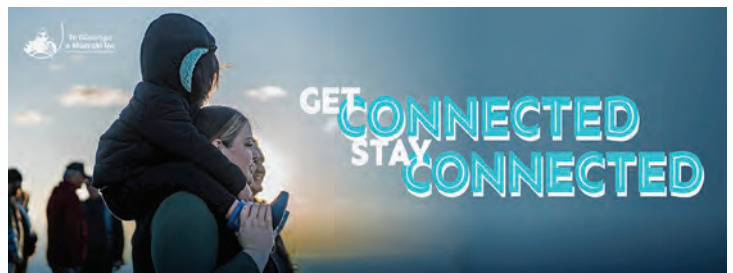
Above: Marlon posing with rangatahi following whānau concert.

Get Connected Stay Connected

We wish to thank all the whānau who participated and registered to Te Rūnanga o Moeraki during our Get Connected, Stay Connected Campaign, and to our winner of a \$300 Prezzie Voucher, Carina Finn and all our other whānau who won spot prizes.

We also wish to take the opportunity to thank Tahu FM and the team at Ngāi Tahu who supported by providing spot prizes.

E te whānau, it is never too late to get connected! If you have moved and need to update your details, or wish to enrol please email us at Moeraki.runanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz.



A reminder to whānau, that rūnanga hui are now held quarterly and the next rūnanga hui will be held at Moeraki marae on Sunday, 04 May 2025 starting at 10.00am. For whānau wanting to join online, a Teams link will be sent out to whānau prior to the rūnanga hui.

Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki

David Tohurangi Ellison

18 November 1936 – 15 February 2025

Ko horo! Ko horo!

Ko tanuku! Ko tanuku!

Ko horo nei ko te toka tū moana

E titiro kau nei ki te tai o Araiteuru e haruru mai ana

Ki te ākau o Karitāne

Kāhore ia nei he tohu o te mate

E te rakatira

E piki rā koe ki ruka o Hikaroroa mauka,

o Taranaki maunga

Ka titiro atu ai ki ō haukāika ko mahue nei e koe

E mau nei i te kahu-mōtea o Mate

He pae whakamahara ki te rakatira ko riro

E rohi ana ō hapū ki a koe e te upoko ko riro

Ko Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki, ko Kāti Te Ruahikihiki,

ko Kāti Hāwea e taki ana ki a koe e te pou o tō mātau whare

Ko Kāi Tahu, ko Kāti Māmoe, ko Waitaha,
ko Te Āti Awa, ko Ngāti Mutunga e wairurutu nei e

He kākau māhaki ki tōna hapori

He kākau atawhai ki te nui, ki te rahi

He manawa tītī o Kāti Tūmataueka

He kaiwhiri taura takata

He manu pōkai whenua

Haere, e oki ki ō nui, ki ō rahi

Ki te whare o Pōhutukawa

Ki a rātau ko haere oti atu

Haere, e poua e



Tōrea, South Island Pied Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) Research Project

Tōrea (South Island Pied Oystercatcher), a taonga species, are in decline nationally, and likely includes tōrea in Otago as the populations are connected. On Monday 10 March scientists from the Otago Regional Council, Te Papa Atawhai, Manaaki Whenua and University of Otago engaged with kaitiaki from Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketaraki to start a research project to identify the current threats to the Otago tōrea. Eighty tōrea were tagged and samples taken for avian influenza surveillance. Eleven of the adult tōrea were fitted with GPS to investigate how manu from Waiputai Blueskin Bay move through different rohe throughout the year. It is suspected that most breed on South Island inland riverbeds or farmlands then return to coastal wintering sites.

The research will allow for threats to the Otago tōrea to be identified and inform how habitats could be managed to conserve and restore populations.

Nā, Grant Meikle



Cannon netting was used to capture the tōrea tagging and sampling.

Right: Tōrea fitted with GPS.

Below: Kaitiaki, Grant Meikle releasing a tōrea after tagging and sampling.



Karitāne School Award-Winning Artists

The Kāi Tahu creation story was crafted as a mural by the pupils at Karitāne School, who came first in a national competition something they were very proud and excited about.

In February, the school won first place in the national Resene Mural Masterpieces competition in the primary school section.

The school wished to acknowledge Rua McCallum's inspiration and encouragement which she passed on to tamariki in all aspects of te reo Māori and dedicate the

mural to the memory of Rua, who taught the pupils the story two years ago.

Rūnaka member and pupil, Tia Crossan (10), spoke about the panels which are based on the story of love and loss between Papatūānuku (the earth mother), Takaroa (God of the Sea) and Rakinui (the sky father).

The pupils used green for the plants that cover Papatūānuku, red for the clay of the earth, and for Rakinui they used blues and blacks to depict the sky and stars.



Award winning mural at Karitāne School. Photo: Jen Lucas.

Tia explained the creation story, "The earth mother Papatūānuku and Takaroa God of the Sea were in love, and Takaroa would always go and bury the placenta after they had a baby, but one time he took ages to come back. Papatūānuku was sad but in time fell in love with Rakinui, the sky father, and they had many children. Takaroa and Rakinui had a fight over Papatūānuku, which wounded Rakinui, 'in the buttocks' and led to the earth and sky becoming the parents of 'many sick tāne,' who became known as the Te Whānau Tūoi. Rakinui, who lay upon Papatūānuku, eventually asked his sons to lift him so he was above their mother and the sun could shine down upon them." Tia added, "Rakinui did a farewell

to Papatūānuku and said, 'I shall cry on you every year,' and that's the mists that come to Karitāne every summer, which is what we illustrated in one of the panels."

Pupils had painted this scene in the mural through the different panels.

The win meant a lot to the pupils, as the prize was a \$1,000 voucher to spend on paints at Resene which they intend to use on their next mural soon.

Nā, Jen Lucas

A Waka Building Project by Hauteruruku Ki Puketeraki

In the early hours of Sunday morning, 9 February, many gathered in Karitāne on the edge of the Waikouaiti awa to witness the launch of our beautiful waka unua, Kuramātakitaki.

Kuramātakitaki is the third hand-built waka in the fleet for Hauteruruku ki Puketeraki Waka Club. The double hull, Hauteruruku was built first, followed by a single hull, Hiwa-i-te-rangi.

This is the first waka for the club that is built for coastal voyages. "Kuramātakitaki, among other things, was an ancestral name of a whare on Huriawa," says Brendan Flack, founding member and President of Hauteruruku ki Puketeraki Waka Club.

"Building the waka has given us an opportunity to really understand how the waka works, and we will value it more knowing how much work went into it. We now know how to build a waka and now

it is time to spend time on the water with Kuramātakitaki to build our confidence as sailors.

"It was great to be surrounded by a lot of whānau and community who had been a part of it. We hope the waka will be a regular sight along this coastline, in our bay and in our lakes, as well as supporting different kaupapa here in Puketeraki."



Blessings and karakia were given by Hinerangi Ferrall-Heath and Kane Holmes. Club members, Brendan Flack, Jess Wenley, Cassino Doyle, Basil Harrison, Jacinta Beckwith, Ewan Duff, and George Mickle crewed the launch.

