WHITU | NOVEMBER 2026

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





TE ATA WITH LEANNA

Te Ata is a dynamic breakfast show designed to kickstart your day with motivating music, up-to-date and relevant content, engaging kōrero, and a strong presence of te reo Māori to inform, connect, and inspire.

6AM - 10AM
WEEKDAYS

TE RĀ WITH HONE

An energetic show that brings a passion for music and hauora, guaranteed to brighten your day and lift your wairua. Whakaroko mai ki tēnei hōtaka a Te Rā!

10AM - 3PM
WEEKDAYS

TE IHI WITH POU

Covering a wide range of topics — from mana wāhine and hauora to mental health and overall well-being — this show brings the ihi every weekday!

3PM - 7PM
WEEKDAYS

tahu FM

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Whakaroko mai ki a TahuFM to learn and celebrate Matariki, te reo Māori, competitions and resources, the latest waiata Māori, R&B, reggae, Kiwi music and so much more! Stay tuned or connect with us online!

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Nā te Kaiwhakahaere



Kai āhaku whakatamarahi ki te raki,
kai āhaku whakateitei ki te whenua,
whakaoko mai rā ki te reo rāhiri e toro
atu nei ki a koutou katoa o kā moka katoa
o te motu whānui,
tēnā rā tātau katoa.

Tēnā tātau i ā tātau tini kaupapa,
i kā tini mahi ko tutuki i a tātau i ngā wiki,
i kā marama ko pāhemo ake nei.

Kai aku rakatira e oke tou nei i ruka i kā haumāuiui,
i kā taero o Tūtekoropaka,
nāia ka mihi ki a tātau katoa.

As the general election draws closer, I'm sure all of us are feeling the political temperature rise across New Zealand. The combination of sustained economic pressure and a coalition government intent on clamping down strongly on the perceived excesses of the previous Labour government has created a term of government in which many communities, particularly Māori, have felt the harsh edge of politics and the whiplash of abrupt political change.

The one thing everyone seems to be able to agree on is that things are tough. The cost of living remains stubbornly high, and it feels at times that, as a small country at the bottom of the world, New Zealand is largely at the mercy of social and economic forces emanating from great powers on the other side of the world. This makes it even more disappointing that political divisions between the centre-left and centre-right blocs seem to be growing, with more time spent on political point-scoring and rhetorical battles than on bringing the country together to do what we can to combat the forces we're up against.

And, as is so often the case, political debate concerning Treaty matters and kaupapa Māori is particularly disappointing. When the pressures of the present are overwhelming, the temptation is always to look for people to blame—to curse the world and those around us because at least then some of that pressure has an outlet. The problem, however, is that the pressure keeps building, and we struggle to respond to the bigger, more complicated realities impacting our lives.

If I have one hope for the next term of government—whichever side gets in—it's that our politics becomes less preoccupied with ideological purity and more focused on bringing the country together around a shared sense of purpose: responding with strength and care to the challenges emanating from an increasingly volatile and unpredictable world.

From a Kāi Tahu perspective, it has been disheartening to see the way that the presence of iwi Māori in public life has been framed by some as a barrier to progress and productivity, or even as an abomination against the ideals of a modern, egalitarian society. These are exactly the things our old people sought to overcome and address through the Treaty Settlement process.

If nothing else, the past three years have reminded us that the ideas embodied in the Settlement—that our history need not be a barrier to progress and productivity, and that iwi Māori are part of the fabric of this nation—are never permanently won in the minds of New Zealanders or our political class; they must be maintained, renewed and, when necessary, defended.

Amid all the noise in the external political environment, it has been a great privilege to take refuge in the busyness of tribal business, particularly as Te Rūnanga Group goes through a process of transformation in light of the *Mō Kā Uri – Kāi Tahu 2050* tribal vision. Given what we've seen over the last three years in terms of political regression from Te Tiriti-based rights, I am more motivated than ever to ensure that Te Rūnanga Group is sharp, focused and delivering maximum value for

Papatipu Rūnaka and Kāi Tahu Whānui. The independent institutional strength of the tribe is our best insurance against shifting political winds.

That said, institutional strength requires us to consistently hold a mirror up to ourselves and ensure that Te Rūnanga Group remains fit for purpose in each generation, even when potential change carries difficult implications for people, teams and kaupapa that have served the tribe well. As we grow and develop, the scale at which we're operating increases and new opportunities become available to us. It is incumbent on Te Rūnanga leadership to make the most of those opportunities.

It has been encouraging and enlightening to get out across the takiwā recently with Ben, Todd and Te Rūnanga Group leadership to speak directly to Papatipu Rūnanga and tribal members about how we're looking to change in response to *Mō Kā Uri*. I remain steadfast in my belief that Kāi Tahu is strongest when our pā and marae are thriving. Ensuring that Papatipu Rūnaka are well served by the centre is, therefore, critical to our next chapter.

With Hui ā Iwi, 20–22 November, just over a month away, I'm looking forward to the opportunity to engage with the wider tribe on what tribal members can expect to see over the coming years.

In the meantime, I encourage everyone to get out and vote in the election. Politics is not always as dignified as we would hope, and at times it can feel far removed from the world we live in at home. But make no mistake: the vote is an important institution and a way for each individual to play a role in keeping political power in check in our nation. E te iwi, karawhiua!

Hai te Noema tātau hui anō ai ki Taumutu.

Nāhaku noa,
Justin Tipa
Kaiwhakahaere, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu

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

Aoraki Matatū

nā Fualili Kihere Jahnke-Waitoa (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Porou, Ngā Puhi, Waikato)
Hapu: Ngāti Huirapa, Ngāti Hateatea, Ngāti Māmoe, Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki

This artwork was inspired by the whakataukī "Hokia ki tō maunga kia purea koe e ngā hau a Tāwhirimātea."

It is a part of a series of four digital paintings depicting maunga from each of my iwi.

This one was dedicated to my Taua, and I gifted it to her for her 80th birthday in 2024.

I am Ngāi Tahu through my Taua's side of the whānau. Her own journey of discovering and reconnecting



with our whakapapa, alongside people like Papa Terry, played an important role in helping us as mokopuna better understand and connect with our culture, whakapapa and whenua.

Because of that, this artwork is especially meaningful to me. It represents not only my connection to my Ngāi Tahu identity and whenua, but also the journey that my Taua helped open up for us as her mokopuna.

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Te Hapū o Ngāti Waewae

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

Mahuru
Fin Tauwhare, Leighton Stokes, Amanda Tainui, Chantal Tumahai, Terita Mason, El-Alamein Meihana Whittle, Kaleshea Tauwhare, Marlon Price, Chris Lewis, Kereopa Ria, Irai Weepu, Mikayla Tumahai, Kupe Tauwhare, Tania Tauwhare, James Campbell, Moana Lee, Tamaki Tumahai, Chelsea Meihana, Awatea Tauwhare, Tina Weepu, Maighdlin Hinekoau Jones, Miriama Johnsen, Miriam Downs, Hector Tainui, Ariana Stevens, George Read, Marina Russell, India Lilly Campbell, Polly Mei Campbell, George Simpson, Archie Downs, Kōwhai Weaver, Connor McLaughlin, Kōwhai Te Kapuarangi Āio, Lucas Hutchison.

Whiringa-ā-nuku
Tania Hutana, Theresa Rooney, Milly Campbell, Wiremu Weepu, Courtney Sargent, Jamie Meihana-Whittle, Ariana Tainui, Rosemarie Tainui, Kelly Mason, Arana Sutton, Te Aotaumarewa Meihana-Eiffe, Maia Tonihi, Tioti Campbell, Gaylene Culling, Te Ngarahau Mason, Chance Beckett-Ria, Jo-anne Coakley (Millie), Sophie Tiller, Tessa Treadgold, Tom Downs, William Simpson, Davida Simpson, John McLaughlin, Kerehi Crawford, Jacob Manera.



He Pepi Hou – Charleigh Mabel Moss
Nau mai ki te ao Charleigh Mabel Moss!



A very special welcome to Charleigh Mabel Moss, who arrived on 30th July weighing a healthy 7lb 7oz.

Charleigh is the beautiful pēpi of Emma Tainui and Cori Moss, and is welcomed with much aroha by her whānau. Taua: Nadia Tainui, Tauanui: Papakura Tainui, Pouanui: George Tainui, Nana: Ruiha Ruru, Grandad: Michael Stokes, Grandad: Kevin Moss, Great-grandparents: Sonny Ruru and Margaret Ruru, Great-grandmother: Mary Ruru.

Nau mai, haere mai e pēpi,
ki tēnei ao. He taonga tuku iho,
he mokopuna aroha.

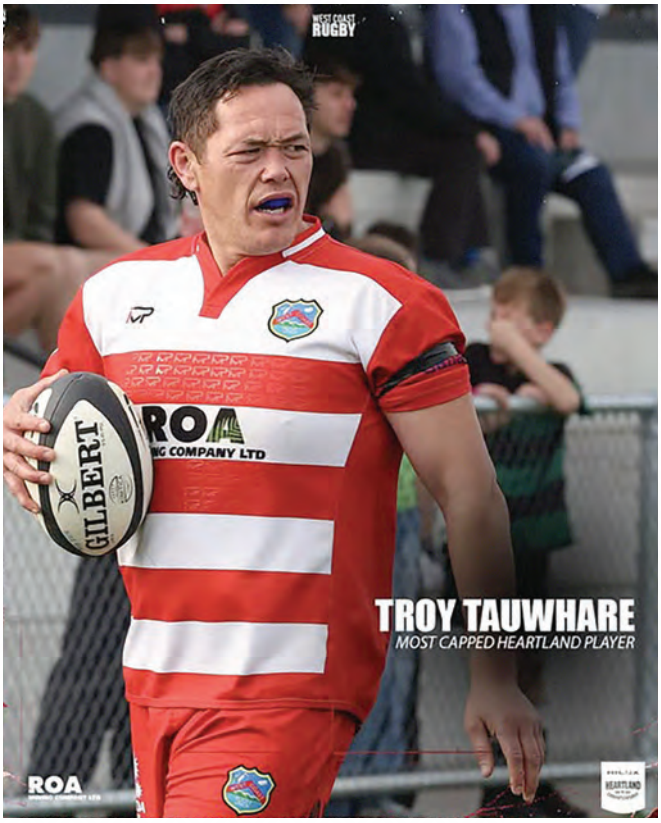
He mihi aroha ki a Emma, Cori me te whānau whānui on the safe arrival of your beautiful kōtiro.



Troy Tauwhare Makes Heartland History

A huge congratulations to our very own Troy Tauwhare, who made history over the weekend! After an incredible 114 appearances, Troy became the most-capped player in the history of the Heartland Championship. Such an outstanding achievement, monstrous effort, and a milestone to be incredibly proud of.

Ka mau te wehi Troy, congratulations from us all!



Courtney Sargeant – Hokitika Swimming Club Life Patron

He mihi nui ki a Courtney Sargeant, who has recently been made a Life Patron of the Hokitika Swimming Club. This is a special recognition of his longstanding connection to, and contribution to, the club.

For Courtney, swimming has been part of life for as long as he can remember. Growing up at Arahura Pā, the Arahura River was their playground. Courtney and his cuzzies spent countless hours swimming in the awa, jumping off the Arahura Bridge and growing up around the water, as many generations of whānau at Arahura have done before and since.

