

RST Chair Message

Pīata ngā Whetū o te Tau Hou

Ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa, ngā whānau o te iwi Raukawa. **E kī mai te whakataukī** "Matariki ahunga nui – Matariki provider of plentiful food"

Welcome to the autumn edition of Te Kakara.

he theme for this edition is Matariki – a celebration of new beginnings. Matariki is the name for the star cluster also known as Pleiades. Traditionally, when it appeared just before dawn in late May or early June, it signalled the start of the Māori New Year. In recent years, we have seen a resurgence of public awareness and acknowledgement of the Māori New Year and a notable increase in the number of events and celebrations that mark its significance. In recent years, we have witnessed the growing strength of many iwi in their ability to improve opportunities for their people. I am proud to say, that Raukawa is one of these iwi.

Matariki is a tradition that reminds us of the need to prepare for the year ahead, to manage our resources through the lean times of winter, so that we are ready to make the most of the sun when it returns in spring.

This philosophy aligns with the management of our resources as we ensure that they are protected and continue to grow for future generations. We are nurturing our people, where we can, so they may fill the various roles within our iwi and be the next generation of leaders for Raukawa.

Raukawa have returned as an economic force in our lands, as Matariki has returned more broadly as a time to be acknowledged and celebrated. Raukawa continues to grow and prosper, and we do so through sound management and by remaining focused on the legacy that we leave for future generations.

Also, in this edition of Te Kakara are updates from our various business units, detailing the important work we do for our people and our community. In this edition we look at the health and wellbeing of the many staff on our team. The primary goals this year have included a strong focus on supporting our staff and their holistic wellness. The article on this in our pānui reveals some of the initiatives that have been implemented by our Staff Wellness Committee to tautoko our staff members. Our targets have included the encouragement of biking and walking to work, and involvement in the Heart Foundation annual street appeal.

The article highlights other key themes for Raukawa, simple steps, and the importance of leading by example. These admirable aims help to ensure that we are doing all we can to achieve our potential.

So I acknowledge Matariki today, whānau, and the promise of a new year. May this be a prosperous one for all our people, and may it be a time of progress and success for Raukawa.

Nā Vanessa Eparaima Chairperson **Raukawa Settlement Trust**



MATARIKI

A Closer Look

Matariki has always been important in our Maramataka – the Māori Lunar Calendar. The shimmering blue-white star cluster begins to rise in late May, and goes by the name of Pleiades in Greece, and Subaru in Japan. The cluster is celebrated worldwide, with temples dedicated to them in Europe, cities orientated to their setting in Mexico, and Matariki also has a reserved place in the Hindu zodiac. Brazilians regard the celestial group as their ancestors, while Persians used it to mark the feast of Isis. The Navajos of North America associated Matariki with their principle deity, Black God, creator of fire and light. In the Pacific, it is still celebrated where it is called Makahiki in Hawai'i, and Matari'i in Tahiti.

Matariki celebrations were popular before the arrival of Europeans to Aotearoa and they continued into the 1900s. Gradually they declined, with one of the last traditional festivals recorded in the 1940s. Today, the festivals where whānau celebrate Matariki are growing in number across the motu.

Matariki means "mata-ariki" or the "eyes of god", and refers to Tāwhirimātea who ripped out his eyes and threw them into the heavens in protest to the separation of Ranginui and Papatūānuku. To others, Matariki means "mata-riki" or "small eyes" that watch over the land and its people. There are seven stars in the cluster with at least six stars visible to the naked eye.

Keep an eye out in late May early June as Matariki rises on the northeast horizon. Matariki disappears at the end of the Māori year in which it is said to visit four places, each for seven nights, Maukahau, Tārarau-ātea, Papa-whakatangitangi and Tītore-māhu-tū.

The best time to spot Matariki is around half an hour before dawn. As a guide, try and look for Tautoru first – these are the three stars that make Orion's belt, most of us would know it as the base of the "pot" or the "big dipper". Move your eyes towards the west and you will see the inverted "V" shape of Taurus, and just sitting next to it will be Matariki.

Nā Tōmai Smith Raukawa Communications Manager

Morning Sky

Matariki - Plejades

Constellation Taurus

A

Taumata-kuku - Aldebaran
the brightest star in the constellation Taurus

Puanga - Rigel

Tautoru - Orion's Belt

East





Signing of our Comprehensive Deed of Settlement



Anniversary Celebrations



Prime Minister visits the Tokoroa Youth Hub

On the 13th April, I participated as part of a whānau team at the Karāpiro Tri Māori Sprint event. What a fantastic day!! Blue sky, hundreds of keen participants of all ages and abilities, all united under a common banner "it's about whānau!"