Nā, Elizabeth Vanderburgh

Nature, te taiao, really came to our party. Photographs show shapely mists draped over the awa when we first arrived, and then all around Kuramātakitaki at the water's edge.

I could not help but gasp as there were all our tīpuna waka come to share in this moment. While the karakia rang out, I realised the stars had also positioned themselves so significantly overhead. Later, the incredible natural lighting and colours heralded in the dawn alongside the birdsong!

I showed up in my waka gear not expecting to be on the waka at all but when the call came from Brendan to

put on a life jacket, I realised I did not need to be asked twice. I feel an immense honour to be part of the crew and just had to overcome the panic of trying to get on the waka gracefully in front of a hundred people.

Many photos taken that morning capture some of the absolute magnificence of Kuramātakitaki and how she looked in her natural element. I have the absolute privilege of knowing how it felt in that moment, to be able to lean right into the joy, relief and realisation of dreams, aspirations, and the determined consistent incredible mahi of a community that represents for me the epitome of mauri ora.

People said that it looked like we were paddling hard out, but truly, we were back paddling hard out, because Kuramātakitaki just wanted to head straight out to the ocean, encouraged by the outgoing tide. With measured instruction, we managed to swing around and glide, and to the sound of pūtātara. We turned off the spotlight shining up the mast for just a moment to delight in the magic.

And then it was done, back to the river's edge. Relieved and joyous hugs all round. Treasured memories to last forever. And the best part is that this is just another beginning in a much larger story that we can keep contributing to, enjoying, refining, and navigating.

Nā, Jacinta Beckwith



Above: Hinerangi Ferrall-Heath giving a blessing under the torch light of Kane Holmes and Lisa van Halderen. Photo: Lisa van Halderen.

Left: Kuramātakitaki. Photo: Elizabeth Vanderburgh.

Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou

Kā Mihi Aroha

Mātuturu Kai te taki mōteatea tou mātau ki a rātau kua whatukarokaro atu ki te whare o Pōhutukawa. E te Poua, te kākau māhaki, te Upoko o Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki kua karakahia e Hinenuitepō, moe mai, okioki mai rā ki tō ūkaipō. E rere atu ana kā tai o aroha ki a koutou kā whānau i tenei wā. Our thoughts and deepest sympathy are with whānau who have lost a loved one recently, including the whānau of David Tohurangi Ellison, Upoko of Puketeraki Marae and Lynda Mei Bull (Pohio whānau). May each whānau find comfort in your memories and from those who surround you with love and care. For those who are in hospital or unwell at home, we wish you a speedy recovery and return to good health.



Luis Kerrigan, hapū member at Ōtākou, co-Captain for Aotearoa secondary schoolboys at the 2025 Rakatahi Cricket Festival in Auckland.

Education achievement, Connagh Wesley



Our congratulations go to Connagh Wesley for her graduation in Batchelor in Visual Arts, Photography.

Sporting achievements, Luis Kerrigan

Our congratulations to Luis Kerrigan (17), co-captain of the 2025 Aotearoa Secondary Schoolboys' Cricket team.

Luis attends Mount Albert Grammar School in Auckland. Aotearoa secondary schoolboys played a tournament against the Pasifika secondary schoolboys and a South Asian team.

The youth-focused cricket event aims to engage young people, particularly those from Māori and Pasifika communities in secondary schools in the sport, while celebrating their cultural identities.

Established in 2017, the Māori secondary schoolboy and schoolgirl teams provide an opportunity for young cricketers of Māori whakapapa to represent their whānau, hapū, iwi and kura.

This year, the Auckland South Asian U19 boys' and girls' teams joined the festival as invitational sides, playing against the Aotearoa Māori Schools and Pasifika U19 teams. Into its third year, the tournament featured male and female Māori secondary school teams, two Pasifika U19 teams, and for the first time two Auckland South Asian U19 invitational sides.

Across the boys' and girls' competitions, both Aotearoa Māori Schools and Pasifika U19 won one match apiece, meaning the winners would be decided on net run-rate. The Pasifika U19 boys secured their maiden title thanks largely to their 5-wicket victory against Aotearoa Māori on day two.



Above: The trophy photo – Luis Kerrigan of Kāi Tahu decent, in the black Maori Schools shirt, 3rd from the right.

Left: Player's name and Iwi represented at the 2025 Rakatahi Cricket Festival in Auckland, U19 boys team.

Introducing new Hapū member

Local hapū member, Maureen Symister was present on the marae on 1 March to greet her relation, new hapū member Lorraine Stevenson from Whangārei. Accompanying her was her adult mokopuna Sean Stevenson, his partner Nadine Young and great mokopuna from Invercargill. As often happens when whānau come for the first time to their marae, this encounter was incredibly heartwarming.

Maureen and Lorraine's connection through whakapapa created new bonds and the exchange of whānau stories helped to establish Lorraine's sense of 'homecoming,' and strengthened her hapū identity.



Left: L/r: Nadine Young, Maureen Symister, Lorraine Stevenson with Jupiter and Glory (her grand mokopuna) next to their dad Sean Stevenson (Lorraine's mokopuna), all shared a wonderful hour of discovery and reconnection on Ōtākou marae.

Nāia te Toa o Tarewai wānaka reo

Whānau gathered for the first Nāia te Toa o Tarewai wānaka reo of the year, beginning in February. It was a wonderful opportunity for attendees to strengthen their reo through classes led by our very own experts, Kommi Tamati-Elliffe, Amie Curtis, and Megan Pōtiki.

While mātua focused on their learning, tamariki enjoyed a children's programme running alongside the classes. In addition to learning te reo and waiata, participants also had the chance to hear our pūrākau, shared by Tumai Cassidy, before heading out on an afternoon trip to Ōkia.

It was great to welcome both familiar faces returning to Ōtākou and new ones joining us for the first time. Overall, it was a fantastic weekend of reconnecting, learning, and strengthening our reo and mātauraka.



The field trip to Okia Reserve and climbing Little Pyramid gave heaps of opportunities to practice te reo skills.

Below: Whānau enjoy each other's company while interacting in te reo during Nāia te Toa o Tarewai reo wānaka, Ōtākou Marae 1 Feb 2025.



Kaumātua John Solomon and whānau during a te reo session on the Nāia te Toa o Tarewai reo wānaka, Ōtākou Marae 1 Feb 2025.



Nāia te Toa o Tarewai reo wānaka in session, Hui room Ōtākou Marae 1 Feb 2025.

Waitangi Day commemoration in Tāhuna Queenstown

Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) and the seven Kāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnaka who have shared tribal authority over the Tuawhenua takiwā hosted a Waitangi Day commemoration in Tāhuna Queenstown Recreation Grounds.



Jason Momoa and Tūtemakohu Tamati-Elliffe in Queenstown, give a big thumbs up to the QLDC Queenstown Tiriti o Waitangi commemorations to be held next day.

Kāi Tahu led the pōwhiri with Mayor Glyn Lewers thereby commemorating the 185-year legacy of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The event aimed to foster a day of reflection and unity, honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

A panel discussion was held with Hana O'Regan NZOM, Professor Janine Hayward from Otago University, Takuta Ferris from Te Pāti Māori and Edward Ellison NZOM and Upoko of Ōtākou Marae, taking part.