That love of the water eventually carried Courtney into competitive swimming, where he went on to compete at a high level and rank among some of the top swimmers in Aotearoa for his age. It was a passion shared within the whānau too. His first cousin, Hamiria was another talented young swimmer, becoming one of the fastest swimmers on Te Tai Poutini in her age groups and competing strongly across Te Waipounamu.





But above the results and rankings, it's pretty special to think about where it all began: two Arahura kids who grew up swimming in their awa who went on to represent their whānau and hapori in the pool.


Junior Sports Profile

This week:
Courtney Sergeant (11)

Courtney who lives at Arahura near Hokitika is a keen rugby league player and last year was in the Hokitika Under-12 representative team. He is fast on the field, using his strength and speed to average three or four tries a game.

Courtney is also fast in the water and has been dedicating much of his time and energy to swimming which he only took up two years ago. A member of the Hokitika Swimming Club, Courtney's efforts are paying off with great results in competitions including the National Junior Championships where he came 2nd in the under-12 years 100m freestyle and is now ranked 8th in New Zealand over that distance.

Courtney's connection to swimming has continued long after his competitive years. He has remained an active member and supporter of the Hokitika Swimming Club, giving back to a community that played such a big part in his life. To now be recognised as a Life Patron feels like a beautiful full-circle moment.

No doubt Taua Maata and Taua Waikura would be incredibly proud of their tamariki, and it is a special opportunity for us to celebrate another little piece of our Arahura whānau history.

Congratulations Courtney, on a very well-deserved recognition.



Flynn Sargeant – Chasing Big Dreams

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree, with Courtney's son Flynn Sargeant carving out a sporting pathway of his own. Over several years at Nelson College, Flynn's basketball journey has continued to grow, beginning in the school's junior programme and in 2025 being selected for the Nelson U18A representative team and training through the Mainland Eagles Academy.

Now in 2026, he has earned his place in the Nelson College Senior A Basketball team, continuing to put in the mahi as he prepares alongside his team for the next stage of their season. More recently, Flynn and his teammates have had the opportunity to help with training connected to the Steven Adams basketball camp, working alongside and encouraging younger players as they build their skills and confidence.

And the dreams are big. With his sights set on playing college basketball in America and, one day, reaching the highest levels of the game, these are exactly the aspirations we want to see our rangatahi chase wholeheartedly.

Go overseas. Take every opportunity. See how far your talent, determination and hard work can take you, and know your whānau at home will be backing you all the way!

We love seeing our Arahura rangatahi dream big, put in the mahi, and carry their whānau and whakapapa with them wherever those dreams may take them.



Above: Teena Henderson; right: Lynette Solis. Below right: Uncle Bill.

A Sister Act

Congratulations to Lynette Solis and Teena Henderson who have both achieved significant milestones in their professional careers. Lynette passed her final nursing exams and her graduation will be in September – look out Te Tai o Poutini – she will be a force in our community, providing clinical care.





Teena had a double whammy. She was appointed Head of School, Aotahi School of Māori and Indigenous Studies at the University of Canterbury and awarded her PhD. Now Dr Teena Henderson!

The Henderson whānau also celebrated Uncle Bill's 93rd birthday!

He Whare Hou Mō Poutini Waiora ki Māwhera

He rā whakahirahira mō Poutini Ngāi Tahu, mō Poutini Waiora, ā, mō Te Tai o Poutini whānui.

On Monday 10 August, whānau, kaimahi and community gathered in Māwhera to celebrate the official opening of the new Poutini Waiora facility at 62 Shakespeare Street.

The purpose-built $3.2 million facility stands on whenua owned by Poutini Ngāi Tahu, through Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio. It represents a significant investment by Poutini Ngāi Tahu in the health and wellbeing of our people and our wider Te Tai o Poutini community.



While this is an iwi-owned asset, its doors and the services delivered from within them are for our whole community. Poutini Waiora has long provided kaupapa Māori health and social services across Te Tai o Poutini, supporting whānau, tamariki, rangatahi, kaumātua and individuals through a wide range of health, wellbeing and Whānau Ora services.

As that mahi has grown, so too has the need for a space in Māwhera that properly supports both the kaimahi doing the mahi and the people walking through the doors. This new whare provides exactly that: a modern, purpose-built place from which Poutini Waiora can continue to manaaki our communities for generations to come.

Congratulations to Poutini Waiora and to everyone who has played a part in bringing this kaupapa to life.

Te Pae Oranga Te Tai o Poutini

Te Pae Oranga was officially launched on Te Tai o Poutini on 1 September, marking an important milestone for our iwi, whānau and communities.

The occasion brought together iwi, Police and community partners, with matua Te Rua Mason guiding the tikanga. Ngāti Waewae gifted a mauri stone named Te Oranganui, which now sits at the heart of the kaupapa.







The launch celebrated iwi leadership, strong relationships and a shared commitment to pathways of accountability, restoration and opportunity for our people.

Tihei mauri ora!



Whiria te Tai Poutini – Ko Wai Koe Wānanga

Whiria te Tai Poutini is a rangatahi-led leadership kaupapa delivered across Te Tai o Poutini for senior Māori high school students from and who whakapapa to the Coast.

Three wānanga are held each year, each built around a question: *Nō hea koe, Ko wai koe, and E haere ana koe ki hea?*

This wānanga, held at Arahura marae, was Ko wai koe, where rangatahi explored who they are as rangatahi Māori, in part through learning about our hapū, Ngāti Waewae, and connecting with haukāinga.

We heard from Te Rua Mason, Maia Tonihi and others, visited the awa, and learnt the history of Poutini Ngāi Tahu together. Rangatahi also shared their own stories with one another.

Speakers and facilitators joined us from around the country to run workshops and activities, offering positive role models for our rangatahi, both haukāinga and mātāwaka.

If you'd like to know more, or have senior Māori students, local to the coast, or who whakapapa to Ngāti Waewae or Ngāti Māhaki, who'd like to join this journey, get in touch: whiriwhiriatrust@gmail.com.



Rūnanga and Office

If you have any rūnanga business queries including whakapapa registration forms, please contact our Rūnanga Administrator Aleigha: Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz or 027 755 6451.

If you have any marae bookings or queries, please contact our marae manager Miriama: Events@ngatiwaewae.org.nz.

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 and/or phone number to Aleigha for rūnanga communications.

Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

Rūnanga Kaupapa

A huge thank you to Crystelle Mason for organising and running the recent pool and darts event. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for whānau to reconnect, enjoy some friendly competition and share plenty of laughter.

Around the pool table, even the simplest shots proved challenging, while some of the most unexpected shots found their way in helped by a little bit of luck. Every missed shot came with a good-natured explanation, whether it was blamed on a bent cue, an uneven table, or someone breathing at exactly the wrong moment.

At the dartboard, every 180 was met with enthusiastic celebration, while the occasional stray dart kept everyone alert and entertained. There were plenty of confident "I meant to do that" moments, even when the dart landed well away from its intended target.

Ultimately, the highlight of the day was not the final score, but the chance to see whānau catching up, supporting one another, and enjoying time together. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success. We are already looking forward to next year.





Above: Ant Coakley & Scott Mills; above right: Shane Blair & Crystelle Mason.

Results:
Drawn Pool Winners:
Ant Coakley and Scott Mills
Darts Singles Winner:
Shane Blair
Pool Singles Winner: Ant Coakley



Above: Ant Coakley & Crystelle Mason.

Below: Reuban Smith is pictured wearing his korowai made by his mother.

Whānau Achievements

Congratulations to Reuban Smith, son of Julie and grandson of Bo (Arthur) Smith, who recently graduated with a Bachelor of Health Science in Paramedicine.

Reuban's hard work, leadership and commitment throughout his degree were recognised with several special awards:

- Brenda Costa-Scorce Cup – for outstanding contribution to the Paramedicine undergraduate programme.
- Pītau Whakareia o te Waka, a Tonga – recognising his leadership and manaakitanga throughout his degree, along with his contribution to the Māori and Pasifika Medics student group.
- Spirit of Paramed Student Award – peer voted in recognition of his contribution and dedication to the degree.





What an incredible collection of achievements and a wonderful reflection of the person Reuban is.

His whānau are incredibly proud of him and all that he has achieved.



Poutini Waiora opening

Kaupapa Māori health and social service provider Poutini Waiora officially opened the doors to its new purpose-built facility in Māwhera (Greymouth) on Monday 10 August, marking a significant milestone for health and wellbeing services across Te Tai o Poutini.

The $3.2 million facility, located at 62 Shakespeare Street, has been developed to meet the growing demand for integrated health and social services in the region. The building stands on whenua owned by Poutini Ngāi Tahu through Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio who invested in the build.

More than 100 people attended the opening, with whānau from Poutini Ngāi Tahu leading a blessing to formally open the facility. Designed as a welcoming and accessible space, the new hub will provide whānau with access to a range of health and wellbeing services under one roof, including Kai Puku food rescue services, mental health and addiction support, and rongoā Māori.



Sam Briggs – West Coast Rugby

Congratulations also to Sam Briggs (son of Maria and Gavin) for being selected for the West Coast rugby team. He rawe.

Babies

Rohati Madoc-Fernandez and her husband, Wiremu, welcomed their first-born pēpi, Juan Poutini, in early August, weighing 8lb 6oz.

Congratulations all.

Apprentice Butcher – Corey Fluerty

Congratulations to Corey who has just started as a butchery apprentice in Mount Maunganui.

Best of luck.

Westland Greenstone

We are proud to share the news that we have been selected as finalists in the Leading Light West Coast business awards. We are thrilled to be selected and hope to share more news following the awards ceremony.

Westland Greenstone has continued to receive a make-over, this time on the inside with wonderful new cabinets made by the team at Art Fetiche. We have also upgraded our website, Westland Greenstone | Hokitika thanks to High Street Design, another whānau-owned business.

In addition to the fabulous taonga produced in-store, we are now also stocking a number of whānau artisans taonga which includes both high end and emerging carvers.

We will soon be stocking a wonderful array of Aotea taonga, including stunning hei tiki, traditional and contemporary designs, and earrings. We will also be releasing three styles of Tahutahi and silver rings very soon.

Please come and see us at the Ngāi Tahu Pounamu stall at the Hui-ā-Iwi, or pop into the store when you are next in Hokitika.

Hui-ā-Tau – Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

Ngāti Māhaki, Nau Mai, Haere Mai, Tauti Mai

Members of Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio Inc are warmly invited to attend our rūnanga Hui-ā-Tau (AGM) to be held on Saturday 7 November 2026, at Te Tauraka Waka a Māui Marae, Mahitahi.

The day will commence with a mihi at 9.45am, followed by the Annual General Meeting at 10am. The meeting will be conducted as per Section 7 of the Rules of Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio Society Inc (28 November 2015).

There are no executive position elections this year.

Accommodation
The marae is available for whānau to stay from Friday afternoon. Please let us know if you are bringing any waewae tapu so that a mihi whakatau can be arranged.

Please bring kai to contribute and a koha for your marae stay. You will need your blankets, toiletries and towels. The rūnanga will provide lunch on Saturday.

Kawe Mate
A reminder that a kawe mate will be held on Sunday for whānau wishing to bring their loved ones into the wharenui.

For planning purposes we would appreciate you letting us know in advance if you are taking part.

Whenua Māori Hui
A hui for some of our South Westland Māori reserve blocks will also be held on Sunday. We are currently working with the various trusts to confirm which blocks will be included.