The excitement was palpable, from the moment we arrived right to the very end. For my wife Ellie, and niece Nicky, this was an introduction to the Māori exercise phenomenon sweeping the country – Iron Māori. It's about whānau supporting whānau – stretching, pushing, pulling and having a lot of fun on the way. And no surprise, losing weight, getting fitter and feeling better and stronger. When Heather Skipworth had the inspiration to begin Iron Māori in 2009, she might not have envisaged the extraordinary success that the event would transform into. Now, there are Iron Māori events right throughout the country - and here's the clincher, we are all winners as a result. Whether we cross the line first, second or last - it doesn't matter. The main thing is that we are doing it together as whānau, we are getting stronger and we're supporting each other. The 'means' is just as important as the 'ends'.

In the context of our organisation, Raukawa too is embarking on new beginnings as we enter our post settlement phase. Arguably, we have never been in such a good space – our infrastructure is being consolidated at the governance level, we are becoming more focussed and efficient at what we do on the ground and in the commercial arena. But just like in the tri Māori events, for us in Raukawa, whether at the governance, management, service delivery or commercial arms, we too need to stretch, push, pull and have a lot of fun along the way. In some respects the Iron Māori analogy is a good one for Raukawa – we need to muck in and do the hard yards to get to where we are going, but we also need to enjoy the journey along the way.

As mentioned in our last pānui, my time as CEO at Raukawa is nearing its completion. I will be concluding my contract in June, and at the time of writing we are in the process of recruiting a new CEO. It has been a privilege to work with and for the people of Raukawa and indeed, that has been the greatest highlight for me over the past twenty months. Other highlights for myself have included our 25th anniversary celebrations in March last year, our strong relationship with Mighty River Power and the South Waikato District Council, the signing of the Ministerial Accords in December 2012, the success of the Youth Trials in Tokoroa and of course, the signing of the Comprehensive Deed of Settlement in June of last year. And as you will see on page 12, we look to complete our settlement legislation through Parliament by the end of this year.

Matariki is a time of new beginnings and Raukawa is positioned perfectly for a bright future. May I wish you and your whanau the very best for this new Maori year. E nga uri o Raukawa, ngā mihi maioha, ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa.





New Bridge a Vital Link in Joining Communities

In this time of Matariki, it is important to reflect on past events and to plan for the future. This is particularly pertinent when remembering important occasions such as the opening of the new Atiamuri bridge.

Warm smiles and hearty laughter greeted Taupō MP and Associate Minister for Transport, Louise Upston as she arrived at the HEB work site at Atiamuri, as iwi prepared to open the new bridge. Kaumātua from three iwi, Raukawa, Tūwharetoa and Te Arawa together with the Crown, the bridge builders HEB construction Ltd and members of the Atiamuri community attended the completion of the bridge on the 16th March 2013. At the opening, Louise made the thoughtful comment that "the new bridge was vital in joining communities together".

The sun shone brightly on the occasion as up to 200 people gathered for the powhiri before bearing witness to the cutting of the ribbon that stretched across the bridge. The ribbon was cut by Louise, as well as the South Waikato District Council Mayor - Neil Sinclair, and kaumātua from the three iwi.

Following the ribbon cutting the karakia was led by Raukawa kaumātua Bill Simmonds. The crowd filed across the bridge behind the kaumātua. People talked excitedly about the economic benefits that the new bridge would bring and about how the bridge would improve road safety. Many posed for photographs along the way. Children from Upper Atiamuri School chatted excitedly. A pair of twins blithely commented that they were the first "twins in history to cross over the bridge." Huirama Te Hiko commented that "This is a great new bridge, the third that I can remember." The bridge is a three span bridge located on State Highway 1 crossing the Waikato River below the iconic Pohaturoa mountain.

Nā Nigel Te Hiko Co-Negotiator

\$100 CASH WINNER

He mihi nui rawa atu! — thank you to all those members on our tribal register who updated their personal details, and subsequently went into the draw. Our lucky winner was Roger Graham from Feilding - TAU KE! Keep your details updated whānau and continue to enjoy all of the great services and benefits of being Raukawa.