The event encouraged community participation and a sense of togetherness. Following formalities, kai was available onsite, or people brought their own picnics. There were also stalls for shopping or browsing.

Entertainment and onstage performances were given by Queenstown Primary Kapa Haka, Arrowtown Kapa Haka, Shotover Primary Kapa Haka, Central Otago Living Options, Ngā Manu Hou, and QAMPI kids.

In support of the day's events, all Queenstown regular bus services were free between 8am and 4pm. During the afternoon Mana Tahuna also hosted a very successful Tiriti Day celebration in the Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens with kai, live music and fun games for tamariki.



Takuta Hana O'Regan and her partner John with Paulette Tamati-Elliffe at the QLDC Queenstown Tiriti o Waitangi commemorations 2025.

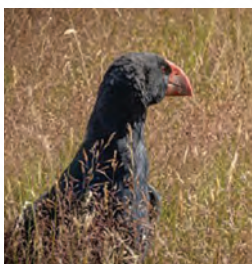
Takahē release

On 11 February, a collaboration between Kāi Tahu, Department of Conservation and the Southern Lakes Sanctuary and other conservation partners including National Partner Fulton Hogan, 18 takahē were translocated to the Rees Valley.

Thought to be extinct for over 50 years, these manu hold significant cultural importance and are a treasured taoka, not only as a valued mahika kai source for our tīpuna, but also intertwined with our history, traditions and connection to our ancestral lands.

Tumai Cassidy led a mihi whakatau and karakia on behalf of Kāi Tahu before the takahē were released. A number of local Kāi Tahu ki Tuawhenua whānau and rūnaka representatives were also in attendance to support.

We wish to acknowledge all of those who have worked and contributed to the recent successful takahē release, in particular to our Murihiku whanauka, Gail Thompson, Kāi Tahu iwi representative on the Takahē Recovery Group.



Takahē released into the wild; Tumai Cassidy leading the release of takahē in the upper Rees Valley.



Paulette Tamati-Elliffe with Director-General of the Department of Conservation, Penny Nelson during the Takahē being released in the Rees Valley.

George Street tohu whenua

A whakawātea conducted by our Upoko, Edward Ellison was held for the installation of the three tohu whenua, information panels on George Street in Dunedin on Thursday, 6 March.

Aukaha mana whenua advisory panellist Dr Megan Pōtiki wrote the cultural narrative for George Street from which the street designs were inspired, says “The tohu whenua provide insight into Kāi Tahu history and worldview. These tohu whenua highlight significant landmarks, original Kāi Tahu place names, and the evolving nature of the landscape, offering an insight into the carefully curated designs that feature in the George Street upgrade. They also firmly embed our practices, values and pūrākau into our environment, so that the next generation of Māori, Pākehā and tauwiwi alike will grow up in a city that properly reflects its history and identity.”



Edward Ellison and others who attended the karakia for the George Street tohu whenua, Dunedin city, early morning of 6 March; right: The George Street Tohu Whenua.

Pōwhiri for International Students

On Thursday 13 March, a beautiful clear morning, international students from Queens High School, along with international students from nine other schools, were welcomed to Ōtākou Marae.

The students had boarded four buses in town to enjoy a scenic drive along the Peninsula. After the hongi Mayor Radich delivered a speech to the students, followed by an amazing morning tea by Julz Asher in Hākuiao.



Kāi prepared by Hapu member and cook extraordinaire Julz Asher.

Pōwhiri for University Law Students

Two hundred and fifty law students were welcomed onto the marae on 25 February. During the morning session, they attended wānaka in groups. In Tamatea, they learnt about the 'Te Pae Oraka programme' that A3K run alongside the Police.

Te Pae Oraka is an option for responding to lower-level offending that embraces the kaupapa of whakamana (uplifting people, rebuilding their mana) while holding them to account. Instead of going to court, Te Pae Oraka participants are supported to make a plan to put things right and address problems they are facing.

The plan includes actions they must complete and conditions they need to follow. Te Pae Oraka is a fantastic example of Police and iwi working together to achieve better outcomes.



Kingi Potiki-Cook, Manager of A3K speaks to Law students about the mahi of A3K.

Below: University Law students listen to korero in Hakaiao from their lecturers.



Left: Sgt Richard Kupenga, NZ Police Supported Resolutions Coordinator speaks to Law students and watched on by colleagues David Jones and Kingi Potiki-Cook about why and how Te Pae Oraka works within the justice system of New Zealand.



Mere Montgomery represents the Ōtākou Māori Women's Welfare League about the benefits of vaccination, linking the lack of protection in the 1830's to our tupuna, many who died from introduced diseases.

Feel free to browse our Facebook page and our Ōtākou Rūnaka website. Information on registering as a hapū member or booking the marae for functions can be done online. Bookings are subject to any health and safety restrictions in place or tangi which take precedence: <http://www.otakourunaka.co.nz/#home-image> or email office@tro.org.nz or phone 03 478 0352.

Kia ora tonu tātou ki ō tātou kāika. – stay safe whānau.

Waihōpai Rūnanga

E te whānau whānui o Kāi Tahu, tēnā koutou katoa!

Nei rā te mihi matakuikui o Waihōpai Rūnaka
ki a koutou katoa

Nei rā hoki te mihi poroporoaki ki a rātou, kua hika mai,
kua hika atu, i ruka i te karaka o Hine-nui-te-pō

Kua hīkoi atu rātou ki te taha o kā matua tīpuna,
ki tua o te ārai

Haere, haere, haere atu rā!

Moe mai rā rātou i ruka i te rakimārie

Rātou ki a rātou, te huka mate ki te huka mate

Tātou ki a tātou, te huka ora ki te huka ora

Mauri ora ki a tātou katoa!

PWC X TRoNT Finance and Governance Wānaka – Waihōpai Rūnaka Holdings

Recently, Waihōpai Rūnaka Holdings held a finance and governance wānaka facilitated by PWC with support from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. This was to help us in developing our financial skills and comprehension.

This wānaka was exceedingly beneficial to all who attended, including our upcoming generations who were

lucky enough to sit in on the hui and soak up all the invaluable knowledge.

Learnings from this wānaka included governance, strategy, investment fundamentals, fund returns and much more. We look forward to putting this knowledge into practice.

Kaumātua Matariki Pou Haereka

Our Waihōpai kaumātua have embarked on a multi-week haereka visiting all the beautiful Matariki pou sites throughout Southland.

The weather was forecast for rain which we felt was fitting so decided to go ahead with the haereka, with coats and gloves at the ready.



On 18 March we set off for Te Anau to visit Waipunaraki the star associated with rain. During the rising of Matariki, the observation of Waipunaraki would foretell the weather for the coming year.

Initially we had a little trouble locating the pou but with the help of our whanauka and the pou artist, Steve Solomon, we found it.

Taua Peggy Peek did the karaka before sharing kōrero and mātauraka about the pou. Extraordinary mahi by Steve Solomon and Keri Whitiri. We can't wait for our next haereka to Taramea, Cosy Nook and to visit our Ōraka-Aparima whānau.



Te Rau Aroha 40th Anniversary Celebration

From 7-9 February, Waihōpai whānau attended the 40-year celebration of Te Rau Aroha with our whanauka. The weekend commenced with a pōwhiri on Friday morning on the ātea of Te Rau Aroha under the warmth of Tamanuiterā. The following days consisted of whanaukataka, kai, hītori, mātauraka and a mokopapa.

