

# 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

POUTŪ-TE-RAKI | MARCH 2025



*Mataīnaka | Swim for your lives by Vicki Marie Lenihan*

# Tamariki mā!



## Are you in our club?

Being a member of Ngā Kaitiaki Moni means you get resources, pānui and lots of challenges in your mailbox!

Are you a Whai Rawa member aged 5-12 years? It's free to join!

Sign up to the club today!

[www.whairawa.com/tamariki](http://www.whairawa.com/tamariki)

1500 tamariki are in the club already!



# Whai Rawa

NGAI TAHU

0800 WHAI RAWA 0800 942 472 [www.whairawa.com/tamariki](http://www.whairawa.com/tamariki)

Tamariki need a whānau member to help them to sign up online. See our website for full details – [www.whairawa.com/tamariki](http://www.whairawa.com/tamariki). Ngā Kaitiaki Moni is brought to you by Whai Rawa Fund Limited. 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](http://www.whairawa.com/pds). All content is subject to WRFL's financial advice disclosure statement available here [www.whairawa.com/financial-advice](http://www.whairawa.com/financial-advice).

# Nā te Kaiwhakahaere



**He nohoaka tākata, he putaka kōrero**

**Ehara te mana o te wai  
I te mana rakitahi  
He mana atua  
He mana tukuiho  
He mana tūmau**

**Kai aku huāka, kai aku haumi, tēnā rā tātau.  
He iwi tohe tātau, nō mai rā anō, ā, ko te tohe  
o te wā nei, ko te wai māori.**

The beginning of the year has already brought us three significant events.

Ōnuku Rūnanga hosted our Waitangi Day commemoration at Ōnuku Marae, aptly described as a ‘Hui Whakaū i Te Tiriti’. The Governor-General, Prime Minister, local government leaders, and ministers from across the political spectrum joined us as we reflected on the current state of the Treaty relationship.

Some questioned why we invited the Prime Minister, suggesting it offered him an easy alternative to attending the events at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds. My assessment is that those suggestions were proven to be baseless as soon as the wero started, and definitely by the time our wāhine began the karanga. Ka mutu pea te koi o ngā arero o ō tātau matamatahuanga nō Ngāi Tārewa me Ngāti Irakehu!

I want to acknowledge Te Whare Tū Tauā o Waitaha, our kaikaranga, our kaikōrero, and all those involved in delivering the incredibly strong and dignified challenge and welcome to our political leaders and manuhiri. The Prime Minister’s presence brought more attention and fanfare than usual to our commemoration, and I am proud of the way that our people rose to the occasion.

A positive for me was that by the time I got up to deliver my speech, the best oratory of the day and the strongest messages had already been delivered, so all I had to do was pick up from where the pōhiri left off. My aim was to rise above the political noise and deliver some clear and challenging messages about the ongoing relevance of Te Tiriti that as many people as possible could understand and engage with.

‘A nation is not a blank canvas.’

‘We are not the radicals.’

‘Rangatiratanga not race.’

‘Reasonable refinement not radical revision.’

I hope some of these ideas might influence how Te Tiriti is discussed and debated in our country – and perhaps even among us as Ngāi Tahu. Our Waitangi commemoration and the themes in my speech also served as a fitting backdrop to another significant event that began in the days after – our Ngāi Tahu Freshwater Statement of Claim.

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Freshwater is in crisis across the South Island, and Ngāi Tahu is taking action on behalf of all South Islanders.

For years, successive governments have failed to address the degradation of our lakes, rivers, and groundwater. New Zealand continues to operate under an outdated, first-come, first-served water allocation system that fails to incentivise efficient or environmentally sustainable use of freshwater. While some changes have been made, the fundamental issues persist, and the rights and interests of iwi have been ignored.

In 2019, the Waitangi Tribunal signalled the need for a test case to define iwi rights in freshwater. Ngāi Tahu has committed significant resources to bring this case to the High Court in Christchurch. We seek declarations that affirm our rangatiratanga over freshwater and require the Government to work with us in designing a better system that safeguards the environment and brings benefit to everyone.

This case is not about ownership or control. It is about upholding our rights and responsibilities as kaitiaki, to protect and manage freshwater according to tikanga.

Over the past five years, we have invested heavily in scientific and technical research, equipping ourselves to lead the way in developing solutions that will ensure the long-term health and sustainability of our waterways.

We are not advocating for exclusive rights over freshwater. Instead, we assert our role in shaping a system that benefits the environment and all those who rely on it.

Finally, I want to acknowledge what a privilege it was to attend the 40th anniversary of the opening of Te Rau Aroha Marae in Motupōhue Bluff and to celebrate the visionaries who built it. The three-day event honoured the deep community involvement in establishing the marae, which was constructed by the hands of many, including iwi Māori and Pasifika whānau who settled in Bluff during the 1970s and 80s.

E rere tonu nei ngā mihi nunui ki te Rūnaka o Awarua i te pai o tā tātau kaupapa, ki te nui hoki o te aroha i uhia mai ai ki runga i a mātau i taua wīkēne.

**Justin Tipa**  
Kaiwhakahaere



## Nurture your hauora

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

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

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



**Whānau as  
First Navigators**



Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

# TE PĀNUI RŪNAKA

## CALL FOR COVER ART SUBMISSIONS

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

### Mataīnaka | Swim for your lives (2024)

nā Vicki Marie Lenihan (Waitaha, Kāti Māmoe, Kāi Tahu – nō te whānau o Rūpene Kurī)

Detail from *Ana Whakairo* (2024) in *Paemanu: Awa Toi* at APT11, the 11th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art at the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art.

Vicki Marie Lenihan is an Ōtepoti-based multimedia artist, writer, curator and educator whose practice centres on celebrating self-determination, hauora and sustainability. She joined Paemanu at Rāpaki in 2014 and served as their Project Manager and Secretary from 2017 to 2021.



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

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# Kaikōura Rūnanga



## Lachlan Williams Graduation

Congratulations to my boy. I, Amanda-Jane, am extremely proud of my wonderful son Lachlan Williams, grandson of Wayne and Rosemary Solomon of Oaro, Kaikoura. He has graduated from the University of Otago with a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Finance. His education will continue into 2025 as he commences his Masters. Well done, your whānau love you so much.



## Children University Graduation

The Te Wani whānau would like to extend their heartfelt congratulations to Pixie Rose and join in celebrating this incredible achievement. Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have truly paid off, and we couldn't be prouder of you. This is a moment of joy and inspiration, and we are honoured to share in your success.

Ngā Mihi,  
**Jacqui Te Wani**  
Kaiwhakahaere  
Ōtautahi  
Māori Wardens



*“Waiho rā kia tū takitahi ana ngā whetū o te rangi.”*  
Let it be one alone that stands among the other stars in the sky.

## Te Ora Haumanu

Ngā mihi o te tau hou! A new year with new exciting mahi for Te Ora Haumanu. Our kaimahi started 2025 off strong by heading out to Kōwhai (site partnered with ECAN) our first week back to smash out some weed control. We have also started up four new projects partnered with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu doing weed control along our beautiful coastline! Our tīma will also be going back to some previous sites to complete some follow up mahi over the next couple of months to maintain all the hard work they have done. We are looking forward to another busy year, we have lots of planning behind the scenes and can't wait to share all our new happenings!



Above: Our Te Ora Haumanu crew; top: Kaimahi getting ready for mahi.

## Te Ara Pūkenga

Te Ara Pūkenga ended 2024 with a beautiful celebration evening for all our Round Two taura! We had whānau, friends and managers of our taura join us to celebrate all their amazing achievements from the previous few months. The weather turned it on for us with an amazing backdrop and delicious kai was shared by all.

2025 has been a great start so far with lots of planning and preparing for our third round of Te Ara Pūkenga which starts at the beginning of February. We have our new taura and business partners (new and existing) all confirmed and ready to start their new learning journey with us!

We're super excited to get back into it!



Above: Celebrating the achievements of our Round 2 taura.

Left: Te Ara Pūkenga Round 2 graduates.

# Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae

A big mihi to everyone that has celebrated birthdays in the months below, if you celebrated your birthday but it isn't on the list below, aroha mai and happy birthday to you! Please contact the office and we will add your birthday to the list.

## January

Katrina Lang, Adrian Tainui, Troy Tauwhare, Rikihana Hutana, Ashlee Wickett, Josh Tamainu, Aaron Tauwhare, Summer Lilley, Rauhine Coakley, Charlie Downs, Liam Mulholland, Ella Duff, Violet Curtis, Paul Tuhuru.

## February

Ursula Tainui, Aleigha Ngaamo, Tihou Messenger-Weepu, Ruihi Tumahai, Justice Tainui, Toa Makapelu, Naomi Jones, Derek Tainui, Tuari Tainui, Mitchell Currie, Nellie Jane Robinson, Toko Lang, Sophie Tenbethy, Ella Robinson, Mia Robinson, Aroha Meihana, Ema Weepu, Ihaka Weepu, Shardey Harris, Lynette Sollis, Cheyenne Briese, Ryan Briese.

## Celebrating Anika Tauwhare

We would like to give a huge congratulations to our very own Anika Tauwhare for competing in the ICC Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup 2025. While the result didn't go their way, with Nigeria edging out a narrow-run victory, Anika's brilliance on the field made us prouder than ever.

From the moment she stepped onto the pitch, Anika played with incredible determination and composure. Her batting was a masterclass in focus under pressure, and her energy in the field never wavered. She gave her all for the team, embodying the true spirit of New Zealand cricket.



What makes Anika's performance even more special is the example she's setting for young players across the country. To see a young wahine Māori shine on the world stage is an inspiration for so many. Her mahi, passion, and courage reminds us all of what it means to chase our dreams and represent our country with pride!

Congratulations, Anika! We are so proud of you – keep making us smile with your amazing talent and mana! Kia kaha!

## Hui ā-iwi ki Takahanga 2024

At this Hui ā-iwi, Ngāti Waewae were proud to stand alongside our Makaawhio cousins and our whānau from Waitaha, performing as one and celebrating our shared whakapapa. The kai and manaakitanga provided truly showcased the heart and soul of Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura!

This hui is a celebration of who we are as Ngāi Tahu and a beacon of hope for the generations to come.

Mo tātou, ā, mō kā uri a muri ake nei! Proud to be Māori!







## Pounamu Pathway Māwhera Pā & Punangairi Visitor Centre

Our Pounamu Pathway Māwhera Pā and Punangairi Visitor Centre hubs have had a busy start to the tourism season. If you are yet to visit either hub, we invite and encourage all whānau to make the trip and allow us to share our taonga with you.

In December, Pounamu Pathway turned one and what a successful first year we had! We have opened our whare taonga to many throughout that time – whānau, communities, organisations and visiting tourists, sharing the untold pūrākau of Poutini Ngāi Tahu.

Since opening in November, Our Paparoa Experience (located inside the Punangairi Visitor Centre) has received nothing but supportive and positive feedback from visitors. The Paparoa Experience blends Māori culture with history and geology giving visitors an immersive insight into the history of the Paparoa National Park.