Famous Sons & Daughters

We are looking to run a series of articles about "famous sons and daughters" of Raukawa. Let's celebrate the achievements of our people and the wide range of fields that we engage in. Sports, Academics, the Arts, Business, Reo, etc - send us an e-mail today to nominate a person to participate in our project: please contact Tōmai Smith on - tomairangi.smith@raukawa.org.nz

Championing Wellness

Wellness in the Workplace & Community





We have over 91 staff members working every day to provide our Raukawa members and the wider community with a dynamic range of iwi-led initiatives to uplift and carry our whānau into the future. With this in mind, one of the primary goals this year has been a strong focus on supporting our staff and their holistic wellness. Our Staff Wellness Committee works to tautoko our staff members to "mahi the mahi" in a way that maintains and fosters their own personal wellness too. So here is a quick up date on some of the key events that we have undertaken this year to support wellness in the workplace and involvement in the community.



Bike to Work Day

Keen staff members from our Tokoroa and Putaruru offices biked to work on February 13 as we joined the national Bike to Work Day campaign. The annual one-day event encourages thousands of New Zealanders to cycle to work or school rather than going by car or bus. At lunchtime we gathered together, some in bright costume and decorated bikes, to ride around the Tokoroa township for a bit of exercise, whānaungatanga, and to promote a great cause. Warren Goodhue from South Waikato Cycles and Lawncare came down and gave a pre-safety check, and with our bikes fit for travel and helmets strapped on – we embarked on our eco-friendly waka. We work very hard at Raukawa, and at the same time we like to have a bit of fun too, so on our short *Tour de Tokoroa* we stopped off at the South Waikato District Council offices for a quick photo shoot. We have an excellent relationship with the Council and at the time we were in the process of organising a fun competition evening with them. So to encourage some friendly rivalry our CEO, Grant Berghan, literally laid down a challenge by "planking".



"The bike to work event is a great kaupapa and we're happy to support all kaupapa like this. I think it's important that we lead by example." Grant Berghan, CEO.

At the end of the bike ride we awarded the best costume prize to our resident Hana Koko – Louis Armstrong. A bicycle stand was also purchased for the workplace and there has been an increase in staff biking to work as a result. **Kia kaha te haere mā runga pahikara whānau!**



Heart Foundation Annual Street Appeal

Community spirit, community involvement, a community filled with aroha! In February we were very honoured to be given the opportunity to help the Lions collect for the Heart Foundation Annual Street Appeal. It formed an oppourtunity for staff to get out of the office and help support the community that we serve. We are happy to say that we helped to support the Lions in raising \$920 in the Tokoroa street appeal. For more information about this great cause – visit www.heartfoundation.org.nz.

Walk to Work Day

Similar to Bike to Work Day, we joined the Walk to Work Campaign with an organised hikoi at 8:30am around town, and took advantage of another photo shoot oppourtunity outside Council. The South Waikato District Council CEO, David Hall, was enticed out of his office to do some "planking" with Grant and did so with great sportsmanship. The Executive Management Team supported the kaupapa by continuing their scheduled meeting on foot. This exercise proved to be invigorating although a little tricky for the recording of minutes. All staff who participated in the walk were then treated to healthy fruit smoothies on return.

For all wellness activities we wore our green Raukawa T-shirts to let our wider community know that we like to get out there and show our support. Wellness in the workplace, wellness for our communities, these are some of the key drivers that will carry our iwi forward.

Nā Raukawa Wellness Committee

Quality Support and Care

Home Based Support Services & Māori Disability Service

Getting the right support and quality care systems in place is a critical step towards living an independent and fulfilling life for individuals with a disability. If you need personal care or home help support, then get in touch with us. We offer these services in Tokoroa, Putaruru, Tirau, Te Awamutu, Cambridge, and Matamata.

Talk more with Whakawhiti Gage, our Māori Disability Coordinator, on 07 880 9774 or leave a message on our free phone number - 0800 Raukawa. Whakawhiti advocates on behalf of Kuia and Koroua and is based at our Matamata branch office. She will liaise with Disability Support Link to organise an assessment by our nurses Anita Moke and Raewyn Tai. Disability Support Link will then provide us with a tailored care plan.

Katrina Kaponga, our Home Based Service Coordinator will provide you with the approved care plan from Disability Support Link. She will monitor the service and ensure your needs are met. Helping you with household chores and personal care can make a world of difference by eliminating small tasks that can be an everyday barrier.

If you are interested in working for us as a Support Worker for whānau with disabilities in the Te Awamutu, Cambridge, and Matamata areas, then please contact Lisa Nichol, our Human Resources officer, on our free phone number - **o8oo Raukawa** for more information about the position.

Nā Katrina Kaponga Home Based Support Coordinator, Health & Social Services





If you have ever been to the end of Douglas Road in Okauia, then no doubt, you have been to Tangata Marae. The marae stands at the foothills of the Kaimai Ranges, and was established by the descendants of Te Korowhiti Tuataka Douglas in 1930. The whare tupuna is named *Tangata* after their eponymous ancestor who, along with his brother Tokotoko, completed the conquest of the whenua from the Ngā Marama people almost 300 years ago. The whare kai is named *Pupu* after Tangata's wife. Pupu is a descendant of Wairangi, one of the original conquerors of Ngāti Kahupungapunga of the South Waikato.