On the Saturday evening, rūnaka members from around Murihiku, along with whānau mātāwaka enjoyed a meal at Transport World in Invercargill, coming together to connect and enjoy an evening while reflecting on the 40 years of Te Rau Aroha Marae.



Otago University Science Wānaka

A fantastic kaupapa for our fantastic rakatahi!

In March, we had the pleasure of hosting Otago University's Science department for a three-day noho with our rakatahi Māori with an interest in sciences, helping to spark a passion in them that they may want to pursue.

This year's kaupapa was mahika kai and the health of our Waihōpai awa and Pawakataka renewable energy.

The university science experts carried out physical investigations even venturing out to our Waihōpai awa and taking water samples and tests before gathering and reporting on the findings along with many other fun activities throughout the week.

The wānaka also included tikaka, kēmu and kōrero on our Murihiku history. It was wonderful to see so many promising young Māori engaging in learning about our taiao. Kā mihi nui Otago University for your dedication in supporting our rakatahi to succeed.



Te Unua Wānaka – Keri Whaitiri

Kā Rūnaka ki Murihiku in partnership with ICC have come together to provide collective input into the Te Unua Permanent Exhibition spaces that are currently under development.

On 20 March, rūnaka representatives met the Te Unua project team to understand project context and development to date.

This was the first in a series of wānaka that will run through until June to work through cultural representation in the exhibition.

Gibson International are leading the permanent exhibition development. They are experts in immersive, audiovisual visitor experiences. Gibsons will take the exhibition from conceptual development through to completion in the summer of 2026.

Whānau were impressed by Gibson's previous works and the exciting outcomes that this collaboration promises.



Kumagaya Welcome Dinner

On 4 February, we hosted the 'Kumagaya Welcome Dinner', displaying te ao Māori for our guests and the processes of a pōwhiri for the group along with our councillors at ICC and other guests.



After the pōwhiri, Te Wharekura o Arowhenua wowed the crowd with their kapa haka performance while our amazing chef Tiriana Shearer prepared a beautiful three-course dinner with table service to make the evening extra special.

Our deputy chair, Joe Wakefield shared an informative kōrero on our history.

It is heartwarming to build this relationship with our sister city Kumagaya and exercise our manaakitaka to our foreign whānau.



DataGrid Toheroa Investigation

Waihōpai Rūnaka, Te Ao Marama and Pattle Delamore Partners carried out an investigation to determine the environmental implications of the proposed DataGrid trans-Tasman subsea cable.

With the potential cable coming ashore at Ōreti Beach in Invercargill, it is pertinent to us we ensure the wellbeing of our toheroa and mahika kai as we mitigating the risks and effects this could have.

The DataGrid cable would provide greater internet capacity and resilience in New Zealand.

Combined Rūnaka Hui

A combined rūnaka hui with Waihōpai, Awarua, Ōraka-Aparima and Hokonui was held in early March to discuss numerous mutual Kaupapa including: Te Unua Museum of Southland, Kāi Tahu ki Tuawhenua among other topics.

It is always great to catch up with our Murihiku whānau and hear about all the awesome things happening in our community.

Te Wharekura o Arowhenua Kī-o-Rahi

This month Te Wharekura o Arowhenua opened their onsite Kī-o-Rahi field and waharoa.

The field is state of the art and something to be proud of. This will bring a space for all to enjoy the game of Kī-o-Rahi for years to come and help the sport thrive in Murihiku.

Ka mau te wehi to all that were involved in the outcome of this space!



Te Ao Mārama – Renee Bull

On Friday 21 March, the board of Te Ao Mārama inc. hosted councillors from Environment Southland at Murihiku Marae.

The purpose of the hui was to discuss the Charter of Understanding between Environment Southland and Te Ao Mārama Inc.

The hui included kōrero on the Southland Regional Coastal Plan, an explanation of mana whenua mātauraka collection and how to work collaboratively on future aspirations for the taiao.

Te Ao Mārama maintains partnership agreements with various councils across Murihiku and Ōtākou, working on behalf of the four Papatipu Rūnaka ki Murihiku.



James Hargest Teacher Kotahitaka Day

Our local kura Hemi Hākena held a teacher only day at Murihiku Marae to kick off their school year.

It was fantastic to have all their kaiako from both Junior and Senior campus here waewae ki te whenua, experiencing pōwhiri, learning our hītori, mātauraka and simply having whakawhanaukataka between mana whenua and our educators to begin the year.

Kā mihi nui Hemi Hākena, we hope you enjoyed your day.



Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka

Kākāriki karaka transfer makes nationwide news

Ōraka-Aparima Rūnaka representatives Joshua Kingipotiki and Alex Taurima were part of a recent trip along with DOC staff to establish a population of wild kākāriki karaka/orange-fronted parakeet on Pukenui Anchor Island.

You may have seen them star on television's *Seven Sharp* too!

Pukenui is a predator free island in Tamatea Dusky Sound, Fiordland, where 34 of the critically endangered manu were released.

Our representatives accompanied the manu on their helicopter journey to the island, welcoming them with karakia and waiata.

The manu were bred and raised at the Isaac Conservation and Wildlife Trust and Orana Wildlife Park in Christchurch.

Joshua said it was the first time he had been in the presence of kākāriki karaka.

"Being part of this release was a big learning experience and rather humbling."

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Kākāriki Karaka Species Representative Yvette Couch-Lewis said it was exciting to have mana whenua representatives from Ōraka-Aparima leading the tikanga and kawa of welcoming the kākāriki karaka onto the motu, with assistance from a kaitiaki ranger.



Ōraka-Aparima representatives Alex Taurima (left) and Joshua Kingipotiki with DOC staff on Pukenui for the translocation of 34 kākāriki karaka.

"Kākāriki karaka are our smallest parrots, but they have a great deal of mana and are proof that the best things can come in small packages."

The vision of the recently released kākāriki karaka recovery strategy, Te Ara Mōrehu, is that kākāriki karaka will be thriving independently in the wild, with 10 self-sustaining populations in the Ngāi Tahu takiwā in the next 20 years.

Marae Māra bountiful

Some of our kāhui kaumātua with the bumper crop in our marae māra, under the care of Phil and Joan Fluerty.



From left: Shona Fordyce, Phil and Joan Fluerty and Rangimaria Suddaby.



Shona Fordyce with one of many impressive paukena (pumpkin) in the tunnelhouse; and Rangimaria Suddaby with a hue (gourd) – maybe a taonga pūoro in the making?

Te reo update

We have some exciting developments still under wraps at the time of writing this pānui, so watch this space!

But as a heads up, keep an eye out for karanga and whaikōrero workshops ahead of our monthly meetings at the marae and put aside the weekends of 4- 6 July and 26- 28 September for wānaka at Takutai o te Titi. More details to follow!

Grants

We have a variety of grants available to registered members of Ōraka-Aparima Rūnaka. Visit the opportunities page on our website: www.orakaaparimarunaka.co.nz to learn more about what is available.

Keep in touch!