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga

Punch up at the Pā

Congratulations to our contenders Elishia Halbert-Pere, Tia Reriti, Te Rakiamoa Brennan and Marewa Pitama-Hoeta who took part in Punch up at the Pā 2026 representing their hapū, Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

We are proud of their resilience, determination and strength. They stood proud, fought well and, most importantly remained whānau.

This kaupapa is about hauora, whanaungatanga, manaakitanga and whakapapa.









Congratulations Rebecca Heads

Rebecca recently received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Canterbury, majoring in English and History and minoring in Anthropology, with a focus on Māori culture and hītori.

She completed her degree with the support of her whānau and her husband, Scott, while caring for her one-year-old son, Theo, and hapū with her second son, Sebastian, who are now two and three years old.

Rebecca was privileged to complete areas of her study under the guidance of Aotahi, the School of Māori and Indigenous Studies, and the Ngāi Tahu Research Centre, supported by their inspirational staff and academic research.

She is now continuing her studies, completing a postgraduate diploma in teaching with a focus on primary education.





Mathias Pitama

Congratulations to Mathias Pitama, who has been appointed as Canterbury Rugby League's (CRL) first Mana Whenua Director, representing Ngāi Tūāhuriri on the CRL Board.

With whakapapa to Ngāi Tūāhuriri and over 40 years of involvement in rugby league as a player and coach, Mathias brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and cultural guidance to the role.

We are proud to see Mathias represent our hapū and look forward to the positive contribution he will make through this kaupapa.



Mathias Pitama and Janelle Riki.

Te Ataarangi Ki Tuahiwi

Kia kore koe e ngaro, taku reo rangatira!

Our Te Ataarangi whānau came together at the pā for a special wānanga, with te reo Māori flowing from the pōwhiri on Friday through to the whakaotinga on Sunday.



Around 70 tauira from across the motu came together at different levels: Te Kākano, Te Pihinga and Te Mātaatupu, strengthening our reo and whanaungatanga.

He mihi nui to Taua Horiana Tootles and Ngāti Waewae for sharing our pounamu taonga and pūrākau, and to Dr Eru Tārena for his kōrero on *Te Hawaiki Hou mō te reo*. A special mihi to Erana Brewerton for joining us and seeing the growth of Te Ataarangi in Tuahiwi and Te Waipounamu.

Thank you also to Kura o Tuahiwi, our manuhiri, haukāinga and whānau whānui who helped make this kaupapa a success.





Te Taumutu Rūnanga

‘Our Changing Coast’ Wānanga



Taumutu Rūnanga welcomed around 30 whānau to Te Pā o Moki on 19 July, for our ‘Our Changing Coast’ wānanga. It was great to see so many whānau come together to share their kōrero, mātauranga and lived experiences of our coastline. These insights are incredibly valuable and will help shape and guide this important kaupapa as the project continues.

Our coastline is changing. Rising seas and a changing climate will alter our access and current use of the facilities. Our wāhi taonga and wāhi tapu will remain, but the landscapes around them will change over time. Therefore, this work stream has been focusing on preparing for those changes.

Te Taumutu Rūnanga has engaged Jacobs specialists to undertake a feasibility assessment to determine which nature-based solutions are physically achievable along our coastline.

Nature-based solutions can help coastlines adapt to inundation from rising seas, while enhancing the mana and mauri of the environment through planting and retaining natural landscape features.

During the wānanga, whānau helped identify the nature-based solutions they would like explored further through the feasibility study. Their feedback will help guide the next stage of the kaupapa and ensure the options considered reflect what matters to our whānau. The feasibility report is expected to be completed by the end of the year, when whānau will have another opportunity to provide feedback before the findings are shared more widely.

Once complete, the assessment will help us identify and scope ‘shovel-ready’ projects that we can put forward for funding and, where funding is secured, allocate resources to deliver.

If you have any questions, please contact Faye.White@ngaitahu.iwi.nz.



Puamiria Parata-Goodall and Selwyn District Council Mayor Lydia Gliddon.

Selwyn District Council’s Mana Whenua Representative for Te Taumutu Runanga

Puamiria Parata-Goodall, has been formally appointed as Selwyn District Council’s Mana Whenua Representative for Te Taumutu Rūnanga.

The appointment strengthens the longstanding partnership between Council and Te Taumutu Rūnanga, ensuring mana whenua perspectives are part of decision-making and contributing to better outcomes for our communities.

“Strong relationships with mana whenua benefit everyone in Selwyn. They help us make better decisions, strengthen environmental stewardship, support sustainable economic development and foster communities that are connected to their place and history,” says Mayor Lydia Gliddon.

Tēnei te mihi ki a koe, Puamiria, mō tēnei tūranga whakahirahira. Congratulations on your appointment and for continuing to represent our whānau, our rūnanga and our values with strength and integrity. Ka mau te wehi!

Read more online by searching the link: https://www.selwyn.govt.nz/.../puamiria-parata-goodall...

Wānanga Reo ki Te Pā o Moki

On 4 September, whānau gathered at Te Pā o Moki for Wānanga Reo ki Te Pā o Moki.

This was the first wānanga reo held at Ngāti Moki for some time and marks the beginning of a wider programme of kaupapa focused on strengthening our ahurea, te reo Māori and our Ruahikihikitanga.

The wānanga provided an opportunity for whānau to come together in a supportive reo Māori environment, learn from one another and reconnect with te reo at Te Pā o Moki. Our kaiako, Suayd and Gaynor Hakaria, opened the learning programme with a workshop focused on comprehension and translating tuhinga tawhito. Whānau then headed out on a haerenga with Tia Hunt through Ōrariki and on to Kaitorete, learning about the history and significance of the area. While at the beach, whānau collected stones to bring back to the pā and use for mahi toi.

The weekend continued with Aaria Rolleston and Tumai Cassidy sharing kōrero from their mahi in the taiao, including kupu, kīanga and whakataukī to add to our kete. Together, these akoranga provided whānau with opportunities to strengthen their reo while connecting it to whenua, history, and the knowledge held within our own whānau.



It was awesome to have whānau come along with a genuine appetite to grow and strengthen their reo Māori, and to create space for kōrero about our aspirations for the future: what we want to build, what we need to focus on, and how we can continue moving forward together.

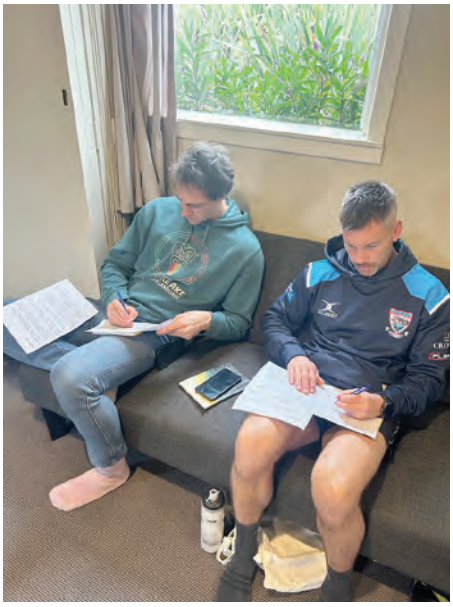
A huge mihi to all of the kaiako, whānau, ringawera and kaiāwhina who contributed to making the kaupapa a success.

Ko te amorangi ki mua,
ko te hāpai ō ki muri.

E-pānui is circulated bi-monthly, and other important communications are sent to whānau via our whānau email list. If you would like to be added to the list, please email us at Taumutu@ngaitahu.iwi.nz



Suayd Hakaraia & Tumai Cassidy.



Nick Brown and Waiaio Elkington.

Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata

My name is Benjamin Tikao O'Brien. I am a young Māori artist based in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Aotearoa, working across contemporary art and communication design. Of Ngāi Tahu, Rangitāne, and Tainui descent, my work is grounded in whakapapa, te ao Māori, and a strong connection to whenua. My practice is also a way of understanding who I am, using art as a tool to explore identity and heritage.

I am a third-year student at Victoria University of Design in Wellington and currently doing my capstone project.

This project is rooted in a question I've carried personally: What does it mean to be Māori? What does it mean to know where you come from? And what happens when that knowledge is absent?

Growing up in a Māori and Pākehā household, I knew I had Māori ancestry but didn't fully understand my whakapapa. It was not something widely discussed, because I didn't care to ask. Through the resources of my mother's book, Tiahuia A Karanga to My Mother, and Tikao Talks, and finally asking questions, it has been clear. This project is my response to that gap, and I believe many young Māori and Pākehā are in the same position.

The purpose is to create a five-piece installation of handmade work, using blankets as the canvases and paint as a medium. The installation aims to encourage students, particularly young people and members of my iwi and others, to explore their whakapapa, take pride in their identity, and understand that it is never too late to begin that journey.

Ultimately, I want the work to reach people across both Te Ika-a-Māui and Te Waipounamu, not just Wellington.







Pouākai – outside
Pouākai is based on the Haast eagle. When I first started researching my whakapapa, I came across these forms through Ngāi Tahu cave art, particularly the work of Ross Hemera. Much of his work draws from illustrations found in caves across Te Waipounamu that are hundreds of years old.

This became a steppingstone for me. It pushed me to learn more, not only about Māori art, but also about what else is out there for me to discover.

Aramoana – inside
Aramoana translates to "Pathway of the Sea." The pattern represents the waterways that connect people from one place to another.

This made me think about my tūpuna and the journeys they took across oceans and rivers towards new places and beginnings. The continuous flow of the pattern also represents growth and moving forward.

Much like this work, learning about my whakapapa has been a journey in itself.

Tāhuhu – main panel
The Tāhuhu sits in the middle and holds the whole work together. From the start, I wanted red to be the stronghold of the piece, especially a red line running straight through the centre. I then found this old blanket and, lo and behold, it already had that red line running through it.

Within the wharenui, the tāhuhu acts as the backbone, representing the spine of an ancestor and the line of whakapapa connecting past to present. That is what this red line does for my work. It grounds everything around it and connects each part of the journey together.

At the bottom of the middle panel is Niho Taniwha, meaning the teeth of the taniwha. Representing strength, protection, and whakapapa. I see it almost as protection for the work, reinforcing and shielding everything that sits above it, just as the structure of the wharenui protects what it holds.

The whakataukī "Hoki atu ki tō maunga kia purea ai koe e ngā hau o Tāwhirimātea" translates to "Return to your mountain to be cleansed by the winds of Tāwhirimātea."

For me, it is a call back home. Back to your whenua, your people and the places that ground you. The winds of Tāwhirimātea can also represent a fresh start, clearing the way for a new path or beginning. It is telling me, and you, to reconnect with your whakapapa and understand where you come from and who you are.

The journey
The whole work can be read from left to right or right to left. You can see it as a pathway back to where you began, or the start of a completely new branch. Either way, it becomes a cycle.

That is something I have gone through myself, and I hope the viewer can begin their own version of it. Have a kōrero with your whānau. Ask questions. Learn something about where you come from. It takes time, just like this work took time to make. Making it by hand has strengthened that connection for me. The mahi becomes part of the learning.

I hope you can relate to this now, or maybe one day. Embark on that journey.

Ngā mihi nui, ka kite anō,
Benjamin Tikao O'Brien

Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata Grants

Did you know we have grants available for whānau who are registered members of Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata? Applications are reviewed monthly by our grants committee. The following grants are available:

Education Grant – to support whānau with school and study fees, school uniforms and stationery items.

Sports Grant – to support whānau who are representing a sport at a regional or national level.