At both hubs you will find retail spaces that sell a diverse range of taonga provided by local artists and Māori owned businesses from all over Aotearoa. Both hubs also offer high quality conferencing facilities that are available for businesses, communities and organisations to hire



and utilise. We offer everything you need from modernised conferencing technology, meeting supplies and catering. If you or a rōpū you know are interested in utilising these facilities, contact us and we will send you our conference information packs.

**Pounamu Pathway** – 43 Tainui Street Greymouth, 7805  
**Punangairi Visitor Centre** – 4294 Coast Road, Punakaiki  
+64223511979 | [Elly.Mulholland@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Elly.Mulholland@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

## Cobble Skink Release

On 15 January, there was a return of 150 cobble skinks, currently held at Auckland Zoo, to the Kawatiri coastline, near Kerr Stream and the Granity Wetland Conservation Area. This exciting event was in partnership with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, the Auckland Zoo and the Department of Conservation.

The original 34 cobble skinks were transferred from Granity to Auckland in 2016. At that time, it was believed that the species appeared to be in severe decline, with an estimated population of 250 individuals occupying the coastline. Despite the efforts of four experts in the years immediately prior, no new populations had been found, and there were concerns relating to the ongoing rapid erosion and intensifying over-wash of the only known remaining habitat. The Departments Buller operations team received technical advice to undertake an emergency salvage operation. This was approved and completed, creating an insurance population from extinction and a captive breeding programme to facilitate reintroductions and species recovery.

It was an exciting day especially for the tamariki to be a part of this kaupapa and release these beautiful creatures back into the wild!



*Our tamariki Nixon Meihana and Te Ngawari Mason helping Auckland Zoo release the Cobble Skinks.*

## Update from Te Komiti Mātauranga o Ngāti Waewae

Kia ora, e te whānau

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

We're also continuing to host a range of wānanga for our whānau both at Arahura marae, within the community, and online.

We have a Ngāti Waewae reunion planned for Easter 2025. There will be a range of activities on and off the marae. Our marae will be available for whānau from out of town to stay at if this helps make it more accessible for you to come home.

For further details on our upcoming events and opportunities, including the Easter reunion, make sure you:

- join the Poutini Ngāi Tahu Facebook group
- sign up to our newsletter at [www.ngatiwaewae.org.nz](http://www.ngatiwaewae.org.nz)
- join the rūnanga mailing list by emailing [Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

Ka nui te mihi ki a tātou katoa

### Nā Te Komiti Mātauranga o Ngāti Waewae

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

If you have any rūnanga business queries including whakapapa registration forms, please contact our rūnanga administrator: Aleigha – [Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz) or 037556451.

If you have any marae bookings or queries, please contact our marae manager Miriama – [Events@ngatiwaewae.org.nz](mailto:Events@ngatiwaewae.org.nz) or 037556451.

## Rūnanga business

### TRoNW Annual General Meeting

This meeting will be held on 13 April at 11:00 AM at Arahura Marae.

Come along, participate in the discussions, and help shape the future of our rūnanga!

#### Agenda

1. Mihi/karakia
2. Apologies
3. Ngā mate
4. Housekeeping
5. Minutes from the 2023 AGM
6. Approval of the annual report 2024
7. Approval of the annual accounts for the year ending 30 June 2024
8. Appointment of auditor for FY2025
9. Appointment of accountant for FY2025
10. Election for executive position
  - 1 Vacancy: Nominations open, as one executive term is expiring.
  - Deadline for nominations: 21 March 2025
  - The incumbent is standing for re-election. For details and criteria, contact the rūnanga office: 03 755 6451 or [Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Aleigha.Ngaamo@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

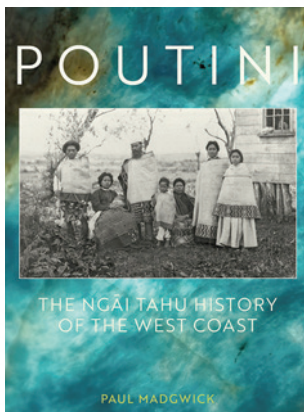
The general meeting will follow immediately after the AGM.

# Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

## Te Karaka Features

The Summer edition of *Te Karaka* is out now, and we're incredibly proud to see two of our treasured whānau members featured. Paul Madgwick's journey in writing *Poutini* is explored in depth, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the mahi and kōrero that shaped this important account of our history. Helen Rasmussen's feature highlights her dedication to Māori culture and conservation, which earned her recognition as a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit. We encourage everyone to grab a copy and celebrate their achievements with us!

You can purchase *Poutini* from the Ngāi Tahu bookstore at <https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/products/poutini-the-ngai-tahu-history-of-the-west-coast-pre-order/>



Paul Madgwick.



Helen Rasmussen.

## Tahutahi Pounamu

For the first time, repatriated and mana-restored Tahutahi pounamu is available for purchase at Westland Greenstone in Hokitika. Sourced exclusively from the Cascade Plateau, Tahutahi is known for its vibrant green colour with distinctive white flecks. Previously gifted to Olympic and Paralympic athletes, this taonga has never been legally sold before. The decision to make Tahutahi available marks a significant milestone for Ngāti Māhaki, ensuring that whānau and the public can access authentic, traceable Ngāi Tahu Pounamu. To enquire, contact Westland Greenstone at +64 03 755 8713.



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## Wood Chopping South Island Championships

We were honoured to host over 60 of the South Island's top axemen for the Wayne Stuart Memorial South Island Championships. It was fantastic to see our own Makaawhio whānau competing as part of the *Coast Buller Timbersports* team. A special shoutout to Luke and Rhys Terry, two of our youngest axemen, who gave it their all in front of a packed crowd at Cass Square, Hokitika. *Ka mau te wehi* to all who took part in this long-standing event!

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## True West Adventure Race

Haast is gearing up to host the True West Adventure Race from February 20th, with hundreds of competitors tackling rugged terrain in this ultimate test of endurance. Last year's event in Hokitika saw strong participation from Ngāi Tahu teams, including our own Makaawhio whānau, with the Terry whānau taking out first place in the three-hour adventure race – an incredible achievement in their debut event! We wish all this year's competitors the best of luck.

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## Whio Release in South Westland

Rūnaka members recently joined DOC staff to release whio into the Moeraki River in South Westland. As the breeding pairs were sent on their way, Levi Wilson delivered a karakia to acknowledge their journey and new life in the wild.

The Moeraki River is already home to nine breeding pairs, and with Hokitika's population thriving after multiple successful releases, efforts are now shifting further south. The goal is to establish another strong whio population in these remote waterways, ensuring the future of these special manu.



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## Christmas Party for Tamariki

The annual **Christmas party for tamariki** was held in December at the **Westland Recreation Centre**, where many tamariki and whānau gathered to celebrate. Attendees enjoyed a BBQ lunch and a special visit from **Hana Kōkō and his two elves**, bringing joy and festive cheer to all. It was a wonderful way to wrap up the year together.



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## Ka Pūtea Mātauraka Māhaki

A reminder that applications for Ka Pūtea Mātauraka Māhaki grants close on 28 February. Whānau are encouraged to submit their applications before the deadline to ensure they don't miss out.

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## ANZAC Day Commemoration

ANZAC Day is always a special time of commemoration at Te Tauraka Waka a Maui Marae, where we gather to remember and honour those who served. We look forward to seeing you all there for this important occasion. Please register with the office if you plan to attend.

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## Richard Wallace Unveiling

The unveiling of our beloved Pou, Richard Wallace, will take place over King's Birthday Weekend at Te Tauraka Waka a Maui Marae. This will be a deeply significant gathering as we come together to honour and celebrate Richard's lasting legacy. Further details will be shared soon, and we encourage whānau to join us in remembering and acknowledging his immense contributions.

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## Ngā Mate

With deep aroha, we acknowledge the passing of our beloved whānau members:

- Maureen Scott
- Tony Hutana

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to their whānau and friends. Moe mai rā.

# Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke

## Pūrau Urupā Returned

After over 100 years of trying, an urupā at Pūrau has finally been returned by the Christchurch City Council. The urupā is the resting place of rangatira Tiemi Nohomutu and other tupuna from Te Pātaka o Rakaihautū. The revocation of the reserve status of this whenua will enable the urupā and our tupuna to be properly cared for.

We are grateful to the rūnaka and whānau, as well as community members and others who have voiced their overwhelming support for the return. Also, to the Christchurch City Council for their diligence in ensuring



good process and to Te Pā o Rakaihautū Community Board for their decision as the hearing panel.

The right to ensure appropriate tikanga and care for our ancestors buried in an urupā at Pūrau

has been a challenge that has lasted over 100 years and generations of whānau have held the wero for the return of the urupā at 177 Pūrau Avenue (Reserve 4622) to mana whenua.

On Monday January 2025, a decision was finally made by Te Pātaka o Rakaihautū Banks Peninsula Community Board to commence the legal process to return the urupā recognising Ngāti Wheke as the rightful kaitiaki of their tīpuna.

177 Pūrau Avenue was part of the nine-hectare Native Reserve 876, Pūrau originally set aside in 1870. In 1914, the reserve was wrongfully alienated and almost all of it later sold off for subdivisions. As the burial site of Tiemi Nohomutu, 177 Pūrau Ave was instead eventually made a public reserve in 1950 and is currently owned by Christchurch City Council.

Consultation on this latest proposal to return it to Ngāti Wheke received over 360 submissions, 96.3 percent supported the proposal, 2.3% did not support, and 1.1 percent were unsure. Many submissions were presented orally at Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū Banks Peninsula Community Board meeting following which the board members agreed unanimously to return the urupā to Ngāti Wheke.

We acknowledge the whānau who have continuously advocated for this return, representing the hapū through decades of hui and documentary requirements. We mihi to Donald Couch for providing the research for informed decision making and his resounding kōrero at the board meeting.

Our Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu representative Gail Gordon also gave a powerful submission, coincidentally on the fifth anniversary of her father Doug Couch's passing; Doug had in his day been a strong advocate for the return of the urupā.

A notable quote from Gail is worth remembering: "This is an urupā, the final resting place of real people... real people who deserve to have their final resting place recognised, acknowledged and respected, just like every other urupā and cemetery in Aotearoa."

We also mihi to Yvette Couch-Lewis who, in the last engagement process, also worked closely with council and the community to progress this kaupapa. We must also mihi to the whānau from Koukourarata, and Matiu Payne in particular, for the strong mahi on this kaupapa over many years.

The decades-long efforts have also been supported by other rūnanga, and increasingly in recent years by the community members of Whakaraupō. We appreciate their advocacy and support. It is an affirmation for the relationships and cultural understanding that we have worked together to build, maintain and value. We look forward to finally being able to care for our tīpuna in the right way.

*Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei.*



*Donald Couch presenting.*

## Te Pā o Rākaihautū won one million USD from the ‘Zayed Sustainability Prize.’

Te Pā o Rākaihautū, has been named the winner of the ‘2025 Zayed Sustainability Prize,’ in the Global High Schools – East Asia and the Pacific category for their māra kai initiatives. Ka mau te wehi ki a koutou e te whānau!

The school was recognised for its groundbreaking Puku Māra project, which uses indigenous biocultural technology to address global challenges such as climate change, food insecurity, and land degradation.

The Puku Māra project, inspired by the sustainable practices of Māori ancestors, integrates traditional knowledge and modern solutions to restore ecosystems and strengthen communities. The project will benefit over 100,000 people, including the 280 students of Te Pā, their families, and wider community networks, by promoting food sovereignty, carbon sequestration, land restoration, waste reduction, and cultural empowerment.



## Rangatahi Noho

Whānau travelled near and far for this year’s Rāpaki rangatahi noho. The noho is days of whanaungatanga, whakapapa and fun. A huge mihi to Savanah and Kerepeti for facilitating, Corbin Fahey as Rangatahi Kaiāwhina, Matua Isaac, Matua Ben, Tauii Sharr for keeping the home fires burning and our specialist tutors Courtney Bennett (mau rākau) and Tainui Pauling (waka ama).

Mirimiria tahaku taura here takata, paiheretia tahaku taura here e.



## Tamariki Noho

Ketekete kākā  
Koekoe ko te tūi  
Kūkū kererū  
Ko te taki o kā manu  
I rere haere kā manu o te kōhaka ki te kāika  
o Te Rakiwhakaputa.

We spent a marvellous weekend together, capturing the essence of a kāika kid. The tamariki were swimming, laughing and learning. The energy was high and connections were made. We learnt about teatowel-tanga, what tikanga is observed at the marae. We had the opportunity to be a part of the pou unveiling of Karaka ki te raki at Ōtūherekio. We played spotlight under the shadow of Tamatea and we slept under the fluorescent gaze of our tupuna.

Nāia te mihi ki a Helen rātou ko Kiri ko Kelly i tautoko mai.



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## Summer Cadet Programme

We had five cadets working for us over the summer break. Corbin Fahey, Taylor Lee, Tainui Pauling, Manuera Riwai-Couch and Ngarangi Tauwhare worked on a wide range of projects with us and some of our partners developing skills, getting experience and thinking about their future careers.



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## New Pouwhenua unveiled at Ōtūherekio

A big mihi to everyone who gathered at Ōtūherekio for the unveiling of the new pouwhenua, which replaces Te Kōauau o Tāne Whakapiripiri, vandalised in November 2021. Cass Bay residents, representatives from the Muslim community, members of the police force, friends, and whānau from Rāpaki came together for the dawn ceremony, led by Rev. Maui Stuart.

Kaiwhakairo Caine Tauwhare spoke of Ōtūherekio as the traditional place for karaka when manuhiri arrived at Rāpaki, inspiring the naming of the new pouwhenua, Te Karaka ki Te Raki. The pou design draws from the strength and resilience of the Kororā, the local penguin that faces adversities at sea but always returns home to Whakaraupō.

“It’s a very staunch little bird if you corner it. Don’t corner it. It’s also a reminder for us who are here, because some of our whānau do go away. Keep something warm for when they come home. Keep something safe for when they come home, because we’ll hear the call.”

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# Te Taumutu Rūnanga

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## Kaumātua Christmas Lunch

On 19 December, our awesome kaumātua got together for a delicious lunch at The Rock Rolleston.

It was lovely hearing our kaumātua catch up, reconnect and enjoy each other’s company. The Rock at Rolleston put on such a delicious lunch that featured some Christmas classics such as roast ham, and a delish steak too!





## Cultural Monitoring Day

On 18 January 2025, we held our Whānau Cultural Monitoring Education Day which was also combined with the first Tamariki Day of the year. The day was a great success with whānau learning all about the importance of cultural monitoring as well as how we cultural monitor. The day was a great success with whānau that haven't been involved in cultural monitoring giving it a go. To support all whānau to learn more about this mahi, we had awesome activities for our tamariki such as bouncy castles, face painting, ice creams and even an interactive rubbish/recycling station.

For a little context, cultural monitoring is a method used to assess the values and perspectives of Te Taumutu Rūnanga in particular areas of significance for us. It is a way to integrate mātauranga Māori into scientific methods by monitoring both environmental and cultural changes over periods of time.

The demand for cultural monitors can be quite high, so upskilling our whānau in these areas is of high importance to us. Being a cultural monitor is a great way for our whānau to get out in nature and become kaitiaki of their own takiwā.

A huge thank you to Mapihi Martin-Paul for facilitation, Caitlin Baker-Wanhalla for organising the day, Faye White for the awesome idea, Lucretia Treadgold for staff support on the day, Hire Queens for the bouncy castles,



Happy Hire for all of the hired items, Hirepool for the Portaloo, Beyond the Faerie Tree for the face painting, Without Waste for the interactive

rubbish station, One Scoop or Two for the ice cream truck, Victoria Food Service for the delicious kai and finally to our whānau for showing up on the day.



Taumutu Rūnanga Whānau Cultural Monitoring Day was a community event where whānau connected with the environment through cultural monitoring practices, learning how mātauranga Māori guides environmental kaitiakitanga.

WOW, Without Waste provided the waste education tent (with sorting station) and

upcycled recycling basketball hoop – interactive and reusable mugs and plates.

A zero-waste event is one where 90 percent of the materials produced avoid landfill through reuse, recycling, and composting.

The diversion rate for this event was 92.8 percent, which means that Taumutu Rūnanga Whānau Cultural Monitoring Day was a zero-waste event.

The reusable coffee cup and plate system was a great success in reducing packaging waste and encouraging, positive feedback was received.

This is a great goal for all whānau to ensure we all do our part for the environment, and with little effort.



## Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere)



Chair, Liz Brown and Puamiria Parata-Goodall Kaiārahi, Ruahikihikitanga.

Te Pā o Ngāti Moki is one of many Ngāi Tahu marae surrounding Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) that has lost wetlands culturally significant to their hapū. Works have now begun on revitalising these areas following government funding of around four million dollars.

As the landscape around Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) changed over the years following European settlement, the wetlands surrounding it disappeared, taking with them mahinga kai practices and locations of cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu. Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki looks towards new beginnings as they celebrate the restoration of a wetland and stream in their backyard.

Check out the Tahu News Facebook page to see a lovely video of the day.

<https://www.facebook.com/TahuNews>

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

# Wairewa Rūnanga

## Pūtakitaki Harvest



Our Hopu Pūtakitaki this year was another awesome day, bringing whānau together for a traditional duck harvest on Te Roto o Wairewa.

During moulting season, when the pūtakitaki seek refuge on land or water, our tīpuna would use their waka to guide the ducks toward land for harvesting. Following in their footsteps, our rōpū worked together to set up the pen, harvest the pūtakitaki then brought them back to Wairewa Marae for processing.



It was a special day of connection and collaboration with whanauka from Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Te Hapū o Ngāi Te Wheke, Hokonui Rūnanga, and locals from Ōtautahi, many of whom have been part of this kaupapa for years.

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## Dive Trip to Kaikōura

On 18 January, some of our dive rōpū headed to the beautiful waters of Kaikōura as part of the Takaroa Project. It was a fantastic day to explore the underwater world and enjoy the incredible marine life that Kaikōura has to offer. Getting back in the water was a great reminder of why we love this kaupapa, and it's made us even more excited for future dives.



Left to right – Ana Verdult, Stevie Hadfield, Raniera Bartlett and Tristan Wilson-Robinson.

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## Whānau pānui

We are excited to share that two of Alvina Edwards' mokopuna, Materoa (10) and Angeline (8), will be presenting at their first International Indigenous Conference in 2025, held in New Mexico. Their proud parents, Manutahi (Alvina's son) and Nikki, are thrilled about this incredible opportunity for the tamariki to represent and share their kōrero on an international stage. The whānau are still seeking support to help fund this journey. If you would like to contribute or learn more about how you can help make this dream a reality, please get in touch with Manu Barrett – [manutahib@gmail.com](mailto:manutahib@gmail.com) or 027 558 9665.

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



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## Wairewa Kaumātua Catch up

On 24 January, we held our first kaumātua catch-up of the year at the tari, and it was such an awesome way to reconnect. We started with a shared kai, filling the office with laughter and stories as we enjoyed each other's company.

As the kōrero flowed, we took some time to plan for the year ahead. It's exciting to see what's in store, with plenty of opportunities to come together and enjoy being part of this amazing group.

If you'd like to join our kaumātua catch ups, please do! They're a great way to stay connected and have a bit of fun in a relaxed and supportive space. These gatherings remind us that whanaungatanga and connection are at the heart of our mahi and our lives.



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## Kipa Whānau Reunion

We would love you to join us for an unforgettable weekend of whanaungatanga and reconnection.

**11-14 April 2025**

Wairewa Marae – 4345 Christchurch Akaroa Road

Register your attendance here using this link

<https://forms.office.com/r/7n0fhrr2Wr?origin=lprLink>

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## Wairewa Grants

We have education and kaumātua health grants available for registered Wairewa members. To learn more about what the grants cover and the eligibility criteria, visit the whānau space on our website or email [Wairewa.grants@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Wairewa.grants@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

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## Whakapā mai

0800 WAIREWA (924 7392)

PO Box 15011, Christchurch, 8643

[wairewa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:wairewa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

Email [Wairewa.comms@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Wairewa.comms@ngaitahu.iwi.nz) to sign up to our monthly newsletter.

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

# Ōnuku Rūnanga

We are very proud of the achievements of Amiria Tikao. She has been studying a double degree in Law and Māori Resource Management at the University of Victoria over the past three years. Each year she has ended with a string of achievements.

Late last year, she received the Ruka Broughton Award for top undergraduate student in Te Kawa a Māui and was on the Dean's list for both the Faculty of Law and Humanities and Social Sciences. Last year Amiria was also awarded the Gordon Orr award for top Māori law student in 200 level courses.



**Celebrating 25 years of the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative in Aotearoa New Zealand**

*"For me, U Kai is about giving our moko the best start in life"*

— Wendy Dallas - Katoa, Taua NZBA, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha, Māori Women's Welfare League Rāpaki



# Te Rūnanga o Waihao

## He pēpi

Our congratulations to all the whānau who have welcomed a pēpi.

## Ngā mate

Waihao Rūnanga extends our deepest sympathy to all our whānau suffering the loss of a loved one at this time.

## Waihao Website

Whānau are reminded that we have a website that has lots of information for you. If you do not have a password for the registered members area of the website, you can obtain one from the office.  
[www.waihaorunanga.co.nz](http://www.waihaorunanga.co.nz)

## Te Hīnaki Whakatipu 2025

Over the two and a half days spent at Waihao, rakatahi were introduced to their connection to Waihao through place based wānaka. There were several workshops that took place covering Waihao whakapapa, hītori, purākau and te taiao all underpinned through whanaukataka.