If you're not receiving messages from us, and would like to, please get in touch and we will check we have your up-to-date details. We have lots of opportunities we want to let you know about. Email office@orakaaparima.org.nz or phone 0800 234 8192.

A Minecraft Movie

We have been working with Tourism New Zealand, Mojang, Warner Brothers, and Piki Studios to recreate a virtual version of Patea Doubtful Sound in Minecraft.



This was part of a wider campaign to promote Aotearoa as a tourist destination ahead of the launch of 'A Minecraft Movie', which was filmed in New Zealand.

Patea is one of six locations across the motu chosen to be featured in this free downloadable content (DLC), which is now available in the global Minecraft Marketplace. The game content was developed by Māori business Piki Studios.

If you and your whānau have Minecraft on your computer or other gaming device, you can search www.minecraft.net for 'Aotearoa: New Zealand' to download and play this cool game content.

Awarua Rūnanga

Brittany Dick

Brittany receiving her Rhodes Scholarship from Governor-General Her Excellency, the Right Hon Dame Cindy Kiro, to attend Oxford University.

Brittany is a descendant of Arihi (Pohe) Whaitiri and Wharetutu through her great-great taua Tini Mare Wybrow.

She is one of just four Māori to receive the scholarship in its 120-year history in New Zealand.

Brittany lives in Nelson and was the first person from New Zealand to attend Minerva University in San Francisco where she recently graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Historical Forces and Arts and Literature.

As a Rhodes Scholar, Brittany will complete a Master's in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology at Oxford University, researching Māori medical history.

Statement from Brittany:

"I think there is immense power we can access as Māori and as humans by knowing our pasts, as painful as they may be. That is why I wish to continue exploring links between our people, the environment, and our health through the lens of traditional medicines as a form of cultural technology."

Brittany's whānau are extremely proud of her achievement in attaining this prestigious scholarship and look forward to her future research.



Tarryn Ryan

Congratulations to Tarryn Ryan who recently graduated from Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington.

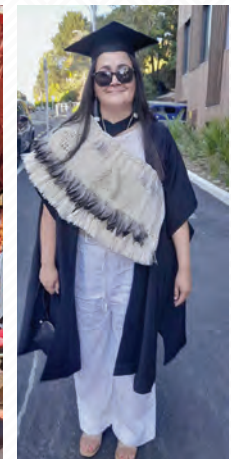
Tarryn received her Master of Arts – History with distinction with her thesis titled *Contesting Silences: Traces of the Holocaust and Vergangenheitsbewältigung in West German Cinema, 1949-1969*.

I began my Masters journey in May 2021 on a part-time basis, while I was concurrently attending Te Wānanga o Aotearoa to learn te reo Māori. I was lucky enough to be the inaugural recipient of the Raye Freedman scholarship to support me in my studies.

As a single-māmā, it was not easy at times and I nearly gave up on more than one occasion.

Following the submission of my thesis, I was awarded the Lotte Weiss Award for contributions to Holocaust research.

I'm currently enjoying a long overdue break before I start thinking about the next stage of my studies, and so that I can enjoy some time at Horomamae this year.



Awarua whānau services Try-Whānau Festival 2025: Karawhiua! Give it a go whānau!

Try Whānau 2025 kicked off on an overcast day in Bluff.

As the sky cleared, the participants started arriving, and they kept coming! Try Whānau 2025 had the biggest number of participants in its nine-year history, with over 200 registrations and over 300 people on the day.

The atmosphere was amazing. The warm-up was led by Bluff Rugby Club, and South Port provided a free BBQ for the participants. Talleys donated ice-creams.

The fun was contagious with rangatahi and tamariki enjoying the bouncy castles and games, full of prizes for everyone. We also had the presence of the NZ Police with a recruiting stall, Heart Foundation, Cervical and Breast screening promotion, and 'Stop Smoking' support information.

To relax after the race, a group of mirimiri practitioners were treating our participants while a stall of Māori arts and crafts from Bluff showcased their beautiful work.



As the sun shined, the atmosphere raised even more with the band 'Hō & Hā' playing their best tunes. After this, 'Ka Hao te Rangatahi Kapa Haka Rōpū' performed waiata and haka.

Try Whānau 2025 offered something for everyone with different fitness levels, taking the participants down to the harbour and around to Stirling Point.

Three trophies were awarded: Mana Teamwork, Mana Rangatahi and Mana Kaumātua as well as heaps of spot prizes. Many thanks to our sponsors!



Cultural Activation Programme

Ki ngā whānau o te Rūnanga o Awarua – ngā mihi nui ki a koutou.

We are really pleased to be able to release the first series of activities as part of our Cultural Activation Programme / Ngā Kaupapa Ahurea o Awarua.

This is a free programme facilitated by Te Rūnaka o Awarua, with the aim of increasing opportunities for whānau to engage in Māori cultural initiatives and activities.

Please check out the website link below and enrol in any classes that you are interested in. More details will be sent to enrolled members closer to the start of the classes.

<https://sites.google.com/view/ngakaupapaahureaoawarua/home>

We know we are nearing tītī season, and there are other big kaupapa happening that may limit some people from being able to enrol.

However, this is just the start! These are the activities that whānau have specifically asked for in feedback to our consultation survey/s.

Please save the website link so you can keep checking back.

We will be loading more activities including online options for whānau who live outside of our Awarua region. Some of these activities will be repeated again in the future.



Please feel free to reach out to our rūnaka office if you have any questions: office@awarua.iwi.nz

I look forward to seeing lots of our whānau engaged in these activities and there are more to come!

Ngā manaakitanga,
Keri Milne-Ihimaera
Kaiwhakaura / Cultural Activator Coordinator

Awarua Registration

To register with Te Rūnaka o Awarua, please email registration@awaruarunaka.iwi.nz.

The office is updating the membership database. Please inform the office of any change in contact details as soon as possible.

Email: administrator@awaruarunaka.iwi.nz

If you have a meeting apology or any feedback or questions regarding whānau hui, please contact: office@awaruarunaka.iwi.nz

Taurahere Groups

Kāi Tahu ki Tāmaki Makaurau

Josh Glackin

Josh Glackin (Ngāi Tahu: Ngāi Tūāhuriri; Ōnuku; Puketeraki) has been named Manutaki Māori for 2025 at Westlake Boys High School on Auckland's North Shore.

This is a role of honour; part of the Senior Prefect team of a school of 2,800 boys.

Josh is believed to be the first Ngāi Tahu in this Māori Captain role.



On Saturday 15 March 2025, Hazel, Sian and Team from the Whakapapa unit came up to Auckland and worked with professionalism and integrity, sharing and helping Ngāi Tahu whānau with their whakapapa. What a fantastic time we had learning our Ngāi Tahu, waiata and haka as well as the history of Ngāi Tahu.

We would like to give a big thank you to Ngāi Tahu, for a fantastic day! Also the Tāmaki Makarau Roopu for putting on the event: Maha, Johnathan, Nicola, Corin, Mereana and many other Ngāi Tahu whānau.

The day's events saw beautiful kōrero and kai but the best thing was to witness my youngest mokopuna Luke Foster (aged 3 years old), doing the Ngāi Tahu haka. It will ever be a treasured memory, along with his sister Ruby Foster (aged 8 years old) and Cousin Jericho Martin. My sister Fay's mokopuna (also 8 years old)! Tumeke alright.