Health Grant – to assist whānau with health-related expenses.

For more information, please email:
koukourarata@ngaitahu.iwi.nz.

Wairewa Rūnanga







Tautoru Mautai wins Community Initiative of the Year!

He tino whakahīhī! We are incredibly proud to share that Tautoru Mautai, our partnership with Orion Group to restore the whenua at Te Kaio, has been named Community Initiative of the Year at the 2026 New Zealand Energy Excellence Awards.

Tautoru Mautai is an intergenerational kaupapa working towards the long-held vision of Wairewa whānau to see the whenua at Te Kaio once again cloaked in thriving native forest.

A huge mihi to our Wairewa whānau, representatives and everyone from both Wairewa Rūnanga and Orion who has contributed to this kaupapa and its journey so far.

What an incredible recognition of the mahi, the partnership and, most importantly, the vision of our whānau.

Tautoru Mautai, Tautoru Mauroa, Tautoru Mauora.

Freshwater Champion – Te Ao Māori Award

A huge moment for our Mana Moana Three Lakes whānau! Wairewa, Whakakī and Ōmāpere, Mana Moana Three Lakes, received the 2026 Freshwater Champion Te Ao Māori Award!

An awesome acknowledgement of the collective mahi of everyone who has contributed along the way, including our Manawhenua Manamoana Pou. A special acknowledgement to Rani, whose contribution and legacy continues to be felt through this kaupapa.





Weaving Wānanga

The Wairewa tari was filled with kōrero, connection and creativity as whānau came together for a weaving wānanga in August.

Guided by our talented weavers, Linda Rangipunga, Patty-anne Oberst and Aroha Timoti-Coxon, whānau had the opportunity to learn, create and spend time together, sharing mātauranga and having plenty of laughs throughout the day.

It was a beautiful day of whakawhanaungatanga and learning, and another special opportunity for whānau to reconnect through mahi toi.



Whakapā Mai

0800 WAIREWA
(924 7392)

PO Box 10020,
Christchurch 8145

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

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

Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua

Rā whakapai i te Pa Harakeke

nā Melanie McColgan

A day of gathering to clean-up and maintain healthy harakeke.

Though I was brought up in the deep south, each summer I would travel to Arowhenua and stay with my Taua, known to many as Aunty Merc. Our Tiratahi and Rehu whakapapa has seen many generations of our whānau at Waipopo and Huirapa Road.

Though it is tika to return to our kāika for tangihanga, I feel it is also important to be present for, and if possible, initiate happier hui. Hui to participate in our shared traditions, to revive and maintain mātauraka with respect for our tīpuna.

This opportunity came up recently while travelling through, along with artist Vicki Smith, on her creative research kaupapa (mihi to CNZ). Tī kouka is the central theme of our hakarau (research) mahi combining kaitiakitaka (environmental care) and mahi toi (art) for enhanced habitats and to assist taoka species to thrive.

I was thinking about reciprocal exchange, so took up a suggestion from cousin Ranui to arrange a clean-up (whakapai).

Big mihi to Pete Peneamene for providing tautoko and access to the kāuta. He reminded us that mātauraka and mahika kai are as equally important to our people as learning our reo.

Duane Brooking opened our wā with karakia timata. The whānau turnout wasn't huge, but those who did show up made the effort worthwhile. Whaea Sally and whānau, Lavinia, Nards, Mel, Vicki and Duane got stuck into the mahi. Hopefully, we can continue this kaupapa together again, as we have quite a bit more to sort!

As a whānau, we enjoyed our opportunity to share space while practicing ahi kā, the burning fire representing our long-held connections as uri of Kāti Huirapa, Kāti Māmoe, Rapuwai and Waitaha.

Ahi is a sign of the occupation of a people, of their place, according to te ao Māori tradition.



Suzy Waaka and Lavinia Reihana-Moemate.
Below: Sally Reihana and Duane Brooking.



Te Manahuna Aoraki Project – By Julia Rata Te Raki

Mana whenua Priority Projects Update

Kā rūnaka continue to help guide priority kaupapa across Te Manahuna Aoraki project, with current mahi focused on Hakatere/Fork Stream and Motu-Ariki.

Hakatere/Fork Stream Mahika Kai Restoration

Since August 2019, 1,686 trout have been removed across the Hakatere/Fork Stream sites: 1,224 brown trout and 462 rainbow trout, over almost 82 hours of fishing effort. At the true-right site, 38 brown trout were removed between 2019 and 2020, with no further fishing undertaken at this site since 2020.



From Back Left: DOC Twizel, DOC Ōtautahi, DOC Geraldine, Environment Canterbury, University of Canterbury Freshwater Ecology Research Group, Fish 'n Game Timaru, New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF); From Front Left: Mātua David Meager, Che Reihana, Neo de Garnham, Nathan Meager, Daniel Te Raki, Neihana Meager, Rory Clifford, Irihapeti Meager.

The Hakatere/Fork Stream kaupapa continues to receive strong support from kā rūnaka. A key focus remains protecting the spring-fed tributary and its kōaro from reinvasion by trout. Following the failure of the upstream bund, Environment Canterbury is progressing a permanent stop bank as the long-term solution. We are awaiting a further update on this work.

Planning is also underway for the next Hakatere site visit in January 2027. The intention is to hold the next Mana Whenua Advisory Group hui on site at the same time, giving whānau an opportunity to see the mahi and discuss what the future of the kaupapa could look like.

Motu-Ariki Restoration Plan

Work continues on the Motu-Ariki Restoration Plan. A major next step is the deep archaeological survey of Motu-Ariki, with a November 2026 date currently being worked through and March 2027 identified as a backup.



Shar Briden, Darren Solomon, Ūpoko Tewera King, Ronald the Boatman, John Henry.

One of the main challenges has been securing a boatman with the appropriate maritime certification to safely navigate Lake Takapō. Kā rūnaka have asked for a proposal that looks at how this issue could be addressed longer-term, with the potential to support Motu-Ariki and other wai Māori kaupapa across the takiwā.

Historical research is continuing alongside this mahi to better understand changes to Motu-Ariki, the Lake Takapō shoreline and surrounding landscape. A hui with local landowners is also to be arranged to ensure their knowledge and perspective can contribute to the restoration plan.

Weka Reintroduction

Following discussion through the Mana whenua Advisory Group, kā rūnaka have decided not to pursue the proposed feasibility report for weka reintroduction in Te Manahuna. No further work is planned under this kaupapa.

Looking Ahead

Kā rūnaka have expressed strong support for continuing the Hakatere/Fork Stream kaupapa, extending pest operations in and around Aoraki Village and identifying funding opportunities that can support this mahi into the future.







Above: Te Kura Māori o Arowhenua; top: Ashburton Intermediate.
Below: Hampstead School.
Right: Kera Donaldson, Craighead Diocesan School.



FLAVA Fest and Korohi o te Pēpi

On 11—12 September 2026, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua hosted FLAVA and Korohi o te Pēpi at the marae for the first time. Hosting the only primary and secondary school kapa haka event in our takiwā has been a long-held aspiration, and it was special to finally see this event brought home.

Across the two days, 770 students took to the stage, with hundreds more whānau and supporters joining us at the marae. The event provided an opportunity for our tamariki and rangatahi to share their mātauraka, talent and passion for kapa haka.

We Require Your Help

Kapunatiki MR905 Sections 16 & 17 Ahu Whenua Trust
Waipopo Kotare Trust, Blocks 882 and 4074
We are currently updating our records for the above trusts.

If you are an individual owner or a trustee of a whānau trust, we would appreciate your assistance by providing your current email address. Please send your contact details to pamelamanning@xtra.co.nz. Any questions relating to the trusts may also be directed to this email address.

By keeping your email details up to date, we can ensure you receive important information, including trust updates, notices of upcoming meetings, and other relevant communications.

Thank you for your assistance and ongoing support.

Upcoming Dates at Arowhenua

Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua Society Incorporated AGM
Sunday 8 November
11.00am

Arowhenua Rūnaka Christmas Party
Sunday 13 December
11.00am

Rūnaka Registrations

If you are not yet registered with Arowhenua, or if your contact details have changed, please contact the rūnaka office to register or update your information.

Arowhenua Marae Office
Phone: 03 615 9646
Email: arowhenua.admin@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Rūnanga o Waihao

Tēnā koutou e ngā topito o te motu.

“Mate atu he tētēkura, ara mai he tētēkura”

Beloved Father, Poua and the last WW2 soldier of Waihao. Old soldiers never die they just fade away. “Pūmau ki te Atua”



Poua Dave Pukurakau Thomas, 1924-2026.

Supporting our Rangatahi – Jaxson Bramley-Stott

Jaxson has always taken to sport from a very young age. Any sport involving a ball seemed to come naturally to him, and he would quickly pick up the skills needed to compete.

He started playing rugby league at five years old for the Linwood Keas, where he developed the fundamentals of the game. He was then approached to trial for the U10 AWA Rugby League team to compete in the Māori Rugby League Tournament, and he was successful in making the team.

He gained so much from that experience, both on and off the field, and it encouraged him to change clubs and follow his AWA coach to the Addington Magpies.



Jaxson Bramley-Stott, Kāpene u12 AWA team this year.

He has been fortunate enough to represent AWA Rugby League again this year in the U12 squad, which will be another great experience for him.

Jaxson loves sport in general: rugby, touch, basketball, softball, golf, you name it, and he'll give it a go. He is a natural all-rounder and genuinely enjoys being active and learning new skills.

As a parent, what makes me most proud is that he isn't focused on winning or losing, or on who makes mistakes and who doesn't. He plays purely for the love of the game and to have fun. That, to me, is what sport is all about.

The smile on his face, and on his siblings' faces, when they are out there playing sport is what fills my cup in life. Seeing them happy, enjoying themselves, building friendships, learning and simply being kids is something I will always be grateful for.

The support from Te Rūnanga o Waihao has helped make it possible for Jaxson to continue doing what he loves, and for that, we are incredibly thankful. It means more to our family than I can really put into words.

Ngā mihi nui, nā Robert Bramley-Rangirangi ēnei kōrero.



Proud parents: Donna Stott, Mama, Jaxson and Dad, Robert Bramley-Rangirangi.

Rejuvenating Our Stories: Ka Takata Whenua o Waihao Exhibition

Following a whānau hui earlier this year, a steering committee was established to guide the rejuvenation of the *Kā Takata Whenua o Waihao* Exhibition at the Waimate Museum.



Dave Thomas (TRoW), Justine Woods, Maria Henry (Pakinui) and Karen Briscoe (Waimate Museum), kaumātua, Graeme Thomas and Graeme Lane.

Last week, committee members officially kicked off this important mahi by visiting the display and meeting with museum staff. This initial visit provided a wonderful opportunity to honour and acknowledge the award-winning display originally designed by Graeme Thomas, while opening constructive discussions on how our rūnaka can best support its ongoing restoration, care and future growth.

During our time at Waimate Museum, we were especially excited to learn that additional taonga, including toki and pounamu, are currently held in storage. We plan to organise a hapū visit following an upcoming whānau hui in the coming year. This will give the hapū the opportunity to come together, mihi to these precious taonga and strengthen our collective connection to our shared history and heritage.

Initial recommendations were put forward to enhance the exhibition space, focusing on uplifting the display space to create a more immersive, cohesive and inviting environment that gives mana to the features on display and enriches the visitor experience.