Evelyn Brightwell, or affectionately known as 'Kuku', hails from Tangata and is also a trustee of the marae. Evelyn left for Sydney in 1979, and enjoyed a successful career with the New South Wales Police before returning back home in 2009. Since coming home she says that "it has been great being back in Okauia. Learning tikanga and kawa and being involved with the marae has been an awesome experience." Evelyn recounts that one of her most memorable experiences since returning home was seeing Matariki for the very first time in 2010. It was a cold bitter morning at 4am when the whānau were getting ready to depart from the marae to Omaio for a tangihanga, it was then that she and her whanau paused to gaze at the faint cluster of stars hovering above the north east horizon of the Kaimai. Standing in front of the whare kai with her whanau as they looked upon the tohu of the New Year is one memory that she holds on to vividly.

Throughout the week the marae is filled with the laughter of tamariki who attend the Kohanga Reo which was established in 1984. The Marae has stood as a bastion for the Douglas whānau for the last 83 years, but overtime, the whare is starting to show a bit of wear and

tear, nonetheless, the dedicated haukainga of Tangata relentlessly tend to their ahikā duties. Evelyn says that

"Despite this, and the notorious Kaimai gales that blow down the slopes and cause havoc with the roofing, we still push on – I'm very thankful for the support that we receive every year from Raukawa, having that extra pūtea in the kete gives us peace of mind as we continue to take care of our beloved marae."

Tangata Marae, along with 16 other Raukawa marae are supported with an annual distribution from the Raukawa Charitable Trust. Trust Chairperson, Vanessa Eparaima, says that

"Supporting our marae is one of the most meaningful ways in which we can ensure a strong and culturally vibrant whānau for the future, our marae are the focal point for our people so a key strategy by Raukawa is the annual distribution grants."

In the last two years, Raukawa has distributed over \$600,000 in marae distribution grants to our affiliate marae. Along with this, we have distributed over \$90,000 in tertiary scholarships and kaumātua medical grants.

Our marae are unique places where we as a people gather together as a whānau. We share meals, tell jokes, pass on our tikanga, wash dishes, and most importantly we find strength and sustenance. This year, may the glow of Matariki and Puanga warm the mahau of each and every marae across the whenua.

Raukawa Communications Manager

Managing our Freshwater Fisheries

Raukawa Fisheries Plan Released

Over the past 12 months the Raukawa Environment Group, along with contractor Erina Watene-Rawiri and a Raukawa Fisheries Reference Group, has been developing the Raukawa Fisheries Plan after successfully applying for funding from the Waikato River Cleanup Trust. The final draft was approved by the Raukawa Charitable Trust in late 2012.

The purpose of the Fisheries Plan is to enable Raukawa to exercise mana whakahaere and effectively participate in the management of freshwater fisheries for present and future generations. The Fisheries Plan has legal effect and will influence decision-making – it will have standing under the Fisheries Act, Conservation Act and Resource Management Act and will be used by councils, the Department of Conservation and the Ministry for Primary Industries. The plan identifies some key issues within the Raukawa takiwa, such as loss of fish habitat, impact of pest fish, loss of access and declining fish populations.

The completion of this project was celebrated with a small launch event at Pikitū Marae on 26 March 2013. The event was attended by a number of stakeholders, including the Waikato River Clean-up Trust, Waikato Regional Council, South Waikato District Council, Mighty River Power, Ministry for Primary Industries and others. Many agencies spoke on the day in support of the aspirations for the fisheries.

The Environment Group particularly acknowledge the support of the Fisheries Reference Group. Their enthusiasm, guidance and support for this mahi was invaluable.

Copies of the plan are available at www.raukawa.org.nz





Reference Group participants at the Pikitū Marae launch

Nā Jenni Fitzgerald Manager Policy and Planning, Environment Group

Zero Waste - Para Kore!

Raukawa Environment Forum

As part of the development of the Raukawa Environmental Plan, the Environment Group have invited each of the 16 marae represented by the Trust to appoint two representatives to the Raukawa Environment Forum (REF). Key purposes of the REF are to provide an opportunity for Raukawa marae to come together to discuss environmental issues and projects, promote activity and encourage sustainability at marae and hapū level and to provide input into the development of the Raukawa Environment Plan. As part of the hui organised for the forum this year, we were able to take a group of 15 Raukawa whānau to the Para Kore wānanga in Whāingaroa. Para Kore is an organisation that assists marae to work towards achieving zero waste – three Raukawa marae are currently signed up as Para Kore marae.