Ngā mihi nui,
Ringo and Rebecca Risetto.



The Whakapapa team in Tāmaki Makaurau



Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana

Recently our group of Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana whānau met to discuss our strategic plan.

We engaged in whakawhanaungatanga and warmly welcomed John and Roberta Maxwell back into our rūpū, after their time living in Auckland.

Below are the dates of what's to come.

- o Sunday 13 April – Whanaungatanga and waiata session – AGM
- o Saturday 17 May at 10.00 am – Kaumātua morning tea at Elizabeth Cafe and Larder on Cameron Road
- o Sunday 22 June – Matariki celebration with waiata
- o Sunday 17 August – Whakapapa unit hui
- o Saturday 20 September at 10.00 am – Kaumātua morning tea at Elizabeth Cafe and Larder on Cameron Road
- o Sunday 12 October – Raranga/weaving with harakeke
- o Sunday 30 November – Summer celebration (picnic venue to be confirmed)



Moira Lomas and Ross Hemera lead our whānau hui.

The Office



As Māori and as Ngāi Tahu, our deep connection to whakapapa and whenua enriches our wairua and aligns us with who we are. This profound sense of identity is what drives our team to support our whānau Ngāi Tahu in strengthening their connection with their whakapapa. Whether this is achieved through events such as our Ngāi Tahu Roadshows, or simply through shared kōrero and kai, our whakapapa team are committed to acting as kaitiaki for this vital ancestral link.

The whakapapa team handles key tasks such as managing the tribal register and enrolment, preserving the 1848 Whakapapa files, providing advice, services, and research on whakapapa matters and leading projects to enhance whānau connection with their rūnanga affiliations.



Right: Back Row: Arapata Reuben (Whakapapa Manager), Sian Smith (Whakapapa Research Writer), Tarnia Jackson (Whakapapa Project Manager), Joseph Hullen (Senior Registrations Advisor). Front Row: Zhivannah Cole (Whakapapa Research Writer), Jaleesa Panirau (Whakapapa Registration Advisor), Moyra Newton-Green (Whakapapa Registration Administrator), Shira Crofts (Whakapapa Registration Advisor).

Te Rau Aroha 40th Anniversary

On 9 February, the Whakapapa team celebrated with whānau at the 40th anniversary of Te Rau Aroha Marae. We supported Te Rūnaka o Awarua with whānau who wanted to register with them, and shared kōrero with whānau throughout the event.

We admire the vision that whānau had over 40 years ago, creating a wharerau with a futuristic design, embedded in the whakapapa of our tīpuna. The vision continues today in its timelessness, giving the sense that when it was opened in 1985, it was truly ahead of its time. Standing in the presence of the tīpuna whakairo who are surrounded by their mokopuna gave us a strong sense of connection to whakapapa.

Whakapapa connection was extended through whakawhanaungatanga, where we met whānau and exchanged kōrero, all of us at ease through our shared aroha for the place we were in. The gathering was relaxed and the haukāika provided magnificent kai. True to its name, Te Rau Aroha Marae stands manifest as the aroha of its people.

Right: Whakapapa Ngāi Tahu kaimahi Moyra Newtown-Green and Hazel Te Koeti speak with whānau at Te Rau Aroha 40th Anniversary.



Whakapapa Kōrero – Ngāi Tahu Reconnection Stories

In a short video series, Judi Mossop and Genevieve Mora shared their kōrero with Whakapapa Ngāi Tahu about reconnecting with their whakapapa. Their kōrero speaks to their experiences of disconnection and how through finding their whakapapa and tūrakawaewae, they express their identities as Ngāi Tahu.

Watch the videos and hear their kōrero on the Ngāi Tahu website at <https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/whakapapa/>.

Wells Whānau Reunion

Descendants of Tūtehuarewa met for the Wells Whānau Reunion at Koukourata Marae, celebrating the 161st anniversary of Huldah and James Wells. On 15 March, Ngāi Tahu Archives and Whakapapa Ngāi Tahu shared with whānau their whakapapa back to Tahu Pōtiki, inspiring connection and understanding through kōrero.

The day was filled with whanaungatanga, amazing kai, and whānau reconnection, made possible through the Ngāi Tahu Fund. Around 60 whanaunga came along, many of whom had never been to the marae or stood on their whenua. Whānau shared kōrero, memories, photos, and learned about the place and people to which their whānau belong. The Whakapapa team was honoured to share in these moments with whānau and support their collective celebration as Ngāti Huikai.



Wells Whānau Reunion kete; Joseph Hullen, Senior Whakapapa Advisor, speaks with whānau about Wells whakapapa.

Wānaka – Ngāi Tahu ki Tāmaki Makaurau

The Whakapapa team also travelled to Tāmaki Makaurau in March to visit whānau from the Taurahere Rōpū. Hosted by Laidlaw College, the Ngāi Tahu Whānui ki Tāmaki Makaurau met us to wānaka and learn about how the Whakapapa Ngāi Tahu team can support with understanding whakapapa.

The wānaka opened with mihi whakatau and whakawhanaukataka. While the tamariki learnt haka and pūrākau through performance play, the pakeke heard and shared kōrero about our mahi. We spoke with the rōpū about the history of the blue book and tribal register, our content development to make whakapapa more accessible to whānau, and pūrākau kōrero.

The rikawera prepared a beautiful kai and we got to kōrero over lunch while getting to know some of the whānau better. Afterwards, some whānau learnt waiata and kapa haka while others had some one-on-one time with us to access information from their whakapapa files.

The whakapapa team had a truly enriching and inspiring time with whānau in Tāmaki Makaurau and we were humbled by the generosity and the great turn out.



Zhivannah Cole, Kaituhi Rangahau Whakapapa teaching Ngāi Tahu waiata to whānau.

Ā mātou mihi manahau ki a koutou e te whānau whānui.

Te Reo o te Wā



Kahuru Kai Paeka refers to the piles of harvested kai gathered during this season — the storehouses are full as we head into the colder winter months.

Kia Kūrapa ki Makaawhio

We held a Kia Kūrapa at Te Tauraka Waka a Māui marae from the 21st to the 23rd of February. With 27 pakeke and 13 tamariki all from Kāti Māhaki making the trip down to Mahitahi to grow their proficiency in te reo Māori. For some whānau, this was their first step in their reo journey and an opportunity to reconnect with their wider whānau and hapū. Formal learning sessions were facilitated by Kāti Māhaki uri, Hollie Smith and Levi

Collier-Robinson with support from Hinerangi Barr and Hinepounamu Apanui-Barr. An additional karaka and whaikōrero session was led by Paulette Tamati-Elliffe and Henare Te Aika-Puanaki.

Between these classes, whānau had an opportunity to stretch their legs along the Makawhio awa with some checking out the old pā site near the river mouth. The Kotahi Mano Kāika staff took charge of the tamariki program, keeping them entertained while the parents focused on their own learning.

Nei rā te mihi manahau ki kā whānau i tae mai ki te ako, ki te tautoko i te kaupapa. Mei kore ake koutou!