We extend our gratitude and acknowledgement to the Waimate Museum for their ongoing dedication to preserving these taonga and sharing the rich narrative of *Kā Takata Whenua o Waihao* with the wider community. We look forward to walking this path together as the mahi progresses.

Na Dave Thomas ēnei korero.

Whānau Hui at Waihao 2026 date and Kaupapa

- 6 December Whānau Christmas hui celebration, whānau engagement, optional hui if required.



Ka mate kāinga tahi ka ora kāinga rua!

Te Rūnanga o Moeraki

Te Kotahitanga Church Service

Over recent times, Kotahitanga Church has undergone conservation, which has included the restoration of the stained-glass windows.

To commemorate the work, whānau came together for a church service led by the Right Reverend Dr Anne van Gend and Rev Wendy Heath, followed by lunch at the Moeraki Boulders Restaurant and Café.

It was a great day for all, including our whānau who joined us from Arowhenua, and Puketeraki. We were also fortunate to be joined by Andrew Barsby of Origin Consulting, who project managed the restoration, and Peter MacKenzie who undertook the restoration of the stained-glass windows.



Stained glass windows reinstalled in church.



Rev Wendy Heath leading service.



Moeraki whānau outside Kotahitanga Church following the service.



Takarei and Damien McNamara kōrero about placenames.
Right: Whānau gather in Moeraki Marae for wānaka.

Kā Huru Manu Cultural Mapping Wānaka Two

Whānau gathered at Moeraki at the beginning of August for part two of our Cultural Mapping wānaka, facilitated by Takerei Norton.

Together we reviewed and refined information gathered to date, recorded additional place names, shared kōrero tuku iho, and strengthened our understanding to whenua.



Te Rūnanga o Moeraki staff visit to Te Rūnanga o Ngaī Tahu Headquarters

Recently the staff visited the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRoNT) headquarters, meeting with staff from several business units to discuss various kaupapa we are currently working on in the office, including health and safety, file management, whakapapa, grants and finances.

We wish to pass on our deep appreciate to staff throughout TRoNT who made themselves available to kōrero with us.

Right: Te Rūnanga o Moeraki staff at Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.



Building resilience at Moeraki

Whānau first response training strengthens our marae and our wider collective

At Moeraki, emergency preparedness is about more than a plan on paper. It is about building practical skills, confidence and strong relationships so our whānau can look after each other when it matters most.

A big part of our emergency preparedness mahi at Moeraki has been making sure our whānau are not only supported by a plan, but are also building the practical skills and confidence to respond when something happens.

Earlier this year, Moeraki whānau trained alongside whānau from Kāti Huirapa ki Puketeraki and Ōtākou in a full day of Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) First Responder training with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ). The day combined safety, communications and leadership with hands-on lifting, cribbing, search, patient care and a final team scenario.



Moeraki, Puketeraki and Ōtākou whānau alongside FENZ and USAR trainers at SouthRoads Quarry, Palmerston.

For us at Moeraki, this is about strengthening resilience at home. In a major earthquake, landslide or severe weather event, professional responders may be stretched or delayed. Having whānau who understand hazards, can work safely together, move injured people, communicate clearly and support an organised response is a real strength.

The wider collective with Puketeraki and Ōtākou is important too. Training together strengthens relationships between our whānau, the three marae and FENZ, while giving everyone practical experience and a shared understanding of how we can support one another.

We are now working with FENZ around further training and refresher opportunities, with the longer-term aim of building a wider pool of response-capable whānau connected to each marae.

For Moeraki, this sits alongside our Marae Emergency Plan, EPOD, communications, welfare planning and the other mahi underway to make sure our marae and whānau are better prepared.

“Strong whānau, a prepared marae, and the ability to look after each other when it matters most.”

Mauriri McGlinchey
Araiteuru Emergency Response Facilitator





Right, top: Moeraki, Puketeraki and Ōtākou whānau working alongside FENZ and USAR trainers during practical lifting and cribbing training at SouthRoads Quarry; and right, below: during patient care and stretcher training.

Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki

He Aituā

Emeritus Professor John Renata Broughton, CNZM, ED, JP

Takiauē te whare o te whakaiti, koia!
Takiauē te mahau o te whakahīhī, koia!
Takiauē te kura huna
o te mātauraka, koia!

Hai konei tou
Ko Te Maraenui
Ko Huirapa
Ko Kohupātiki
Koi noho tahaka kau noa ake nei
Ekari kē ia,
Hai taoka motuhake mō kā uri whakatipu.

Ko te mana o te kupu, kai a ahau
Ko te mana o te pō
Kai tahaku Iti Kahuraki
John, e moe.



Shaken is the house of humility, indeed!
Shaken is the porch of pride, indeed!
Shaken is the hidden treasure of knowledge, indeed!
Here still remain
Te Maraenui
Huirapa
Kohupātiki
Not left exposed and stripped bare,
But rather,
As treasured taoka, unique to the generations yet to come.

The authority of the spoken word rests with me.
The authority of the night
Rests with my revered elder
John, sleep on in peace.

John was welcomed onto Puketeraki Marae on Saturday, 19 September for his Takiauē, where a large crowd attended, including many from the University of Otago and Tūhura Otago Museum, organisations, to which John contributed extensively over many years.

The following morning, he was taken to Hui Te Rangiora Church for his farewell service, a place of deep family significance. The service was led by Reverend Canon Isaac Beach and supported by Bishop Susan Wallace.

From Hui Te Rangiora Church, John was taken into the splendour of Saint Paul's Cathedral in Dunedin, where further tributes were shared.

Whānau and friends did a fantastic job of running a smooth and heartfelt event to farewell John.



Bishop Susan Wallace seated in the Bishops Chair at Hui Te Rangiora Church.

Pēpi



Huia admiring her new brother Teina Steiner-Mitchell.

Chad and his whānau welcomed a new addition into their family on 7 September. Their tama, Teina Raurimu Steiner-Mitchell, weighed 8 lb 4 oz.

Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou

Tēnā koutou

E aku rau rakatira nei rā ka kaupapa o te wā mai Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou.



Te Whare Pūkenga

There are times when an honour reflects far more than a single milestone, but rather recognises a lifetime dedicated to the service of hapū, iwi and whānau.

We are proud to share that our Ūpoko, Edward Ellison, was presented with the Te Whare Pūkenga award at the National Iwi Chairs Forum. We also extend our warmest congratulations and acknowledgment to Tā Tipene O'Regan and Gail Tipa.

This national recognition honours leaders whose enduring work protects and revitalises te ao Māori.





Jesse Matheson Graduates with his Masters in Indigenous Studies with Distinction

Huge mihi to Jesse Matheson (Pōtiki whānau) on graduating with his Master of Indigenous Studies with Distinction!

Achieving Distinction reflects Jesse's incredible dedication, hard work and passion for advancing indigenous knowledge. We are immensely proud of your achievement and can't wait to see your continued impact.

Whāia te iti kahurangi!



Jesse and whānau taking in the moment at graduation.

Below: Jesse Matheson with his whānau and friends at Ōtākou marae for his whānau's Mokopapa. Tino waimarie!



Mihi Parkinson wins Gold

Mihi (Karaitiana whānau) recently took home gold in the Intermediate Novice section at the South Island Figure Skating Championships.

Ka mau te wehi, e Mihi!

Isabella Smith Graduates with a Bachelor of Laws

We are proud grandparents of Issy Smith, who graduated from the University of Canterbury with a Bachelor of Laws and was admitted to the Bar in June 2026.

Over the past four years, Issy has faced her share of challenges, yet she met them with resilience, determination, and courage. Seeing her commitment rewarded with admission to the Bar has been a proud moment for us as her grandparents.

We wish Issy every success as she begins her legal career and look forward to watching her continue to grow as she embraces the opportunities and challenges ahead.





Whakapapa Wānaka

Moana Wesley and Edward Ellison led whānau through an interactive whakapapa wānaka, filling Hākuiao with a warm and vibrant wairua. Hearing stories and discovering how we all connect with one another was truly inspiring.





Whānau and Hapū pānui

We welcome whānau and personal pānui from our Ōtākou hapū members, for inclusion in *Te Pānui Rūnaka* or the Ōtākou e-pānui.

Please send your pēpi hou, kā mate or memorials, achievements in sports, education or other activities that build on the traditions or customary practices of your whānau or the hapū.

Attach your photos and send to: office@tro.org.nz. Please include a caption and name people in each photo.

Ōtākou Marae website | Contact information

Feel free to browse our Facebook page and our Ōtākou Rūnaka website. Information to register as a hapū member or to book the marae for functions can be done online.

Bookings are subject to any health and safety restrictions in place at the time. Tangihanga take precedence over other bookings.

For more information, visit: http://www.otakourunaka.co.nz/#home-image, email office.@tro.org.nz or phone 03 478 0352.

Nā,
Kahana

Matariki Wānaka Reflection – The Hill Whānau

The Hill whānau arrived in beautiful Ōtākou on Thursday night and immediately felt the warmth and aroha from everyone. While we had visited briefly before, this was our first overnight noho as a family.

There were plenty of new experiences over the weekend, but at the same time, it felt 'right' and it quickly felt like home for us. People were so friendly! The kai was wonderful, and afterwards we practiced our lines for the ceremony the following morning.

The early start to observe Matariki was made even more pleasant by warm and still conditions, and we had a great view of the stars. The kids, and adults too, enjoyed the craft activities, and we took away a number of awesome learnings for which we are grateful.

A highlight was Abbie connecting with a cousin, Jesse, from the Potiki line. Overall it was really enjoyable and relaxing, and we want to come back!

Big mihi to everyone involved in organising and teaching.

Thank you,
Zach and Abbie, Fletch and Felix.



Jesse Matheson, Abbie Hill.



Whare Mātūtū Whakawātea

Te Whare Mātūtū, the Dunedin Hospital Outpatients building, stands as a place of care, recovery and enduring wellbeing. Our kairuruku led the whakawātea, blessing and preparing the space for our community.

Hokonui Rūnanga

A huge win for Hokonui Rūnanga!

He Wai Apakura – Te Ara Pounamu (The River's Lament: A Pathway of Treasures) has won the Invercargill Licensing Trust (ILT) Supreme Award at the 2026 Southland Creative Arts Awards!

The award recognises work that has inspired others and made a lasting impression on the Murihiku arts landscape. Our project brought together mātauranga Māori, ecological knowledge and stories of Māruawai and the Mataura River through art and community workshops.





Well done, Hokonui Rūnanga! A big mihi to Eastern Southland Gallery, artist Jo Ogier, ecologists Brian and Chris Rance, and everyone who helped bring this kaupapa to life.

What a wonderful achievement to share with our whānau and iwi!



Kanakana at St Mary's School

As part of St Mary's School's Matariki celebrations, Mollie visited tamariki to share the story of kanakana (New Zealand lamprey). The students explored preserved specimens and eggs, learned about the kanakana lifecycle and asked plenty of great questions.



It was a wonderful chance to help the next generation connect with this taonga species and the freshwater places it depends on.

Thank you to St Mary's School for welcoming us, and to the Endangered Species Foundation for providing the *Drains are Streams* education kits.

Right: Mollie sharing the story of kanakana with students at St Mary's School.





Sonia Tilley's design shines on the Runway

We were privileged to have Sonia Tilley join us for our staff Matariki celebration. It's wonderful to now celebrate her success at the 2026 Hokonui Fashion Design Awards, where she received Highly Commended in the Ivy Clinic Open Aotearoa Award.