### Upcoming events at Waihao. Save the dates!

Whakapapa Wānaka 7-9 March

Kaikaranga Wānaka 21-23 March

Rakatahi Activation Wānaka 13-17 April

Whanaungatanga Wānaka 22-27 April

Waihao Creatives / Toi Ora 2-4 May

Kaikaranga Wānaka 9-5 May

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

# Te Rūnanga o Moeraki

## Hui-ā-iwi 2024



*Moeraki whānau after taking the stage at Te Atakura 2024.*

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## Hui-ā-iwi 2024

Last year Moeraki whānau enjoyed our haerenga to Kaikōura for hui ā-iwi 2024. We thoroughly enjoyed our time connecting with all our cousins, shopping at the many stalls, eating the amazing kai, and the wonderful activities provided to whānau.

*Ngā mihi aroha ki te whānau  
o Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura  
i tō koutou raupī maii i ngā uri  
o Ngāi Tahu whānui, kei a koutou,  
ngā tohunga o te manaaki!*

A particular highlight was our whānau taking to the stage for Te Atakura. This was a proud moment for whānau, and we are looking forward to continuing with your practices into 2025. We want to give a huge mihi to Ana Faaui and Nick Tipa for being terrific kaiako.



*TRoM Kaiwhakahaere, Justin Tipa  
cooking BBQ for the crowds.*



*Lana Williams and daughter Awarua  
enjoying their time on Whale Watch  
Kaikōura.*



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## Christmas at the Pā

Moeraki whānau ended the year with Christmas at the Pā. We enjoyed a BBQ cooked by our ahi kā and time spent together reflecting on the year.

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## Rūnanga hui 2024

This year the rūnanga is transitioning from monthly rūnanga hui to quarterly rūnanga hui instead. This is an exciting move that will provide more opportunity for wānanga and much more exciting kaupapa so watch this space! The rūnanga hui for 2025 will be held on:

- 26 January
- 04 May
- 03 August
- Nov AGM tbc

For whānau wanting to share a pānui on the next *Te Pānui Rūnaka* please email your pānui to:  
[Moeraki.runanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:Moeraki.runanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)

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## Pānui

The committee responsible for appointing Te Rūnanga o Moeraki Representative and Alternate has been convened, as required every three years.

It is anticipated that the committee will recommend seeking expressions of interest through the Te Rūnanga o Moeraki website, the office vacancy system, and a notice to rūnanga members within the coming months. For any questions or further clarification, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

# Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki

## Return of Hewitt – Allingham Taoka Collections

On 28 November 2024 we welcomed Richie and Iris Hewitt with their whānau to the marae. Richie's father Jock Hewitt built a collection of taoka from Te Hikapupu (Pleasant River) which he brought to pass over to the rūnaka. Archaeologist, Brian Allingham also came to pass over taoka from the same area to hand over making this a significant occasion for the Hewitt whānau, Brian and the rūnaka.

Dr Gerard O'Regan, Curator Māori, at Tūhura Otago Museum prepared the care and return of the taoka which has been put into the temporary care of Tūhura Otago Museum pending a decision by the executive and rūnaka on their future care. He outlined the history of the taoka which were collected from the 1950s by Jock Hewitt and are mostly from the Hikapupu area. The majority of the taoka are stone flakes, but they also include quite a few large 'blades' typical of early butchery tools; several toki; small dentalium shell necklace reels; and most of a large broken reel pendant which is typical of early ornaments. The latter is made of bone, probably moa, and based on charring which archaeologist Brian Allingham advised was most likely to have eroded from a cremation burial.



Richie's wife Iris is Kāi Tahu and shares whakapapa to Khyla Russell's whānau. Khyla and her sisters were present to whakamana the Hewitt whānau and the occasion.



Among the taoka there are also numerous bones, mostly of midden nature. Importantly, there are a few kōiwi, and a couple of mandibles, one being of a small tamaiti. The kōiwi are held in wāhi tapu at the Museum now.

Richie inherited his father's collection and has held it all these years but wants to see it return to its appropriate home. Legally, being found pre-1975, the taoka are all private property, so the return is also a formal return of ownership to the rūnaka. Brian Allingham brought an abundance of notes and information that he was given on the collection by Jock Hewitt.

Right – Front: Richie Hewitt and Brian Allingham signing over the taoka, with Philip Hewitt and Matapura Ellison at the back.

Photos nā Jen Lucas



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## Giant Wētā Mahi



Over 2,500 metres were ascended in the Kā Tiritiri o te Moana (Southern Alps) by kaitiaki Grant Meikle and Southern Lakes Sanctuary (SLS) representatives in over three days in search of giant wētā.



*The long trudge uphill.*

The wētā were found in the Gloomy Gorge at 1,600 metres above sea level. It is believed these taonga have been pushed out of their original habitat by introduced predators such as stoats. Three stoats were seen in the wētā habitat by the search party, which is a continuing concern for the longevity of the wētā. The Department of Conservation and SLS both have trap lines in the area to try and eradicate the stoats.



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## Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka – University of Otago Graduate

Congratulations to Thomas Chaney who graduated from Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery in December. Thomas is the eldest child of Rachel and Justin Chaney, and mokopuna of Lesley Ella Maude Clement and Herman Lont. He wore a kākahu woven by whānau member Phyllis Smith. As a whānau, we are all very proud of his achievements.



*Thomas Chaney, who graduated at Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka December 2024.*

Grant and the SLS representatives camped at 1,300 metres above sea level and climbed to 1,700 metres in search of the wētā. Kaitiaki, Grant Meikle described the three days as one of the most challenging mountain climbing and extreme experiences he had ever completed.



*Above and left: The beautiful, rugged terrain of Kā Tiritiri o te Moana.*

Nā Grant Meikle



## Tieke South Island Saddleback Translocation

The South Island tīeke have returned to Te Waipounamu in a historic rūnaka-led translocation. Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body, in partnership with Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki, have translocated approximately 50 ‘at risk’ tīeke from each island to Orokonui Ecosanctuary, Te Korowai o Mihiwaka, with more birds to come.



Visitors representing Rakiura Tītī Islands & whānau at Orokonui. (photo: Jen Lucas)

Below: Tīeke South Island Saddleback released by Puketeraki Rūnaka members at Orokonui Ecosanctuary. (photo: Madison Kelly)



‘This project highlights the central role of mana whenua as kaitiaki of taonga species,’ says Tāne Davis, Chair of Rakiura Tītī Islands Administering Body.

Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki is thrilled to contribute to tīeke’s arrival. “Tīeke are a manu taoka for Kāi Tahu whānui, and this event will reconnect their whakapapa with Kāti Huirapa and our takiwā.”



Tīeke South Island Saddleback released by rūnaka members, Lyn Carter, Matapura Ellison, Sue Smith, Marcus Tūwairua representing Tītī Islands, & Suzi Flack.

Below: Puketeraki Rūnaka members Sue Smith, Phyllis Smith, Jenny Smith & John Youngson. (both photos: Jen Lucas)



Left: Puketeraki Rūnaka Alex Gorrie, Suzi Flack, Manawa Koppert-Duggan, Evie, Jenny & Sue Smith. (photo: Jen Lucas)

# Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou

## Kā Mihi Aroha

Māturuturu ana kā roimata ki a rātou kua whatukarokaro ana ki tua o Paerau. E rere atu ana kā tai o aroha ki a koutou kā whānau, ka urupa o rātou mā i tenei wā.

Our thoughts and deepest sympathy are with whānau who have lost a loved one recently, including: the whānau of Leane Neha, Leslie Thomas Russell, Tony Anderson, Dawne Tamati, Kelly Te Pononga Taupo, Dan Ellison and Cale Wills. May each whānau find comfort in your memories and from those who surround you with love and care.

For those who are in hospital or unwell at home, we wish you a speedy recovery and return to good health.

## Education achievement, Connagh Wesley

Our congratulations go to Connagh Wesley who has now achieved her BFA degree in Visual Arts Photography.



## Connagh Wesley

Bachelor of Visual Arts  
Photography

"Are you educated in your cultural history? To be honest, I'm not, and all I want to know is Why? because I don't know much about my culture, does that make me any less of a Polynesian? A Māori at that?"

Adapted from "Lost Visions", Nesian Mystik, 2002

"The best protest we can do right now is BE MĀORI, Be who we are, live our values, speak our REO, care for our mokopuna, our awa, our maukā. Just be Māori, Māori all day, every day, WE ARE HERE, we are strong."

Kingi Tūheitia, 2024

**Kā whawhai tonu mātou, Ake Ake Ake! HE MĀORI AHAU!**

This mahi (work) has been inspired by my desire to reconnect with my culture, to take pride in who I am and where I come from. *Te Tui Raumati o Ahurea Tuakiri* invites the viewer to join my hīkoi (journey), navigating life as an indigenous woman, mother, and artist in a world where each role presents its own challenges, especially when combined.

Top: Connagh Wesley with her visual art installation as part of her final assessment for her BFA degree in Visual Arts, Photography.

Above: Connagh's Visual Arts kōrero focuses on reconnecting with own's culture. *Te Tau Raumati o Ahurea Tuakiri* invites the viewer to join her hīkoi, navigating life as an indigenous woman, a mother and artist in photography. Photos: Connagh Wesley, Kaiwhakaahua Studio.

## Methodist Pūtea Grant 2025 closes 12 noon 31 March 2025

If you are making an application, the final day to submit to the Ōtākou Rūnaka office.

## Articles for the Ōtākou TPR pānui 2025

We welcome your whānau and personal pānui/news articles for including in each bi-monthly TPR. Please send your pānui as soon as possible after the event including pēpi hou, ngā mate or memorials, achievements in sports, education or other activities such as visiting the marae, or attending marae hui that build on the traditions or customary practices of your whānau or the rūnaka.

Please write a caption and name people in each photo. Send your photos as attachments to your email, to [office@tro.org.nz](mailto:office@tro.org.nz) Thank you.

## The McStay whānau ceremony at the Whenua Garden

On Friday 6 December, Mum (Libby Moss) and Dad (Renata McStay) took us kids (Marika, Manaia and me/ Tupai) up to Ōtākou Marae to connect our whenua physically with the whenua. The trip took a while, with 20 minutes of waiting for roadworks. Nearly 100 other vehicles went past the road queue. Just before Portobello, Mum pulled up at a café for her and Dad to have coffee. We all got out of the car to stretch our legs.



Left to right: Mārika McStay, Libby Moss, Renata McStay planting the kaka beak for Marika.

“Although the gardens are nice, ours are less weedy,” I said. After a coffee and a stretch, we headed off and didn’t stop ‘till Ōtākou, which wasn’t far.

Aunty Moana Wesley was in the plant nursery when we were heading down the path. She heard us and came over to welcome us back. (Forgot to mention, both Marika and I had sticker tattoos to be more in the kaupapa). Aunty Moana showed us the marae’s plant nursery and we gave her three native trees that we had brought with us. A tūi came over to share its song with us and I tried to mimic the tūi.