Kura Reo ki Te Waipounamu

As we write this, preparations are well underway for our upcoming Kura Reo ki Te Waipounamu, to be held from 13–17 April at Ōtākou Marae. This kura reo is a full immersion, intensive learning environment designed to support intermediate to advanced te reo Māori learners.

Each year we are privileged to bring together some of our leading reo champions from across the motu. This year, our teaching team includes Tākuta Hana O'Regan, Ahorangi Rangi Matamua, Karena Kelly, Leon Blake, Henare Te Aika-Puanaki, and Kare Tipa. We will share an update in the next issue.

Upcoming events:

Kaupapa	Āhea / Ki hea	Taumata Reo
Kura Reo Rakatahi	1-4 July Venue TBC	All levels 13-18 years
Kia Kūrapa ki Ōraka Aparima	4-6 July	Beginners to intermediate
Hai Reo Tuku Iho	22 July – 26 August Online	Absolute beginners
Kia Kūrapa ki Tuahiwi	5-7 September	Beginners to intermediate
Kia Kūrehu ki Arowhenua	17-19 October	Intermediate

Pānui



Predator Free Rakiura update

Rakiura, mauri ora

The special creatures and plants of Rakiura have suffered at the teeth and claws of cats, rats, possums and hedgehogs. Predator Free Rakiura is an ambitious partnership to help nature and communities thrive together by removing predators, and returning taoka species driven from their home, such as kākāpō, takahē, tīeke and tutukiwi/snipe.

Rakiura joins global island restoration collective

On 21 February Rakiura joined Wharekauri/Rēkohu (the Chatham Islands) and Maukahuka (Auckland Island) at Te Rau Aroha Marae, as those selected for fundraising support by the International Island-Ocean Connection Challenge (IOCC). Led by Island Conservation, Re:wild, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the IOCC aims to restore and rewild 40 island-ocean ecosystems by 2030 through joint conservation efforts.

With the support of global charities, it's hoped to add \$137m to the \$65m already raised for the three Aotearoa Island projects. The New Zealand Nature Fund is the project's fund manager. You can find out more about the IOCC challenge here: <https://www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz/about-us/stories/united-in-island-conservation/>

Community hui held at Oban

1080 information sessions

On the strength of community interest at the initial community meeting at Oban in January, we hosted two information sessions in February, focused on 1080 as a tool for predator suppression and eradication.

The sessions featured a panel of expert speakers sharing their knowledge and answering questions about the study and use of 1080 in Aotearoa:

Dr James Ross, Professor of Wildlife Management and a co-director of the Centre of Wildlife Management and Conservation at Lincoln University, spoke on the general toxicology and ecotoxicology of 1080.

Dr Alastair Suren, a freshwater ecologist at the Bay of Plenty Regional Council in Whakatāne, presented findings from extensive research into 1080's behaviour in waterways.

Dr Graeme Elliott, a conservation biologist for the Department of Conservation, shared decades of research on the benefits of 1080 for native birds.

Cam Speedy, a freelance wildlife biologist and predator control specialist based in the central North Island, spoke about 1080 operations and deer herd management.

Recordings of these sessions, as well as the presenter's slide decks and links to the scientific papers mentioned, along with additional answers and information are available at: <https://www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz/about-us/stories/1080-information-sessions/>.

You can read a transcript of questions and answers, along with additional information, here: <https://www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz/the-project/faqs/1080-information-sessions-q-and-a/>.

Biosecurity hui

Work continues on designing a robust biosecurity system to lock in the gains won by Predator Free Rakiura. In late March, we hosted experts from the Australian Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA), who are leading work on rodent incursion pathways, and from Auckland Council, who talked about their experience of island biosecurity in the Hauraki Gulf. Further speakers from Predator Free Rakiura gave a glimpse into some of the detection technology available to the project. A breakfast session the following day offered people the opportunity to talk to the presenters and share community knowledge.

If you missed the hui, presentations will be made available for viewing on the Predator Free Rakiura website.

Protecting pukunui

A community hui to present the latest information around a proposed aerial 1080 operation to target the predators currently driving pukunui, the southern New Zealand dotterel, towards extinction was held in late March. The Department of Conservation (DOC), supported by Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP), outlined the operational plan proposed for this winter, to protect pukunui breeding grounds along the Tin Range. They also spoke about planned trial work that will inform the broader Predator Free Rakiura programme, particularly focused on rat elimination.

Their presentations will be made available for viewing on the ZIP website, <https://zip.org.nz>. To receive updates on the Pukunui Recovery Project, or to offer feedback, you can email pukunui@doc.govt.nz. Or you can find out more here: <https://zip.org.nz/updates/2025/protecting-pukunui-on-rakiura>.

Deer repellent trials have begun

Following advice from hunting experts, we are beginning trials with non-toxic bait to better understand the effectiveness of deer repellent bait on white-tailed deer. While repellent-treated bait has been tested in other deer species around Aotearoa, little is currently known about how this species responds. This initial trial using Prodeer has been designed by Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research. Non-toxic cereal bait pellets have been placed by hand in front of monitoring cameras to observe how deer interact with them. Our team are already spotting white-tailed deer on our early monitoring camera network. The results will inform ZIP's proposal to trial the use of deer repellent more widely.

You can read more about it here:

<https://www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz/about-us/stories/trialling-deer-repellent-for-rakiuras-white-tailed-herd/>

Keep in touch

For more information about Predator Free Rakiura, visit www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz.

WAITUTU INCORPORATION – Waitutu Forest Lodge

RANGATAHI PROGRAMME REPORT

4 – 8 MARCH 2024



The Waitutu Incorporation inaugural rangatahi programme was held over four days in March at the Waitutu Forest Lodge. The programme offered our rangatahi an exciting experience right from the start with a magnificent scenic helicopter ride into the lodge. The low water levels of the Wairaurahiri River prevented the use of the normal jet boat access.

The programme hosted seven rangatahi, four programme organisers from the Waitutu Incorporation Committee of Management and four specialist presenters.

The presenters were Colin Bishop, who gave an excellent presentation on the settlement agreement between the Incorporation and the Department of Conservation (DoC). Of particular interest was the discussion about the benefits of various pest eradication programmes used to create a sustainable ecological environment. Rangimaria Suddaby also joined us allowing her beautiful mana to filter through the programme with rangatahi learning about the significance of tikanga within aspects of our Waitutu environment. Jack Radford presented a well-informed historical account of the SILNA beginnings and summarised where we are today. Joyce Groters demonstrated the effective use of automated trapping systems within the Waitutu Forest.



In addition, management committee members, Miles Dunnett and Tim Dyer took the rangatahi on two major explorations into the adjoining forests: firstly, to the Crombie River and then to the Francis Burn viaduct on the South Coast Track.



The intention of the kaupapa was to connect our next generation and beyond with their whenua in order for them to have a lifelong engagement with the Waitutu forest, ecology and its health/wellbeing benefits so they can then become the kaitiaki of what belongs to them – the Waitutu forest whenua and Lodge.



We were delighted with the success of the programme and look forward to what will become the annual Waitutu Incorporation rangatahi programme.

Nā Sue McKenna

Waitutu Incorporation Committee

General Meeting – Waikawa Blk 16,
Section 5 (Shades Beach)

A general meeting of owners in the above section will be convened

Where: South Otago Creative Arts Centre,
142 Clyde St, Balclutha

When: 9.30am Saturday 7 June, 2025

BYO food for a shared lunch.