Sonia's Māori-inspired design looked stunning on the runway. Congratulations, Sonia, on this well-deserved recognition!





Official Opening of the Māruawai Centre

Hokonui Rūnanga was grateful to be part of the official opening of the Māruawai Centre celebrating an important milestone for our wider community.

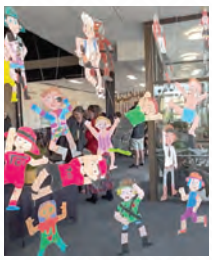
We are proud to have been part of the journey and collaboration behind this new space, which will help share and celebrate the rich stories, culture and heritage of Māruawai and the wider district.

It was wonderful to see our staff alongside Gore District Council and members of the community marking this special occasion. We look forward to seeing the Māruawai Centre continue to grow as a place for connection, learning and sharing our local stories.









A Proud Moment for Poppy Nicholas

Congratulations to our very own Poppy Nicholas, who recently celebrated a fantastic achievement with Rata A, under the guidance of Ngāi Tahu coach Andrea De Vries.

It's always special to celebrate the achievements of our Hokonui Rūnanga team beyond the workplace. Poppy's commitment and passion for netball have certainly paid off, and we're proud to see her recognised for her efforts.

Awesome mahi, Poppy, well deserved!



Waihōpai Rūnanga



Ngāi Tahu Farming koha

Waihopai would like to thank Ngāi Tahu Farms and Ngāi Tahu Farming for their massive donation of 185kg of Ngāi Tahu beef for our community.

This koha consists of top-quality mince, sausages and mince patties.

We appreciate the partnership Emma is providing us with and, once again, would like to thank Ngāi Tahu Farming for these opportunities to further support our community.

Left: Vicki, Anne, Tahnee.

Kaitiaki Niho Supporting Our Kaumātua

Murihiku Marae was pleased to welcome Kaitiaki Niho from Invercargill to provide dental appointments for our kaumātua. Bringing these appointments to the marae provided a familiar and comfortable setting for our kaumātua to access important oral health care, while also supporting their wider hauora and wellbeing.



A huge mihi to the Kaitiaki Niho team for taking the time to come into the marae, support our kaumātua and make these appointments more accessible. We appreciate the care, manaakitanga and mahi you provided, and look forward to continuing to strengthen this relationship.





Above: Te Atakohu, Peggy, Manu-Aroha; left: Lynley.



Ngāi Tahu Holdings Corporation Connects with Waihōpai Rūnaka Whānau

Waihōpai Rūnaka recently welcomed representatives from Ngāi Tahu Holdings Corporation (NTHC) to connect with whānau and share kōrero about the aspirations of our people.

The hui provided an opportunity for NTHC to introduce themselves, listen to whānau share what is important to them collectively, and explore how NTHC may be able to support those aspirations moving forward.



Wakatipu School visits Murihiku Marae

Murihiku Marae was delighted to welcome Wakatipu School to the marae while preparing for their Polyfest performance. It was wonderful to have the students and kaiako amongst us, sharing in the atmosphere of the marae and making the most of their time together.

We were incredibly proud to see the students perform at Polyfest and share their beautiful performance with such confidence, energy and heart.

Ka mau te wehi, Wakatipu School!









Whiria te Reo – Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

Murihiku Marae was proud to host Whiria te Reo as part of the Te Wiki o te Reo Māori town activation. The event brought whānau together in a fun, welcoming environment to celebrate and kōrero te reo Māori. With different stations and plenty of opportunities to learn and use te reo, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

A huge mihi to everyone who came along and supported the kaupapa, and to all those who helped make the afternoon such a special celebration of our reo. It was awesome to see people of all ages getting involved and having a go.

Kia kaha te reo Māori.

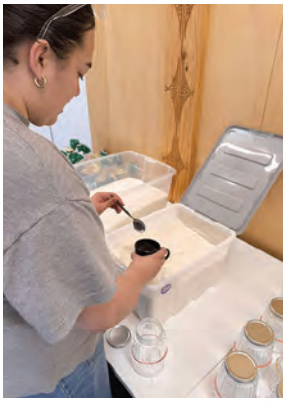


















Ōraka-Aparima Rūnaka

Save the date: Whānau Open Day and Christmas Barbecue

Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka whānau are invited to a whānau open day at Takutai o te Tītī Marae, Colac Bay, on 12—13 December.

The two-day kaupapa is an opportunity for new and existing members to reconnect with the marae, strengthen whanaukataka, and learn more about our takiwā.

Included in the weekend programme will be hīkoi and site visits, and opportunity to find out more about the many projects the rūnaka is involved with.

It is also anticipated that the Takutai o te Tītī Marae waharoa will be completed and installed in time for a dedication at dawn on the first morning of the weekend.

Accommodation will be available for a limited number of whānau to stay overnight at the marae. More details will be shared with members nearer the time. Keep an eye on the emails!

Sonia Tilley recognised at Hokonui Fashion Design Awards

Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka member Sonia Tilley, who lives in Gore, recently celebrated success at the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards, sharing her creativity and passion for mahi toi on the runway.

Sonia entered three kākahu and one gala evening gown in the show and was awarded Highly Commended in the Ivy Clinic Open Aotearoa Award category for one of her male kākahu.

The recognition was especially meaningful for Sonia, who was proud to see mahi toi celebrated on the runway.

“I’m so overwhelmed and honoured that mahi toi of Murihiku got through to show the identity of who we are as Ngāi Tahu.”

Congratulations, Sonia, on this achievement!



Sonia Tilley’s kākahu (left) was highly commended at the recent Hokonui Fashion Design Awards in Gore.



Kāi Tahu pupils from our local kura that took part in our recent Science at the Marae event as part of Te Waikārehu o Te Rua Fiordland Carbon Project. This event, in partnership with the University of Otago, was held over two days, with one day for school students and the second day for whānau to come along and engage in carbon science and mātauraka.

Anaya Morris Celebrates Rugby Achievements

Congratulations to Anaya Morris, who has just completed her first representative rugby season, playing for Auckland U18 Girls in only her second season of rugby.

Another milestone for Anaya was being awarded the Pakuranga Rugby Club Girls U17 Back of the Year.

Taua, Koro and her parents are very proud of their mokopuna and all she has achieved.

Ngā mihi,
Shona and Joseph Morris



Summer holidays in Te Anau?

Planning a summer break in Te Anau? The rūnaka has a welcoming four-bedroom whānau property available for members to enjoy.

From Friday 18 December to Sunday 24 January, bookings are limited to a maximum of three nights so more whānau have the opportunity to stay.

To enquire or make a booking, please contact the office by emailing office@orakaaparima.org.nz or phoning 0800 234 8192.

Awarua Rūnanga

He Aituā

Nicholas Graham "Tiny" Metzger QSM

Kua hinga he tōtara i Te Waonui-a-Tāne.

Awarua mourns the passing of one of our treasured kaumātua and rangatira, Nicholas Graham "Tiny" Metzger QSM, who passed peacefully on 30 July 2026, aged 93.

Tiny was a man deeply woven into the whakapapa, whenua, moana and mahika kai traditions of Awarua. A descendant of Meriana Teitei and William Isaac Haberfield, and Popoia and Joseph Honor of Whenua Hou, he lived most of his long life in Bluff and gave generously of himself to his whānau, Awarua and Kāi Tahu whānui.

Tiny carried an extraordinary depth of mātauraka. From infancy he was connected to his whānau tītī island, Pikomamakunui, and across his lifetime became particularly renowned for his knowledge of te hopu tītī and the traditional art of mahi pōhā.

At a time when these practices could so easily have been lost, Tiny continued to gather and prepare rimurapa, make pōhā and preserve tītī in the ways handed down to him by his own kaumātua.

But perhaps his greatest contribution was that he shared what he knew.

Tiny understood that mātauraka survives only when it is lived, practiced and passed on. He taught his whānau and mokopuna, mentored others, contributed to tribal wānaka and research, and generously shared generations of knowledge with Kāi Tahu whānui. Through that commitment, knowledge handed down to him by his pōua and tāua will continue in the hands of generations who follow.

His kaitiakitaka extended across the whenua and moana. Tiny was a strong advocate for mahika kai, customary fisheries, rimurapa and the health of our southern environment. He understood the changes occurring around him because he had spent a lifetime observing the same places, gathering from them and listening to the knowledge of those who came before him.

His contribution reached far beyond Awarua. Tiny received the Queen's Service Medal for Community Service in 1996 and He Tohu a Tā Kingi Ihaka in 2004 for his sustained service to Māori culture. Yet, for those at home, his legacy cannot be measured simply through awards or titles. It lives in the pōhā still being made, the tītī still being harvested, the mātauraka carried by his



mokopuna and those he taught, and in the generations who now understand a little more because Tiny was willing to share what had been entrusted to him.

Tiny also gave many years of service to Awarua and Te Rau Aroha. His contribution was practical as much as cultural, whether sharing mātauraka, supporting the marae and rūnaka, or simply getting on with the mahi that needed doing.

With Tiny's passing, Awarua and Kāi Tahu have lost an immense repository of lived mātauraka and one of our great holders of traditional mahika kai knowledge. But he leaves behind something equally immense: a legacy carried in people.

Tiny once reflected that it is difficult to keep mātauraka alive if we are not living it. Perhaps that is now the wero he leaves with all of us: to continue to practice, protect and pass forward what our kaumātua fought so hard to retain.

Our deepest aroha goes to Tiny's whānau, his mokopuna and mokopuna tuarua, and to all those who had the privilege of knowing, learning from and walking alongside him.

Moe mai rā e te rangatira.
Moe mai rā e te pou o Awarua.
Haere ki ō tīpuna, ki te kāinga tūturu mō tātou katoa.

Kāore koe e warewaretia



From left: Derek Nind, South Port CEO, Barry Bragg, Awarua, Philip Cory-Wright, Chair of the Sout Port Board, Dean Whaanga, Awarua.

Below, from left: Riki Nicholas, Awarua Rūnaka Executive member, Louise Upston, Minister of Tourism and Hospitality, David Marioneau, PONANT.



Strengthening the Awarua–South Port Relationship

On 21 August, Awarua was pleased to welcome South Port's new Chief Executive Officer, Derek Nind, onto Te Rau Aroha marae. Derek took up his role at South Port on 27 July and brings significant port-sector leadership experience, including roles with Centre Port and Lyttelton Port Company, as well as having served as a director of South Port.

South Port owns and operates New Zealand's southernmost port in the Bluff Harbour. The port is a significant part of the local landscape. As mana whenua and mana moana in Bluff and the area in which South Port operates, Awarua has been engaging with South Port on the development of a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a framework for a strategic partnership between the South Port and Awarua.

Awarua looks forward to working with Derek in his new role to sustain and further develop reliable, economically successful and environmentally sustainable activity within the Bluff Harbour ecosystem.

Maukahuka Auckland Islands — Sharing Our Story

Murihiku Ki Te Tonga Programme Director and Awarua Rūnaka Executive member, Riki Nicholas, recently represented Ngāi Tahu at the New Zealand Cruise Association Annual Conference in Auckland. Riki is working alongside the New Zealand Nature Fund and the Department of Conservation to support cruise operators to share the cultural and conservation story of Maukahuka Auckland Islands and the wider Sub Antarctic Islands.