Then it was time to bury our whenua. Aunty Moana showed us the way to the whenua area of the marae. The tūi followed us along. Dad asked “Marika, where are we going to place you kids’ whenua?” Then the tūi landed on a pou. I suggested we go to the tūi. The spots we picked were aligned with each other, facing the east. The view I picked was nice, overlooking the ocean and the other side of the harbour. Dad gave a karakia and dug our holes; Mum placed the placenta of each child; a bit of dirt on top and we planted our chosen native tree; kōwhai for Manaia and I; Kaka beak for Marika. Last of all was placing kahu feathers under the trees and singing our whānau waiata ‘E puta mai’ finishing with karakia. This experience was kind of awkward and a new part of tikanga for us.

After that, we had lunch in the office while Dad did the paperwork. The office has many resources and computers, but the coolest thing in the room was the LEGO ware and scenery. I’m inspired to create something similar. After lunch, Mum, Dad and Aunty Moana found a few resources to take home, we said our goodbyes and left. In Dunedin, we had Wendys for tea; had an ice cream in Milton. And I went to Youth Group in Clinton. It was a busy day. Written by Tupai McStay from Clinton.



*Left: Tupai McStay with his kōwhai tree; right: Manaia McStay with her kōwhai tree.*

*Below, left to right: The McStay whānau, Libby, Manaia, dad – Renata in the background, young Marika and Tupai top background, in the Whenua Garden, Ōtākou Marae.*



## Taurite Tū Games

The inaugural Taurite Tū games were held on 29 November at the Unipol gymnasium at Forsyth Barr Stadium in Dunedin. The event brought together more than 200 kaumātua from across Aotearoa to compete in fun but active challenges such as basketball shots, sit and stand, poi toa throw, kina in the kupeka and mau rākau.

Taurite Tū came about after our Ūpoko Edward Ellison, put out a tono in 2008 to support kaumātua with fall prevention. The wero was picked up and led by Katrina Anne Pōtiki Bryant (Waitaha, Kāti Māmoe, Kāi Tahu), Taurite Tū Project Lead and Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka/ University of Otago Associate Dean Māori and Lecturer at Te Kura Komiripai/ School of Physiotherapy. It is a kaupapa Māori strength and balance exercise and wellness programme for our Māori whānau aged 50+ that brings together traditional Māori exercises. Designed and researched at Ōtākou Marae with kaumātua Māori, Māori physiotherapists, and Māori movement experts in mau rākau, tī rākau, poi, tākaro and whare tapare the programme is now delivered in 26 organisations, from Whangarei to Bluff!



Left, Kaimahi Connor Ropata umpires, while matua Te Mairiki Williams of Ōtautahi watches his team challenge kaimahi in the mau rākau challenge.



Carolyn Campbell from Te Kāika is perfectly balanced in her time trial.

Below: Mere Montgomery from Ōtākou tests her eye hand coordination in an attempt to get the hockey puck into the left net.



Janece Taiaroa from Ōtākou gets up close and personal in the poi toa throw.

Below: The team from Temuka enjoy the warmth in the Forsyth Barr stadium as they lap the field in the Taurite Tū Games 2024.



Taurite Tū teams mix and mingle and enjoy commadore and manaakitaka as they accept the challenge to keep moving.

Kaumātua thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and fellowship of this hugely successful event and said how motivating it was to get moving and look after our health and wellbeing. Kaumātua hope it will continue in the years to come. A huge mihi to the organisers, especially Katrina and Julia and all the kaimahi involved with running the Taurite Tū Games.



Ngāti Wheke from Rāpaki achieved well in events with a hearty waiata at the awards ceremony / poroporoaki.

## Ōnumia, Spade Toothed Whale

In July 2024 a rare five-metre-long male spade toothed whale washed ashore in the Onumia area, which is located at the mouth of the Taiari awa. Next to nothing is known about beaked whales which are the most enigmatic group of large mammals on the planet. They are deep divers that are rarely seen at sea. Since the 1800s, only six spade-toothed whales have been documented worldwide, and all but one was discovered in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Ōtākou hapū are the recipients of this taoka and from 2-6 December Ōtākou rakatahi were joined by Hori Parata and his son Te Kaurinui Parata from Ngāti Wai who are tōhuka working with marine taoka, along with Tūhuru (Otago Museum), Te Papa Atawhai Department of Conservation (DOC), Ōtākou Whakaihū Waka (University of Otago), a research team made up of international and local scientists and led by DOC Marine Science Advisor and beaked whale expert Anton van Helden who teamed up for the amazing week-long dissection of the rarest of these whales. Ōtākou named the tohorā 'Ōnumia,' to reflect the traditional name of the area where the tohorā beached.

Hapū member and archaeologist Rachel Wesley was present at the dissection and said it was groundbreaking not only for science, but also in terms of indigenous groups working together with western science. "Not only was Onumia the first of its kind to be dissected by science, but it was also the first time our hapū worked with scientists to pull together indigenous and western knowledge systems so we can all gain a better understanding of the whale and its behaviours.

One of the main discoveries about the 'rarest whale in the world' was that it had vestigial teeth in its gums which would give new information about the whale's evolutionary history. Anton van Helden said it was remarkable to see the teeth which was another thing they had known nothing about. Also discovered was the spade-toothed tohorā had nine stomach chambers and structures associated with sound production and feeding. Weights, measurements and descriptions of muscles and organs were recorded to help describe the species to be able to make comparisons with other related species. Following the dissection, Ōtākou gave permission to Tūhura to retain the skeleton but will hold the kauae. A 3D print will be made of the jaw for presentation purposes by the Tūhura.



*Ōtākou whānau welcomed the research team including three international marine biologists from the USA: Dr Joy S. Reidenberg, Dr. Michael Denk, and Dr Alexander Worth onto Ōtākou marae on Sunday 1st December '24.*



*Above, from left: Young scientist chatting with Ōtākou rakatahi, Tumai Cassidy and Oli Dawson Jnr, pre dissection, held at Invermay, Mosgiel.*



*Above left: Tumai Cassidy leads an epic, "We're done!" after completing the 'to do' list on the last day of the dissection.*

*Above right: Oliver Dawson Jnr (Ollie) making the first incision.*

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 including tangi which takes precedence: <http://www.otakourunaka.co.nz/#home-image> or email [office@tro.org.nz](mailto:office@tro.org.nz) or phone 03 478 0352.

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

# Waihōpai Rūnanga

## Hui-a-lwi

Kia ora whānau, last year Waihōpai kaumātua embarked on a haerenga to Kaikōura for Hui-a-lwi which we all enjoyed very much. We had a couple of travelling hiccups but we survived and didn't detract from the trip in whole. The kaumātua were looked after so well that I applaud the whānau at Kaikōura for their smiling faces and happy personalities, it made us all feel great. A huge thank you to all the whānau that helped in the dining room and kept us well fed. Ngā mihi nui, ngā mihi aroha.  
**Kaiwhakahaere – Cyril Gilroy, Waihōpai Rūnaka.**



## Maumahara Ngā Mate – Joe Wakefield

He Maimai Aroha!

Kāore he pai te timataka o tēnei tau hou tauwi, i te mea te tokomaha o kā aitua nunui nei, kua wehe atu ki tua o te arai.

E iri ana te puawanaka i kā maihi o Te Rakitaunkeke hai tohu o te mate, ō tētahi uri kua riro atu rā. E te poua, te hākoru, te hākoru keke, te tukāne, te tuakana, tetaina rānei me te tama hoki, āra, ko Les Russell.

He māia mātātoa kua riro nei ki te huikakahuraki!

Takuatē noa ake ana rā ki a Les!

Unutai e!, Unutai e!

Ko te wai anake, nā ko Waihōpai!

Okioki mai rā e Les i ruka i te rakimārie, i raro i te korowai aroha o tōu tūpuna, moe mai ra, moe mai rā!

Ki a rātou mā e te kāhui o te huka wairua, o te huka mate, kua wehe atu ki tua o te arai; kā whānau, kā hapū me kā iwi katoa, nō kā hau e whā o te motu, nō kā tai e whā o tēnei ao hoki, haere, haere, okioki mai rā!

Ki kā whānau pani me kā kirimate ō tēnei wā tino pōuri, te taumaha hoki; ka tuku atu te mihi aroha nui nei ki a koutou katoa, mai te whānau ō Waihōpai Rūnaka!

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

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

Tiheī Mauriora! Tēnā rā tātou katoa!

We also acknowledge the passings of: Casey Karaitiana, Gloria Amos, John Wybrow and Joe Cross.

## Tane Hui

Over the past year our Waihōpai rangatira have been sharing their mātauranga and expertise with our up-and-coming Kāi Tahu tane. It has been extraordinary to watch these young men flourish with the guidance of Joe Wakefield. We appreciate the importance of passing down our culture from te ao Māori as it gives hope for a thriving future of our rūnaka.

## Rūnaka Christmas Party

It was great to celebrate Christmas with our rūnaka whānau last December. The day consisted of an abundance of kai, bouncy castles, lolly scrambles, colouring in, and a visit from Hana Kōkō. The wharekai was overflowing with remarkable waiata from our special guests the Creative Natives.

## Hana Kōkō Christmas Photos

This year with the help of the Invercargill Licensing Trust we were fortunate to supply free professional Kirihimete/ Hana Kōkō photos for whānau and the Waihōpai community. With Christmas being an expensive period of the year, for some whānau Christmas photos are not a priority so it was a pleasure for us to be able to provide these memories to be treasured and looked back on for years to come. With the passing of Les Russell just weeks after we will cherish these memories and photos with him as our Hana Kōkō.

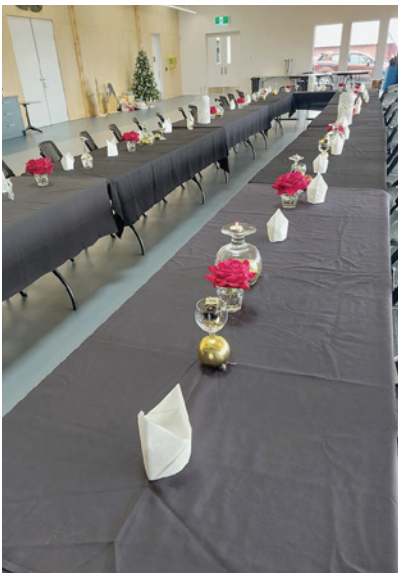


Les Russell.



## Kaumātua Christmas Party

In December we also celebrated our wonderful kaumātua with a special Christmas lunch. Our chef Tiriana put on a mouth-watering three course meal with a performance from Hokonui alongside exchanging their secret santa perehana.



## Aurora College

Throughout November and December Murihiku Marae had bookings around the clock with many organisations and Murihiku schools. We loved having Aurora college here to connect with te ao Māori, learning our local pūrākau and building whakawhanaungatanga.