Agenda

Karakia

Update on status of whenua and trust

Draft trust order presented for support /feedback

Vote to adopt or decline so it can be lodged with MLC

3 trustee positions for re election

General Business

Karakia

Contacts:

Bernadette Russell dettarussell@gmail.com

Kate McLachlan hillviewclarendon@unifone.net.nz

Ngāi Tahu Tourism

Earlier this year, Taupō MP and Tourism and Hospitality Minister Louise Upston went for a spin at Huka Falls Jet, one of ten world class experiences owned and operated by Ngāi Tahu Tourism. As one of the country's largest tourism players, Ngāi Tahu Tourism has been engaging directly with the minister and other tourism players over challenges and opportunities for the industry. The Minister was well versed with our portfolio of experiences and had a great time at Huka Falls. We plan to continue our engagement on change for the industry that aligns with our values.

Operating from Taupō, Huka Falls is the only jet boat company permitted to take manuhiri to the base of the mighty Huka Falls. The half hour trip of thrills, fun and excitement takes manuhiri along the river, which is lined with native bush, sheer rock cliff face, and hot water streams. Manuhiri travel at 80km an hour and enjoy multiple 360-degree spins throughout the journey.

As whānau, you can access a **20% discount** across all ten tourism experiences: (*Shotover Jet, All Blacks Experience, Hollyford Wilderness Experience, Guided Walks NZ, Dart River Adventures, Dark Sky Project, Franz Josef Glacier Guides, Hukafalls Jet, Agrodome, and National Kiwi Hatchery*). To use your discount, please let the customer service representative know you are Ngāi Tahu when booking your experience.



Nurture your hauora

From sharing kai with whānau, going for a hikoi, or heading out fishing, to learning te reo, or taking up a new hobby or sport...

We can do many things to strengthen our hauora (wellbeing) and boost how we feel and think. How do you nourish your hauora?

Watch videos of whānau sharing what they do to boost their hauora and learn how to improve yours at ngaitahu.iwi.nz/wellbeing

 **Whānau as First Navigators**

 Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

TOGETHER WE GROW

He pānui pai!

IT'S THE BEST TIME OF YEAR E TE WHĀNAU.

**2024 Ngāi Tahu Contributions are
officially in your accounts!**

Over \$9 Million contributed!

This year, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu has contributed over
\$9 MILLION for 2024 Distributions, Matched Savings,
Newborn Distributions and associated taxes*! Tau kē!

For all the information you need head to www.whairawa.com/ngai-tahu-contributions

* Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu matched savings and distributions (when applicable) are available to all eligible Whai Rawa members under 65 years of age (see the Product Disclosure Statement) and are subject to RSCT (retirement scheme contribution tax) deducted at your personal RSCT rate (see the Other Material Information document at www.whairawa.com). If you do not notify us of your correct rate, you will be taxed at the default rate of 39%. Ngāi Tahu contributions and distribution payments are made no later than 31 March in the calendar year following qualification. Download our PDS at www.whairawa.com/pds

Whai Rawa Fund Limited is the issuer of the Whai Rawa Unit Trust. A copy of Whai Rawa's Product Disclosure Statement is available at www.whairawa.com/pds. Whai Rawa Fund Limited's financial advice disclosure statement is available here www.whairawa.com/financial-advice.

www.whairawa.com

0800 WHAI RAWA (0800 942 472)

WhaiRawa NGĀI TAHU



Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

Rūnaka Directory



Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka
Ph: 03 234 8192
E: office@orakaaparima.org.nz

Awarua Rūnaka
Ph: 03 212 8652
E: office@awaruarūnaka.iwi.nz

Taurahere Rōpū

Ngāi Tahu ki Te Taitokerau
Janet Hetaraka
Ph: 09 438 6203
E: janet@hiahiaua.org.nz

Ngāi Tahu ki Tāmaki Makaurau
Briar Meads
Ph: 027 929 9992
E: ngaitahutamakimakaurau@gmail.com

Ngāi Tahu ki Rotorua
Anita Smith
Ph: 07 345 8375
E: Anita17smith@gmail.com

Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana
Rachel Chaney
Ph: 021 129 3665
E: ngaitahukitaurangamoana@gmail.com

Ngāi Tahu ki Te Matau a Māui
Lisa Walker
Ph: 021 196 3009
E: lisa1.walker31@gmail.com

Ngāi Tahu ki Whanganui
Aroha Beckham
Ph: 021 687 6332
E: aroha.beckham@xtra.co.nz

Ngāi Tahu ki Horowhenua – Kapiti Coast
Ema & Amiria Whiterod
Ph: 027 207 1629
E: kororia449@gmail.com or emma.whiterod@twor-otaki.ac.nz

Ngāi Tahu ki Taranaki
Virginia Hina
Ph: 021 135 3493
E: gin_1_98@live.com

Ngāi Tahu ki Whakatāne
Phil Kemp
E: pt Kemp@xtra.co.nz
Ph: 027 478 2919

Ngāi Tahu ki Whanganui-a-Tara
Karen Coutts
Ph: 027 365 3993
E: karen.coutts@xtra.co.nz

Ngāi Tahu ki Wairau
Ana Topi Patuki
Ph: 022 369 1024
E: ruapuke@hotmail.com

Ngāi Tahu ki Te Tairāwhiti
Vernice Waata-Amai
Ph: 027 263 6921
E: vernice.w.amai@xtra.co.nz

Kāi Tahu ki Te Urupū (Perth)
E: ngaitahuinperth@gmail.com
Facebook: Ngāi Tahu ki Perth

Ngāi Tahu ki Melbourne
Haileigh Russell-Wright
E: ladyhailz@gmail.com
P: (04) 5820 2227

Ngāi Tahu ki Waikato
Hinga Whiu
Ph: 0211811009
E: hinga.whiu@tainui.co.nz

Ngāi Tahu ki Wairarapa
Karen Bast
Ph: 06 378 8737
E: maungateitei_hikurangi_aorangi@yahoo.co.nz

Ngāi Tahu ki Waikawa
Marama Burgess
Ph: 03 5736142 or 0276591840
E: mr.burgess@hotmail.com

Te Kupeka a Tahu (Brisbane)
Ph: 0488666610 (+61)
E: tekupekaatatau@gmail.com

Ngāi Tahu iwi i Poihākēna
Angelean Simpson
Ph: 04 20333568
E: angeleanlives@y7mail.com

For contributions to Te Pānui Rūnaka, email:

tpr@ngaitahu.iwi.nz or phone: 0800 524 8248

For photographs and graphics please send to:

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu PO Box 13-046, CHRISTCHURCH
ISSN 1175-2483 (Online: ISSN 2357-2051)

Opinions expressed in Te Pānui Rūnaka are those of the writers and not necessarily endorsed by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

Whakaahua Tīpuna/Whānau



This photograph came to us from Te Rūnanga o Waihao. We have no details regarding the location or identity of the man in this photograph so would appreciate any information or feedback please. Contact Robyn Walsh in the Ngāi Tahu Archives unit on 0800 Kāi Tahu (0800 524 8248), we would love to hear from you.