The Maukahuka Eradication project offers an extraordinary opportunity for large-scale ecological restoration, with introduced predators removed and native wildlife and ecosystems given the opportunity to flourish once again. Sharing our cultural connection and aspirations for these islands with visitors can help build understanding, support and momentum for this once-in-a-generation restoration kaupapa.

Mā tini, mā mano, ka ora a Motupōhue

Through the efforts of many, Motupōhue will flourish.

What a beautiful example of hapori coming together for the whenua.

Around 60 volunteers gathered at Te Rau Aroha recently through the annual Serve the City initiative, joining forces to plant more than 2,000 native plants in just two hours on the whenua behind Te Rau Aroha Marae and Te Rourou Whakatipuranga.

This mahi forms part of the wider restoration of council whenua behind the marae, led by the Bluff Hill Motupōhue Environment Trust (BHMET), whose many years of dedication continue to help restore the mauri of our ngahere and whenua and to create a place where our native rākau, manu and taonga species can flourish once again.

Adults, rangatahi and tamariki all got stuck in, planting, shifting mulch and preparing the whenua for the next stage of restoration.

After the mahi came the manaakitaka. Our marae whānau prepared a beautiful kai, with everyone gathering at Te Rourou Whakatipuranga to share lunch and whakawhānaukataka after a big morning on the whenua.

He mihi nui ki BHMET, Invercargill City Council, Bluff Sand and Cartage, Serve the City, our marae whānau and every volunteer who gave their time and kaha to this kaupapa.







He rau ringa e oti ai – many hands make light work.

A beautiful morning of mahi tahi, manaakitaka and aroha mō te whenua – one rākau at a time.



Walking Alongside

Southland Whānau

Awarua Whānau Services is the hauora delivery arm of Te Rūnaka o Awarua, grounded in Te Rau Aroha Marae in Awarua-Bluff. Since 1988, the kaupapa Māori organisation has walked alongside whānau throughout Southland, helping people create positive, healthy change in their lives.

Its wide range of health, social and education services supports people at every stage of life—from hapū māmā, tamariki and rangatahi through to kaumātua. Services include primary healthcare, vaccination clinics, whānau support and wellbeing and education programmes.

The team understands that wellbeing involves much more than physical or mental health alone. Housing, finances, relationships, parenting and connection to the community can all affect how someone feels. By taking a holistic, whānau-centred approach, Awarua Whānau Services helps people recognise their strengths, overcome challenges and connect with the support they need.

Although proudly guided by kaupapa Māori values, its services are available to people from all walks of life. No referral is required—a simple kōrero with the team is often the best place to begin.

During Mental Health Awareness Week, the team encourages Southlanders to be kind to themselves and check in with those around them. Reaching out does not need to wait until breaking point; asking for help is a sign of strength, and nobody should face life's challenges alone.

Call 0800 AWARUA (0800 292 782), visit 190 Forth Street, Invercargill, or head to awarua.nz.

Taurahere Groups

Kāi Tahu ki Ōtaki

Pua kowhai ki uta
Inaka ki tai
Ka mahiti te rima i te mahi kai
Tūhakerekere i te ono
Hei ō mō te whitu
Mā te iwi e

Ngā mihi o te koaka
ki a tātou katoa

Monthly Hui
Our Kāi Tahu ki Ōtaki whānau whānui have met a few times this year to share kai, hui, learn waiata and, mostly importantly, strengthen whakawhanaukataka.

Mōkori anō kua tau nei ki Ōtaki ngā ākonga o Heke Reo, Poutuārongo Reo hei kanohi nō te rohe pōtae. Kua pārekareka te noho tahi ki tō tatou whare manaaki, a Tū Roa.

We have settled on the last Wednesday of each month at 6pm at Tū Roa kōhanga to come together for kai, waiata and hui.

Next hui: 6pm, Wednesday, 30 September (Taurahere whānau).

Below and right: Whānau of Kāi Tahu ki Ōtaki including our Heke Reo, Poutuārongo Reo whānau.





From left: Hara Williams-Adams, Mariana Williams-Wilson, Tia Taiaroa.

Below left, from left: Valiant Overcomer, Taua Mary Williams, Taua Clare Williams, Taua Mariana Williams-Wilson; below right, from left: Clayton Cook, Raiha Cook and Te Aniwaniwa Cook.









Graduation

"I te mārama o Mei i whakapōtaetia te mokopuna a Ropine me Sam Cook, a Aniwaniwa Parewahawaha, i Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington. I puta tōna ihu i te tohu BA (Sociology, Māori Studies). Ā, e whai ana ia i te tohu kaiako (kotahi tau te roa) ki Te Wānanga o Raukawa i te tau nei.

(In May, one of Robyn and Sam Cook's mokopuna, Aniwaniwa Parewahawaha, graduated from Te Herenga Waka. Aniwaniwa graduated with a BA (Sociology, Māori Studies) and is now studying teaching (a one-year course) at Te Wānanga o Raukawa.)

I te marama o Hurae, i pōwhiritia te mokopuna tuarua a Ropine me Sam Cook, a Amokura Charlotte, ki Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rito. He pīkarere ia nō Te Kohanga Reo o Tūroa.



Aniwaniwa standing in front of the tomokanga at Te Herenga Waka marae at Victoria University on their graduation day.



Amokura (dressed in the hieke) on her pōwhiri day at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rito. Standing alongside her cousins (L to R), Takuna, Ahurei and older sister Hinekawa. All great grandchildren of Ropine and Sam Cook.

(In July, one of Robyn and Sam Cook's great-mokopuna, Amokura Charlotte, was welcomed to Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rito. She is a fledgling from Te Kohanga Reo o Tūroa.)

Ka mihi nui ki ngā pouako i manaaki, i tautoko i tēnei tokorua nō roto mai i ngā tau kua hori. Ka mihi hoki ki tō rāua iwi i hāpai i tō rāua whai i te ara poutama o te mātauranga."

Whānau Christmas Party

We're getting in early for our Christmas party, whanauka mā! Put this date in your diary: Saturday, 14 November at Haruatai pools.

Ko te tumanako ia kua puawai te manaakitanga ki runga i a koutou katoa i tēnei wā o Koaka.

Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana





Above: Playing a game of Tapu Āe.

Left: Meretaka, Joe and Shona making connections.







Our latest hui focused on kēmu (games). It was great to have a good turnout and lots of new faces.

We had a great whakawhanaungatanga session and a fun "get to know you" scavenger hunt, while our young tamariki enjoyed playing together, colouring in, completing jigsaws and building with Lego.

Tamariki, rangatahi and pakeke all came together to play Tapu Āe, creating plenty of laughter, energy and whanaungatanga. While some joined in the games, others chose to sit and kōrero, taking the opportunity to catch up, get to know one another and deepen connections.

Left, from top:

Outside Aronui, from back, left to right – Ian Boult, Hinemarie Bailey, Ella, Melany Sinclair, Kylen James, Josephine Topp, Katie; front, left to right – Moana Brown, Isla Bennett and Ātaahua.

Ina and Derrin making music.

Ina enjoying some of the games.

The Office

Kotahi Mano Kāika

Ka puawai te kōwhai i te Kana! Spring is here and the kōwhai are bursting with bright yellow blooms!

Our most recent Kura Reo Rakatahi was held at Ōtākou Marae, where 30 rakatahi from across the motu came together to connect, learn and celebrate te reo o Kāi Tahu.

It was four days of jam-packed activities. Our kaiwhirinaki, all recent graduates of Kura Reo Rakatahi, Tumai Campbell, Te Atarau Cassidy and Maia Rakete-Grey, provided some fun and interactive te reo activities to get the reo pumping while binding our rōpū rakatahi together as whānau.



After the climb.

Our Pou Reo, Megan Pōtiki, introduced a series of engaging te reo sessions based on creative pakiwaitara about Māui, while Tumai Cassidy took rōpū on a Taiao tour of the marae to learn more about rākau, rokoā, kīrehe, wai Māori and associated pūrākau.

We went on a hīkoi to Ōkia and the Pyramids, following in the footsteps of the eponymous tipuna, Tarewai, who went on a mission to retrieve his prized patu. As well as a trip to Pukekura, the ancient pā at the headlands of the peninsula.

We spent time at Tūhura Museum, where Tumai Cassidy and Levi Robinson-Collier shared kōrero about pounamu, mahika kai tools, weruweru (clothing) and some of our taoka tuku iho held in the collections. Tūhura also very generously hosted us in the Science Centre, where everyone thoroughly enjoyed the interactive stations.

We took the opportunity to view some of the Kāi Tahu Mahika Kai videos, learning about the many environmental challenges facing our waterways such as Waihora. We also watched the late Tiny Metzger and whānau demonstrate the making of pōhā.

In the evenings Ripeka Pōtiki taught a waiata ‘Te Puawaitaka o te Reo’ that celebrates the strength of our iwi reo movement, Kotahi Mano Kāika. Hākui Paulette Tamati-Elliffe presented a te reo revitalisation session where each participant created their own short term and long term te reo goals.

Our last night was spent creating short whakaari that were performed during our pō whakakākahau. We certainly have some very talented young creatives among our iwi, including budding directors, actors and actresses.

He mihi nui tēnei ki te marae o Ōtākou, ki kā pou reo, kā kaiwhirinaki, kā rikawera, kā kaikōrero – te toa i a tini, i a mano!

It takes a community to revitalise our language.







Top: Kura Reo Rakatahi participants at Ōkia/ The Pyramids.
Above left: Tūhura Museum outside the Science Centre.
Above: Rakatahi outside Tamatea, Ōtākou Marae.



Games outside Hākuiao.

Coming Up:

Kia Kūrehu: A weekend immersion wānaka reo for advanced beginnners to intermediate level speakers will be held at Arowhenua Marae, 23 to 25 October.

If you are wanting to level up and gain more confidence to speak and extend your reo, this is the perfect opportunity.

Check out our website under ‘Events’ for registration details www.kmk.maori.nz

Aoraki Matatū: Our third wānaka in our pilot programme, te reo leadership series, will be held at Rāpaki marae, 16 to 18 October.

These wānaka are for our advanced learners with a focus on te reo o Kāi Tahu and the creation of a Kāi Tahu Papakupu.

Pānui

Te Kōawa Tūroa o Takitimu – Mahika Kai Cultural Park and accommodation



Escape to Te Kōawa Tūroa o Takitimu, a 445-hectare mahika kai cultural park beneath the Takitimu Mauka in Murihiku.

Stay in Te Kōawa Lodge (sleeps 24) with its large lounge, log burner, commercial-style kitchen and bunkrooms, or Te Kārearea Apartment, a comfortable self-contained two-bedroom apartment sleeping up to five.

Perfect for whānau gatherings, hui, wānanga or a relaxing getaway. Enjoy walking, fishing and exploring the surrounding area. Only 20 minutes to Manapouri and 35 minutes to Te Anau.

Special accommodation rates available for Ngāi Tahu whānui. More information at: www.tewaiaumahikakaitrust.co.nz.

Methodist Pūtea Grant 2027 is now open as at 21 September 2026

The grant supports projects undertaken by Kāi Tahu rūnaka, whānau, and individuals that focus on preserving and enhancing the cultural, historical and heritage needs of the iwi.

Historical Background
This relationship is particularly significant at Ōtākou. During the 1990s, the Methodist Church returned ownership of the Ōtākou Memorial Church to Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou and made a koha of $210,000 from the proceeds of the sale of property at Kawarau Falls.

The Methodist Pūtea Komiti
The Komiti currently consists of representatives from Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki, and a representative of the Methodist Church in Dunedin.