## WHĀNAU CONTRIBUTION

### Te Kōhaka Reo o Murihiku 40th Anniversary

On Wednesday, 18 December, Te Kōhaka Reo o Murihiku marked a significant milestone, celebrating 40 years of dedication to Waihōpai mokopuna within the learning nest of Karapohatu. The event, held at Murihiku Marae, facilitated and composed by devoted knowledgeable up and coming Kāi Tahu leader/Director Pania Pennicott-Sciascia.



The celebration began with a heartfelt pōhiri led by kaikaraka Evelyn Cook to welcome all the manuhiri, with Joe Wakefield as kaikōrero sharing whakapapa from its beginnings to present, embraced by the mauri tau kōhatu creating a profound sense of belonging and wairua.

The pōhiri highlighted the deep-rooted connection that has grown over the decades while building relationships within the last two years of Kāi Tahu whānau taking over leadership of Te Kōhaka reo amongst their whenua, working hard with the passion of kāitahutaka within the tamariki while engraining Kāi Tahu reo, pūrākau, hītori and implementing Kāi Tahu tīkaka and kawa for future continuation.

This celebration was not just a reflection on the past but a testament to the enduring legacy of Te Kōhaka Reo o Murihiku with karakia, hākari, speeches, the unveiling of carving, cake to mark the occasion and outdoor entertainment to cater for all the tamariki. The day was a vibrant celebration of culture and togetherness within iwi, hapū, hapori from past, present to future.

The current Kōhaka whānau performed their Kāi Tahu waiata and actions symbolising living breathing legacy of the Kāi Tahu whānui. Founded in 1983 at Murihiku Marae then established within its own

whare 'Karapohatu' Te Kōhaka Reo o Murihiku has flourished, enriching the legacy of the joint iwi and whenua. Te Whare o Karapohatu has been a home for many whānau, fostering a strong sense of belonging

surrounded by tīpuna and wisdom from whenua to whānau 'Ko te whenua, ko au; ko au, ko te whenua' – the land and people remain eternally connected and continue to flourish. Looking ahead, the future of Te Kōhaka Reo o Murihiku shines brightly, built with passion for nurturing Kāi Tahu tamariki with successfully revitalising the Kāi Tahu reo and ancestral history. It stands as a beacon of cultural preservation and education, ensuring that the next generation remains connected to their heritage.





# Ōraka Aparima Rūnaka

## Time with the whānau on Rarotoka

Almost 20 rūnaka whānau had the opportunity to experience time on Rarotoka over the summer holidays.

Located in Te Ara a Kiwa-Foveaux Strait, Rarotoka is a place of great significance to Ngāi Tahu. The island is managed by Ōraka-Aparima Rūnaka and work trips as well as whānau trips are held semi-regularly.

If you would like to take part in a future work trip, please contact the office.  
Email [office@orakaaparima.org.nz](mailto:office@orakaaparima.org.nz)



*It's a 5-minute helicopter ride from Takutai o te Titi Marae to Rarotoka.*



*Pania Penicott-Sciascia enjoying the view from Rarotoka.*

## Aparima Riverton's emergency preparedness enhanced

Key emergency response community members were invited to a blessing and opportunity to view the contents of a new emergency pod at Riverton Racecourse on 4 December.

The contents include a generator, water filters, food, and communication equipment.

It was important to the rūnaka that the pod be placed in a central location accessible to the wider community and Emergency Management Southland Manager Aly Curd welcomed the Rūnaka's collaborative efforts.



*Key emergency response and Community Representatives and funders at the opening of the Emergency Pod at Riverton Racecourse.*

Ōraka-Aparima is one of five recipients within Murihiku to acquire an emergency pod to support its community, as part of a collaboration between Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Te Puni Kōkiri.

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## Critically threatened manu translocation

Rūnaka representatives joined DOC staff for the opportunity to take part in work to establish a new home for the critically threatened Whenua Hou diving petrel.

Once breeding all over the southern South Island, until the translocation there were only 220 manu on Whenua Hou. Their habitat is threatened due to climate change.

At new year the first of 75 chicks to be translocated over the next five years were helicoptered from Whenua Hou to their new home and were hand-reared until they fledged in mid-January.

These first chicks are expected to return home as adults in October 2026.



A young kuaka chick is returned to its nesting box.



Whānau members wait for Hana Koko to give out gifts in the whareniui.

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## Merengi nui!



Kāhui kaumātua member Teoti Jardine with a giant watermelon weighing 12kg, grown in the tunnel house at Takutai o te Titi Marae under the care of Phil and Joan Fluerty. This was the first of about eight watermelons – another bountiful season in the tunnel house.

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## Christmas Party at Takutai o te Titi

It was great to see so many whānau, including many new faces at the rūnaka Christmas Party on 15 December!



Kahu-James Wilmshurst, 8, and Hana Koko.

## Te Taiao Wānanga – 2 - 4 May 2025

Join us for a volunteer weekend at Te Kōawa Tūroa o Takitimu, a 445ha tribal property nestled under the Takitimu Maunga 20 minutes south of Manapōuri in Murihiku. We are undertaking a ‘ki uta ki tai’ restoration project to enhance the mahika kai and biodiversity in the valley.

During te taiao wānanga, whānau can help restore the whenua, foster whakawhānaungatanga and explore the valley. Volunteer activities include wilding pine control, tree planting and mulching, pest control, and track maintenance.

Accommodation and kai will be provided at the Lodge on Friday and/or Saturday nights. For more information Email Vanessa at [info@tewaiaumahikakaitrust.co.nz](mailto:info@tewaiaumahikakaitrust.co.nz) or phone 021 0255 6918.



From left: Todd Spencer, Hayden Seager, Daisy Seager, Daniel Spencer planting and releasing natives in the front paddock at last year's Te Taiao Wānanga.

### Keep in touch!

Are you receiving emails from us? We have lots of opportunities we want our members to know about. Please get in touch if you think your details might need updating. Email [office@orakaaparima.org.nz](mailto:office@orakaaparima.org.nz) or phone 0800 234 8192.

# Awarua Rūnanga

## Te Rau Aroha Marae – 40th Anniversary 7 - 9 February 2025

Over 3 days, the hau kainga from Awarua, the Bluff – welcomed whānau and manuhiri from near and far to celebrate and commemorate, the 40th Anniversary of our marae, Te Rau Aroha.

This event was an opportunity to bring all our people back together. And to share the history, moemoeā and creation brought to fruition by a group of young people, predominately females, aged in their early 20's to mid-40's.

The marae was officially opened with the support of thousands, debt-free, on 9th February 1985.



This was a momentous occasion for our beautiful marae, for those that assisted and the masses who attended.



**Te Rau Aroha Marae – 40th Anniversary**  
*photos by Richie Mills.*



## Rangatahi Zone 2024: A Celebration of Youth and Community

The Rangatahi Zone event of 2024, held 7-8 October in Bluff, was a huge success. Organised by Turama Trust, it brought together Southland youth aged 10-18 for fun, inspiration, and cultural enrichment.

With over 40 activities spread across eight venues in Bluff, the event featured various zones with activities such as kai, rongoā, poi-making, gaming, axe throwing, and a 'smash-it' room.

A special thanks to our sponsors.

Over 120 volunteers (kaimahi) contributed their time and energy, ensuring the event ran smoothly.

A highlight was the heartwarming TikTok video from the nannies.



## Rongoa

In October 2024, Te Rau Aroha Marae hosted a Murihiku rongoā wānanga and clinic. These events brought together practitioners, social service providers, the national Te Kāhui Rongoā trust, and community members to discuss and enhance the wellbeing of the Murihiku region.

The focus was on the wellbeing of Murihiku practitioners and their engagement with mana whānau. The agenda included discussions on the history of rongoā nationally and locally here in Murihiku, acknowledging Muriel and Ann Johnstone for their contributions, ACC processes, and the creation of frameworks for safe practices.

The event also featured a panel discussion with social service providers and concluded with kai and a report back to rūnaka members.

Our clinic was specifically designed for our frontline Kaimahi ki Murihiku, providing sessions to support their wellbeing. The clinic aimed to strengthen the practitioners' engagement with mana whenua and enhance their practice.

The sessions were highly recommended by kaimahi, and plans for future clinics are being organised.

For more information, please email [sumaria@awarua.org.nz](mailto:sumaria@awarua.org.nz).



# Taurahere Groups

## Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana

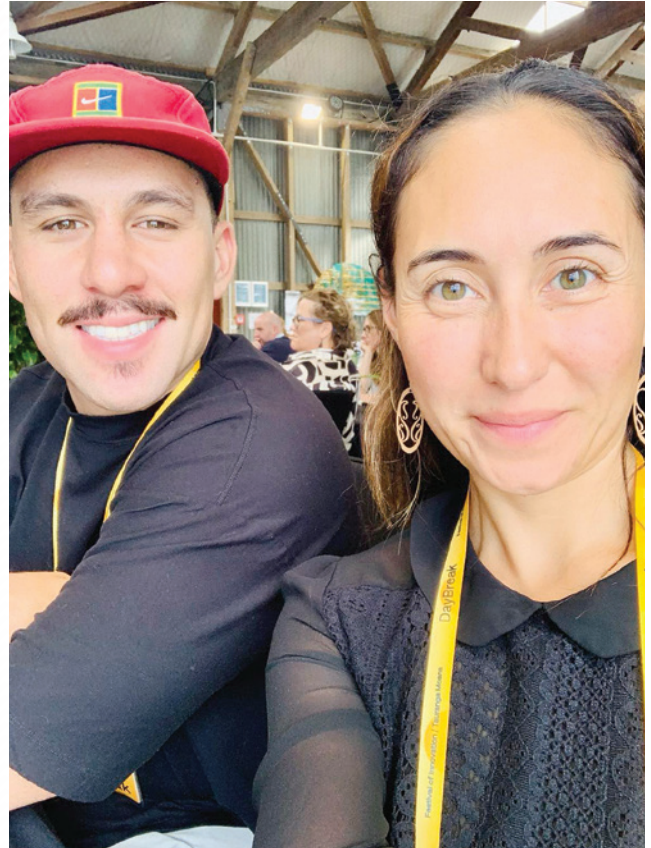
### Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia

We are thrilled to announce that one of our amazing Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana committee members, Ashleigh Day (Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Wairewa, Taumutu, Arowhenua, Waihao and Moeraki) has been awarded a Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia (PMSA), alongside her amazing tino hoa, Zion Nicholas.

The two will be embarking on an Indigenous Immersion Programme, spending six weeks in Okinawa, Japan, followed by two weeks in Vietnam. During this time, they will learn from Indigenous communities, including a special programme focused on exploring the right to self-determination in the Ryukyu Islands.

Ash and Zion feel honoured to engage with these communities, whose wisdom has been preserved despite the historical challenges they've faced. They recognise the shared struggles of Indigenous peoples worldwide, including their own whānau Māori, and view this opportunity as a chance to build connections, exchange knowledge, and work towards sustainable solutions for global issues.

We wish Ash and Zion all the best on this remarkable haerenga and look forward to hearing about the highlights of their experiences.



Zion Nicholas and Ash Day.

### End of Year Christmas Lunch Celebration

It was fantastic to connect with everyone who joined us for the Ngāi Tahu ki Tauranga Moana Christmas lunch celebration! A wonderful opportunity to meet new faces and strengthen our whakawhanaungatanga.



Tamariki playing games while Lucy and Jan Ozanne watch on.



Left to Right: Tukara Matthews, Tapeka Hakopa, Courtney Hakopa and Tiffany Matthews.

## Ngāi Tahu Ki Whānganui-a-Tara

We plan to have four hui this year:

23 March 2025

8 June 2025

7 September 2025

16 November 2025.

Venues to be finalised as we will continue to go around the district. That is, Wellington City, Porirua and Lower Hutt. We will rotate to venues in each of these areas to support whānau having access to a hui near them.

Please look at the Facebook page [[NgaitahukiTeWhanganuiaTara](#)] for further details or email to [tewhanganuiatara.taurahere@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:tewhanganuiatara.taurahere@ngaitahu.iwi.nz) for further information.

# The Office



NGĀI TAHU  
**Whakapapa**

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

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

### Hui-a-iwi

It was amazing to see and connect with so many whānau across the weekend in Kaikōura. We came back with a record number of 120 new registrations received. If you have any pātai or missed out on connecting with us at hui-a-iwi, no need to wait until the next event please reach out at [whakapapa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:whakapapa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)



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



## 2025

Ngā mihi o te tau hou e te whānau. The Whakapapa Team hopes that you all had an enjoyable break. We finished the year strong registering our 85,000th tribal member on the last official day in the office! We look forward to engaging with whānau throughout the year.

### All Blacks Experience Day

2025 has kicked off with the Whakapapa Team assisting the All-Blacks Experience at the Community Rugby Day. The team provided kai for our rangatahi and tamariki got to meet the All Blacks and Black Ferns, brush up on their rugby skills, learn about mental resilience and healthy kai, but more importantly, have fun along the way! We were privileged to help bring the day to life!

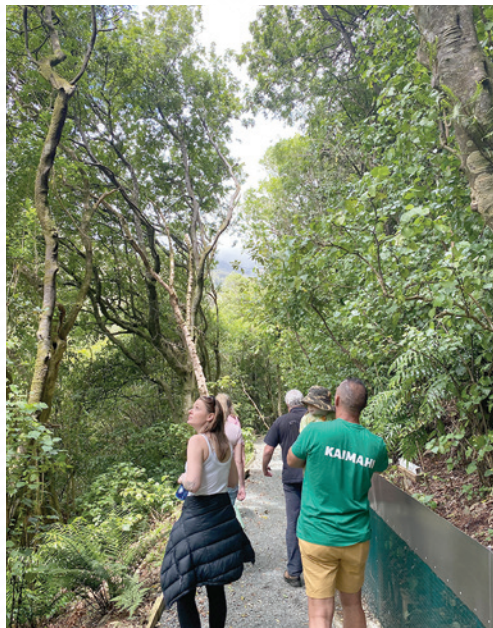


### Brook Waimārama Sanctuary

In November last year, the whakapapa team visited the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary on our visit to Te Taiuhu. The team heard about the sanctuary's conservation work to protect indigenous and endemic species. It has a large predator protection fence and a live-stream camera that shows parts of the sanctuary on their website.

Brook Waimārama Sanctuary has been working with kaitiaki Ngāti Koata to return tuatara to their ancestral whenua in Te Taiuhu. In November, tuatara were translocated from reserves in Te Ika a Māui and Te Waipounamu to ensure taoka tuatara are protected. It is the first time tuatara have been released in Whakatū for more than a century.

Works of local sculptors are also displayed along the sanctuary's walking trail, as part of their Sculpt Nature initiative. Our visit inspired us to reflect on how whakapapa and pūrākau connect us with te taiao and indigenous flora and fauna.



*Chief Executive Ru Collin showing Whakapapa Team through the ngahere in the Brook Waimārama Sanctuary.*



*Pouakai – Sculpture by Donald Buglass, winner of the Sculpt Nature 2022 Symposium.*

### Upcoming Event – Ngāi Tahu ki Tāmaki Makaurau Taurahere Rōpū

On 15 March we are having another whakapapa wānanga with whānau in Tāmaki Makaurau. We look forward to reconnecting with whānau we met last year and hope to see some new faces too.





## Kura Reo Kāi Tahu – Rua kahuru mā rima tau!

Huirapa whenua, Huirapa tākata, e kā rika atawhai, nāia kā mihi e rere atu ana ki a koutou kā tohuka o te manaaki, arā ki te haukāika, ki kā ahikā me kā rikawera mō te reka o kā kai. Tenei hoki te mihi ki te whare o Te Hapa o Niu Tireni kua roa nei e āhuru nei i kā take nunui o te iwi me tō tātou reo rakatira, ā, tae noa ki tēnei tau tonu i te tūka o te Kura Reo Kāi Tahu 2025. E kī ana te kōrero ko te amoraki ki mua ko te hāpai o ki muri tēnā koutou katoa.

Nei hoki te mihi ki a tātou i ruka i te 25 tau o tō tātou nei rautaki reo, arā, ko Kotahi Mano Kāika, me kā tini hua kua ara ake i kā tau kua hipa.

Tēnā, me mihi kā tika ki kā kaiako o tō tātou kura reo i tēnei tau, ki kā pūkeka, ki kā mātaka o tō tātou nei Kura reo arā ko Hana O'Regan, Karuna Thurlow, Te Rautawhiri O'Regan, Alex Solomon, Manuhaea O'Regan, Charisma Rangipunga, Corban Te Aika, Taiki Pou, Kare Tipa, Hēnare Te Aika me Kiringāua Cassidy. Kei kā manu tāiko, kā manu whakatuatē tēnā koutou.

Tenei hoki te mihi ki kā kaimanaaki tamariki i whakapau werawera ki te whakakoakoa i kā pīpī manu kia ū hoki te reo ki o rātou kutu otirā kia wātea ai kā mātua ki te kai i kā kai mārō a te huka kaiako tēnei kā mihi.

Another successful Kura Reo Kāi Tahu was held at Arowhenua Marae from the 7th to the 11th of January. This year, we celebrated 25 years of Kotahi Mano Kāika, a milestone in our journey of intergenerational revitalisation of Kāi Tahu reo.

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to this kaupapa over the years – your passion and dedication continue to strengthen our reo for generations to come.

A special thanks to our incredible hosts at Arowhenua Marae and our amazing team of ringawera who put on stunning kai for us throughout the week.

To our inspiring teachers who return year after year to share their knowledge – we are so grateful for your time and expertise. And of course, to the tamariki programme facilitators who kept our babies entertained with fun games and activities.

Thank you to all those who made this Kura Reo such a success. Here's to the next 25 years of Kāi Tahu reo! Toitū te reo o Kāi Tahu!



**Kia Kūrapa – Nāia te Toa o Tarewai ki Ōtākou**

Our first Kia Kūrapa of 2025 kicked off at Ōtākou Marae on 31 January to 2 February. Over 45 adults and 15 tamariki, the majority being descendants of Te Ruahikihiki gathered to learn and extend their proficiency in te reo o Kāi Tahu. Some whānau had travelled from as far away as Tāmaki Makaurau, and it was also nice to have some whānau present who had recently returned to live back home from Australia. Students across three proficiency levels from beginners to fluent speakers were engaged in formal learning sessions led by Amie Curtis, Kommi Tamati-Elliffe and Dr Megan Pōtiki.

On Saturday, whānau enjoyed a hīkoi to Ōkia, to the pyramids where the story of Tarewai was shared by one of our Ōtākou pūrākau experts, Tumai Cassidy.

Tamariki were entertained by a kaitiaki team led by Ōtākou rakatahi, Tumai Campbell, Te Atarau Cassidy and Ripeka Pōtiki who provided activities and games, allowing parents to focus on the classroom lessons.

E kore e mutu kā mihi ki kā whānau i tae mai ki te ako i tō tātau reo matahiapo. Toitū te reo o Kāi Tahu!



**Kā wānaka e whai ake nei:**

<b>Kaupapa</b>	<b>Āhea / Ki hea</b>	<b>Taumata Reo</b>
Kia Kūrapa ki Makawhio	21-23 February 2025 Te Tauraka Waka a Māui, Bruce Bay	Beginners to intermediate
Kura Reo ki Te Waipounamu 2025	13-17 April 2025 Ōtākou Marae	Intermediate to advanced. Must be conversational
Kia Kūrapa ki Tuahiwi	TBC	Beginners to intermediate
Kura Reo Rakatahi	1-4 July 2025 Venue TBC	All levels. 13-18 years
Kia Kūrehu	17-19 October 2025 Arowhenua Marae	Intermediate

# Pānui

## Paemanu: Awa Toi

In late November Paemanu, a Ngāi Tahu Contemporary Visual Arts were proud to complete the successful installation and opening of **Paemanu: Awa Toi** at the eleventh Asia Pacific Triennial in Meanjin/Brisbane, Australia. The exhibition will be open at the Queensland Art Gallery until 27 April 2025.

Seventy artists, collectives and projects from more than 30 countries feature in this chapter of the flagship Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA) exhibition series. Also exhibiting from Aotearoa are Brett Graham, AWA (Artists for Waiapu Action), and Zac Langdon-Pole.

*Paemanu: Awa Toi* was developed in Aotearoa over several years through traditional practice of hīkoi and wānaka. 27 Ngāi Tahu creatives travelled to represent more than 50 contributors to the overall collective artworks.

Significantly, this is the first time Paemanu has presented our creative practice outside of the takiwā, and offshore. The vision for the kaupapa was manuhiritaka and the importance of being humble guests on others' whenua.

The artworks each expressed a traditional practice including two oversized *Tirewa* displaying prints made by many hands, *Hīkoi* a collaborative road trip style video, *Karaka* a sculptural work made by many wāhine

Kāi Tahu and *Ana Whakairo* a response to the calling of our traditional rock art.

We were honoured to connect with First Nations Australians and representatives of the Yagerra and Turrbal people while we were there. A particular highlight was a two-day printmaking wānaka where we shared stories and traditions relating to our waterways. Wānaka participants from the Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art programme completed the exhibition by adding their prints to the *tirewa*, bringing their river stories to meet ours.

We acknowledge the people of Meanjin, the Yagerra and Turrbal people, their elders and leaders.

Our grateful thanks to Ayesha Green, Ngāi Tahu Fund, Creative New Zealand – Toi Aotearoa, New Zealand Ministry for Culture and Heritage Manatū Taonga, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art, Rātā Foundation, and Dunedin Public Art Gallery – home to the Paemanu Art Collection.

To our home people our warmest thanks and aroha to you all.

Tēnei te mihi ki a koutou i te tautoko o te whakaaturaka nei.



Paemanu artists with First Nations artists from CAIA.