Invitation to make an application to the Methodist Pūtea Grant 2027

This year, two categories are being offered:

Category 1
Provide financial assistance for Kāi Tahu members engaged in theology and/or wairua related studies.

(Note: Such individuals must be members of and supported by their rūnaka, south of the Waitaki.)

Category 2
Provide financial assistance for the upkeep of church buildings attached to Kāi Tahu marae and/or rūnaka.

Who can apply:

1. Kāi Tahu rūnaka located south of the Waitaki: Te Rūnanga ō Moeraki; Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki; Hokonui Rūnaka; Waihōpai Rūnaka; Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka; Awarua Rūnanga; Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou.
2. Whānau and individual applications shall be considered from Kāi Tahu members affiliated with any of the above rūnaka and must be endorsed in writing by their rūnaka.

Applications close at 12pm, 31 March 2027.

Please contact our office for the application form. Details are below.

Return applications to Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou, Attn: Methodist Pūtea Kōmiti, at 45 Tamatea Road, Ōtākou RD2, Dunedin 9077, or scan and email the Office Administrator, Ruth Greer, at office@tro.org.nz

We look forward to receiving your application. Thank you.

No reira, Nāhaku noa, nā,

Nadia Wesley Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou

Waitutu Holding Co. Ltd

Unfound Shareholders
The Waitutu Holding Company has a number of potential shareholders and estates with whom we have no contact.

We are endeavouring to locate them so we can either complete their registration or begin the process to transfer the shares from an estate.

If you think you are, or know someone who may be a potential shareholder, please contact us at waitutuholdingco@hotmail.com, or write to:

81 Hedgeley Road
RD2, Eskdale 4182

Please include as much detail as possible to assist with our research before we reply. Information such as names of parents and siblings is particularly helpful and will allow us to accurately verify the details against our current records.

Puharakekenui MR 892 — Notice of a partition application for papakāika purposes

Hui of owners
11am, 1 November 2026

Location
Backstage Gallery
Coronation Hall
853 Portobello Road
Dunedin

For information contact:
Ben Te Aika (applicant)
ben.teaika@yahoo.com

Hokia ki tō Mauka: the Future of Aoraki Bound

Aoraki Bound Returns
Aoraki Bound, the Ngāi Tahu leadership and development programme, is coming out of hibernation, led by Pūruatia Trust. Now's your chance to help shape the future of the kaupapa!

Aoraki Bound builds leadership capability, cultural confidence and connection to Ngāi Tahu whenua, iwi and hapū. From 2006 until 2020, Aoraki Bound was a partnership between Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Outward Bound. Participants spent three weeks moving through Te Waipounamu visiting marae and cultural sites, walking and paddling ancestral routes, learning mahika kai, whakapapa, history and reo, finishing with a half-marathon at the foot of Aoraki. For many, the experience was life-changing.



Fill in an anonymous online survey before Monday 26 October – scan the QR code or click the link. It takes 10 minutes, and you can go into the draw to win an awesome Reo Māori Mai prize pack.

From November onwards we'll get to work on shaping some hīkoi for 2027. Spaces on hīkoi will be limited so make sure you join the Pūruatia Trust mailing list to get updates and registration links: www.puruatiatrust.co.nz. You can contact Nic Low to find out more: nic.low@puruatiatrust.co.nz.

When COVID struck, the programme went into hibernation. Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu has now gifted the kaupapa to Pūruatia Trust for three years. The iwi is in a very different place compared to when the kaupapa began 20 years ago. We are rebuilding Aoraki Bound to meet today's iwi, hapū and hapori needs.

What do you and your community need in terms of leadership and capability development, and connection to whenua, history and iwi? Should we create a whole new model or update the old one? Should it mainly be for rangatahi? Should it include kaumātua? Is it more for people who are disconnected or deeply involved? Is it about individual growth or contributing to iwi and hapū? These are just a few of the questions we're looking to answer.



Aoraki Bound is delivered independently by Pūruatia Trust under licence from Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, and independently from Outward Bound NZ. Photo credit: Sampson Karst.

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Ka whakanui tahi tātou i te kaupapa o Whai Rawa; kua whai hua, kua whai paika kā whānau maha.

Celebrating 20 years of Whai Rawa outcomes.



1,032
withdrawals
$3.5m
withdrawn for tertiary education, enabling mātauraka for our rakatahi

1,863
withdrawals
$13m
withdrawn for first homes for whānau, providing stability and security for generations

2,785
unique withdrawals
$31m
withdrawn for retirement, ensuring a more mana enhancing transition into later years

50%
of eligible whānau enrolled in Whai Rawa!

Over 20 years, Whai Rawa has contributed to strengthening whānau resilience, reconnecting financial prosperity with cultural identity and supporting long-term pathways through education, housing, and intergenerational saving for Kāi Tahu Whānui.

Whai Rawa is more than an investment scheme - it is a continuation of the economic ingenuity and foresight of our tīpuna, drawing on the strengths of the past to help shape a more prosperous future for our whānau.

This year we celebrate the outcomes, impacts and generational shifts over 20 years of Whai Rawa.

E whakamānawa atu ana ki a koutou, kai kā matamatahuāka o te kaupapa. Kia whakanuia e tātau te rua kahuru tau!
We celebrate you.

www.whairawa.com
0800 WHAI RAWA (0800 942 472)

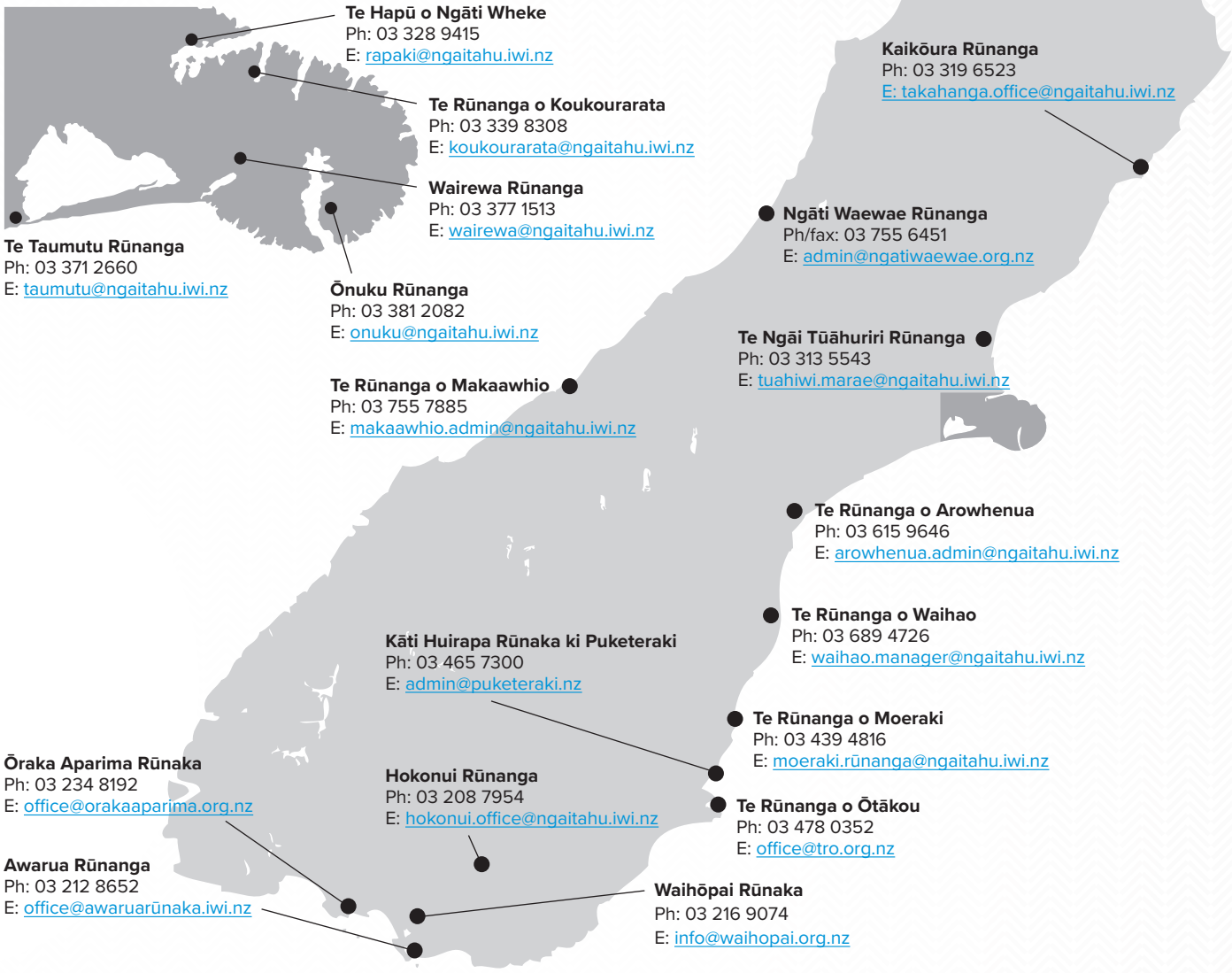
NGĀI TAHU Whai Rawa

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

Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

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.

Rūnaka Directory



Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke
Ph: 03 328 9415
E: rapaki@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Rūnanga o Koukourarata
Ph: 03 339 8308
E: koukourarata@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Wairewa Rūnanga
Ph: 03 377 1513
E: wairewa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Taumutu Rūnanga
Ph: 03 371 2660
E: taumutu@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Ōnuku Rūnanga
Ph: 03 381 2082
E: onuku@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Kaikōura Rūnanga
Ph: 03 319 6523
E: takahanga.office@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Ngāti Waewae Rūnanga
Ph/fax: 03 755 6451
E: admin@ngatiwaewae.org.nz

Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
Ph: 03 313 5543
E: tuahiwi.marae@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio
Ph: 03 755 7885
E: makaawhio.admin@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua
Ph: 03 615 9646
E: arowhenua.admin@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Rūnanga o Waihao
Ph: 03 689 4726
E: waihao.manager@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki
Ph: 03 465 7300
E: admin@puketeraki.nz

Te Rūnanga o Moeraki
Ph: 03 439 4816
E: moeraki.rūnanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

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

Hokonui Rūnanga
Ph: 03 208 7954
E: hokonui.office@ngaitahu.iwi.nz

Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou
Ph: 03 478 0352
E: office@tro.org.nz

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

Waihōpai Rūnaka
Ph: 03 216 9074
E: info@waihopai.org.nz

Taurahere Rōpū

Ngāi Tahu ki Te Taitokerau
Janet Hetaraka
Ph: 09 438 6203
E: janet@hihiaua.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
Raureka Cook
E: raureka.cook@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
Ph: 027 478 2919
E: ptkemp@xtra.co.nz

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

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
Ph: (04) 5820 2227
E: ladyhailz@gmail.com

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: tekupekaatahu@gmail.com

Ngāi Tahu iwi i Poihākena
Angeleau Simpson
Ph: 04 20333568
E: angeleanlivs@y7mail.com

Whakaahua Tīpuna/Whānau



This portrait of a distinguished looking gentleman was sent in by Andrew Scott, General Manager at Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki. The framed portrait is currently hanging in the church at Rāpaki but the identity of this kaumātua is uncertain. If you have any information about this photograph, please contact Robyn Walsh in the Ngāi Tahu Archives unit on 0800 Kāi Tahu (0800 524 8248), I would love to hear from you.