## Contributing Artists

Aidan Taira Geraghty  
AJ Manaaki Hope  
Alice Webber  
Allison Beck  
Andre Te Hira  
Arabella Spoons  
Areta Wilkinson  
Aria Karetai  
Ashleigh Zimmerman  
Ayesha Green  
Caitlin Donnelly  
Chloe Cull  
Conor Clarke  
Dana Te Kanawa  
Emma Kitson  
Haawi Whaitiri  
Henley Robertson  
Hōhua Kurene  
Jennifer Rendall  
Jess Nicholson  
Kāhu Kaan  
Kate Stevens West  
Keri Whaitiri  
Kiri Jarden  
Kitty Brown  
Kristina Gibbs  
Kommi Tamati-Elliffe  
Laurence Robertson  
Lennox Langdon  
Lonnie Hutchinson  
Maaka Robertson  
Madison Kelly  
Maha Tomo  
Martin Langdon  
Matilda Langdon  
Megan Brady  
Moewai Rauputi Marsh  
Mya Morrison-Middleton  
Natalie Karaitiana  
Nathan Pōhio  
Neke Moa  
Nicole Solomon  
Paulette Tamati-Elliffe  
Peter Robinson  
Rachael Rakena  
Ross Hemera  
Rongomaiaia Te Whaiti  
Simon Kaan  
Summer Te Kanawa  
Tama Parker  
Te Moananui Ryan  
Tia Barrett  
Turumeke Harrington  
Vallance Wrathall  
Vicki Lenihan



*Above: Weaving preparation in Meanjin.  
Right: Hīkoi artwork.  
Below right: Ana Whakairo and Tirewa artworks.*





Tirewa artwork.

Below: Paemanu artists outside Queensland Art Gallery.



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

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

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

When: 9.30am on Sunday 16 February 2025

BYO food for a shared lunch.

Agenda:

- Karakia
- Update as to status of whenua and trust
- Draft trust order presented for support /feedback
- Vote to adopt or decline so it can be lodged with MLC
- 3 trustee positions for re election
- General business
- Karakia

Contacts:

Bernadette Russell [dettarussell@gmail.com](mailto:dettarussell@gmail.com)

Kate McLachlan [hillviewclarendon@unifone.net.nz](mailto:hillviewclarendon@unifone.net.nz)



## Hui ā Tau Rakiura Māori Lands Trust

The Trustees of the Rakiura Māori Lands Trust (RMLT) invite all beneficial owners to the 2025 RMLT Annual General Meeting.

**Date of AGM:** Sunday 2 March 2025

**Time:** Registration from 10am, Meeting 11am -3pm

**Venue:** Te Rau Aroha Marae Bluff

### Agenda

1. Minutes from previous AGM
2. Presentation trustees report
3. Presentation financial statements
4. General business
5. Election of trustees

### Contact Secretary

Eliza Snelgar – email: [ess@rmlt.co.nz](mailto:ess@rmlt.co.nz)

## Karaitiana, R.L. Karaitiana and Taituha Trust

This pānui is to advise the descendants of Mere Piro Taituha of the Trustees' intentions to hold an **AGM** for the Lease land and Rentals at Te Rauone Harrington Point.

Where: Ōtākou Marae meeting room, Ōtākou Dunedin

When: **Saturday 22 March 2025**, commencing at 1:00pm followed by light refreshments

Items to be discussed and voted on at the AGM are:

- Financial reports for the previous year
- Section 12
- An update on where the trust is currently positioned in regards of the rental properties and bank accounts being administered by the trust

Due to the current large number of incorrect emails being held by the trust for the dissemination of information to be sent to whānau members, the trustees request that anyone requiring an information pack – please email the secretary: [kkt-otakou@hotmail.com](mailto:kkt-otakou@hotmail.com)

Please do so from your preferred email address so that we can ensure everyone gets all the information they require before the AGM.

The above message is approved by the trustees of the trust Dierdre Carroll (Chairperson), David Williams (Treasurer) and Hayden Coote (Secretary), Matiria Hutana, and Renee Nyhon.

## TE RŪNAKA O KOUKOURARATA

### Notice of Intention to hold a Postal Ballot

Te Rūnaka o Koukourarata (TRoK) advises all members of its intention to hold a postal ballot.

#### PURPOSE

The postal ballot will be held to elect Koukourarata members to the **Koukourarata Appointment Committee (KAC)**.

#### ROLE OF THE KOUKOURARATA APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

Once elected, the KAC will appoint two TRoK Representatives to advocate for TRoK interests at **Te Rūnaka o Kāi Tahu (TRoNT)** hui: the Koukourarata **Representative** and **Alternate Representative**.

#### ELIGIBILITY

All potential members aged 18 and over who wish to participate in the voting process must be registered with both **TRoK** and **TRoNT** by the **Deadline of 5.00pm, Monday, 7 April 2025** to be eligible.

#### ONLINE & PAPER VOTING

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

#### Online Voting

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

#### Paper Voting

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

#### Requesting a Paper Ballot

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

#### KOUKOURARATA APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

TRoK invites nominations for the KAC. To be considered, please contact the TRoK Office for a KAC Nomination Form.

#### KOUKOURARATA & ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE APPLICATIONS – TRONT

TRoK also invites applications for either or both positions of Koukourarata Representative and Alternate Representative to TRoNT.

All **nominations** and **applications** must be submitted in writing, meet the criteria of the Koukourarata Electoral Process, and be received by the deadline.

#### Contact Details

Te Rūnaka o Koukourarata: Postal Ballot  
9 Puāri Road, RD 2, Diamond Harbour 8972  
E: [koukourarata@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:koukourarata@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)  
Phone: 03 339 8306



## Predator Free Rakiura

“Mō tatou ā mō k ā uri ā muri ake nei”

Rakiura returned to life, “for us and our children after us”

Rakiura Stewart Island is home to a wide array of native birds, reptiles, and bats – including some found nowhere else on the planet, like the Rakiura tokoeka (kiwi), pukunui (Southern New Zealand dotterel) and harlequin gecko.

Introduced predators are the biggest threat to our native wildlife. Feral cats, hedgehogs, possums, and three rat species cover the island, eating birds, eggs and chicks, as well as the fruits, leaves and seeds that nurture the ngahere.

Some native taoka, like the bush wren and tutukiwi/ Stewart Island snipe, have already been lost forever.

Some, like the tīeke/South Island saddleback and kākāpō, have been evacuated from the island for their survival.

And some that remain on Rakiura, like the pukunui, are on the brink of extinction.

We must act now to preserve what makes Rakiura unique and inspires such love for the place.

The Predator Free Rakiura project is a long-held aspiration to restore the mauri of this special place by completely removing rats, possums, hedgehogs, and feral cats from Rakiura/Stewart Island.

A predator-free future will create space for treasured taoka like kākāpō to safely return, and enable those already present to truly thrive, ki uta, ki tai – from the mountains to the sea.

It will leave a healthier Rakiura as a legacy for takata whenua, communities, and the next generation that call Rakiura home.

This project is a collaboration between manawhenua, the Department of Conservation and other partners. It builds on the hard work and experience of many, including the successful eradications on the nearby tītī islands which have allowed species like tīeke to thrive and regenerate.

### Stay in the know and join the discussion

Right now, we’re focused on planning the first operational stage of the project, which will be delivered throughout 2025. This stage is about learning; we will trial proven tools and techniques, refining them to suit Rakiura’s needs and informing how eradication can be effectively scaled across the island – shaped at each step by ongoing discussions with the community.

Keep an eye on the project website for more information and regular updates: [www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz](http://www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz)

Sign up to receive updates directly, ask questions or give input by emailing us: [info@predatorfreerakiura.org.nz](mailto:info@predatorfreerakiura.org.nz)



*Kākāpō, Whenua Hou Codfish Island (photo: Bradley Shields).*



# Nohoanga Kāi Tahu

## Connect with the lands of your tīpuna

Nohoanga are campsites near waterways significant to Ngāi Tahu. Nohoanga provide all Ngāi Tahu whānau with an opportunity to experience the landscape as our tīpuna did, and to rekindle the traditional mahinga kai practices of gathering food and other resources.



Above: McNulty Arm; top: Lake Ōhau.

Nohoanga are free to use and able to be booked using your whakapapa number. The season opens on August 16 and runs to April 30 each year.

There are two new nohoanga opening in March 2025. **Lake Ōhau** in the McKenzie District and **McNulty Arm** in Cromwell.

Head to the Ngāi Tahu website [Ngaitahu.iwi.nz](http://Ngaitahu.iwi.nz) and look under Opportunities and Resources for a map showing nohoanga locations. The website also has information sheets for each site.

Feedback from whānau helps us manage the nohoanga by making us aware of any issues requiring maintenance. We also like hearing stories about how whānau utilise nohoanga.

All feedback received goes into a draw at the end of the season to win a \$500 Hunting and Fishing voucher.

**For more info about available sites and to book online, please visit our webpage:**

[www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/opportunities-and-resources/for-whanau/nohoanga/](http://www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/opportunities-and-resources/for-whanau/nohoanga/)

or get in touch with us on 0800 NOHOANGA (0800 664 62642) or [nohoanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz](mailto:nohoanga@ngaitahu.iwi.nz)



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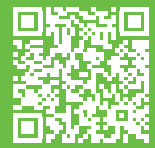
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## Ngāi Tahu Archives: Whakaahua Tīpuna/Whānau

### Te Waipounamu College 1911



Photo provided by Maringi Osborne and information and names provided by Ngāi Tahu Archives.

#### Standing

Miss Clark, Magda Walscott, Waiata Taiaroa, May Karetai, Manuera Taiaroa, May Daymond, Emma Dix, Ada Roper Miss Opie.

#### Sitting

Rua Thompson, Kara Walscott, Bessie Taiaroa, Maggie Forsyth, Leah Taiaroa, Ono Ropata, Toko Rueben.

#### Kneeling

Laddie the dog, Erua Momo, Ila Barrett, Katerina Graham, Wiki Barrett, Huka Martin, Emmie Paynter.

### *Feedback update for previous month*

*We would like to thank and  
acknowledge Maringi Osborne  
who made contact to discuss  
the image at left featuring the  
students at Te Wai Pounamu  
College 1911. This photo had  
previously been published in  
Te Pānui Rūnaka in April 2008.*

*We appreciate any feedback we  
receive from Iwi members in  
response to our request for names  
and information about photos for  
our Whakaahua Tipuna whānau.*



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

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# Whakaahua Tīpuna/Whānau

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*This photograph is part of the Joseph Lowthian Wilson collection at the Alexander Turnbull Library (PA1-q-1136-03-01). He was the North Canterbury reporter and agent for the Christchurch Press from 1864-1919 (based in Kaiapoi). The title on the image says, "a typical Maori Family of 1863". We have no details regarding the location or identity of the whānau in this photograph. If you can help us with any information in this image, please contact Robyn Walsh in the Ngāi Tahu Archives unit on 0800 Kāi Tahu (0800 524 8248), we would love to hear from you.*