The purpose of the weekend-long wānanga held at Poihakena Marae in Raglan was to inspire zero waste behaviours as well as share stories and experiences between marae and whānau. The weekend was jam packed with exciting, inspiring and empowering presentations, site visits and hands-on activities including: a guided tour of Solscape eco-retreat; māra kai with Kaiwaka Riki and Lynne Lovini from Kaiwhenua organics; presentation about the principles of Kai Oranga by Kani; an educational tour of the Whāingaroa Xtreme Waste Centre; a thought provoking presentation from the Cawthron Institute; and a performance by actor and poet Antonio Maioha.



Para Kore wānanga at Whāingaroa

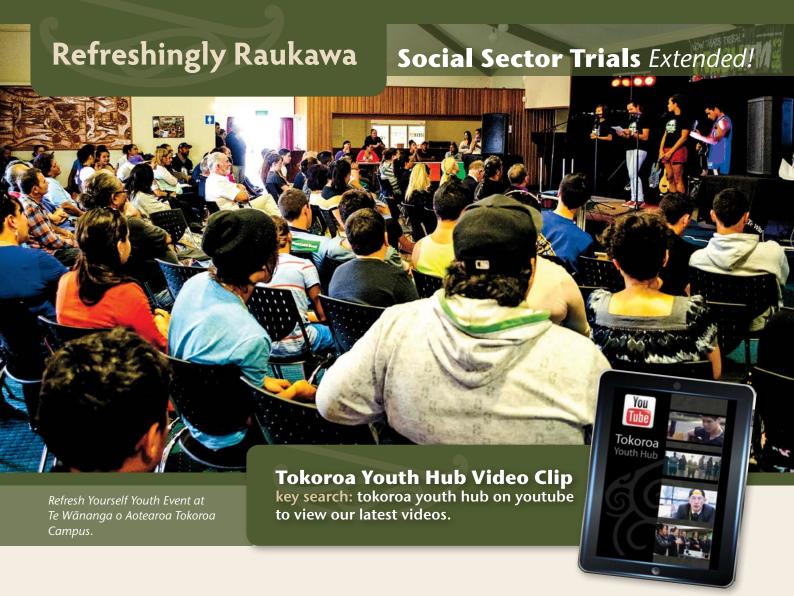
Raukawa whānau were also able to experience first-hand a range of educational activities to support achieving zero waste such as setting up and using a worm farm, bokashi and hot composting systems, carrying out a waste audit and learning about the life cycle of waste.

A fantastic weekend was had by all who attended and we are extremely grateful to the team from Para Kore for this experience. Feedback from the Raukawa whānau who attended was overwhelmingly positive and many are excited by the possibilities of working towards the goal of zero waste for their whānau, marae and for the wider iwi. Ka mau te wehi!

For more about the Para Kore programme see www.parakore.maori.nz

Nā Naomi Simmonds Advisor Policy and Planning, Environment Group





INSPIRATIONAL, FAMILY, BELONGING, AMAZING and SOLID... were just some of the words rangatahi used to describe the CLUBs Youth Mentoring Programme. CLUBs, the Broadcasting, Media and Music Technology (BMT) training course, Youth Workers-in-Schools (YWS) and the Tokoroa Youth Media and Music Hub (The Hub) are only some of the many youth initiatives that have been delivered under the Social Sector Trials. In 2012, over 5000 people used our services!

hese Trials (led by Raukawa and presently 5 other community leaders throughout Aotearoa) is a new and innovative programme that the Government is joining forces on to help improve outcomes for our youth. On the 2nd of April at the "Refresh Yourself" youth event, the Raukawa Youth Development Team and dignitaries made the official announcement that Cabinet has now agreed to extend the Trials out to the 30th of June 2014. This is largely due to the success of the Social Sector Youth Trials in Tokoroa over the last 2 years. The extended programme will now reach beyond Tokoroa and include Putaruru and Tirau within its new extended zone. This is great news in terms of a more localised, purposeful and effective service being delivered to rangatahi and whānau.

Raukawa have also been commissioned to consult with communities in these townships in order to forge the new South Waikato Youth Strategy. For submissions on this document please send comments our way: jade.hohaia@raukawa.org.nz or come along to the Tokoroa Youth Media and Music Hub (71 Ashworth Street, Tokoroa) for a korero.

P.S. "Role models, parents, youth leaders and social work placement students are also being sought to help supervise in the youth hub space- so watch out if you're coming down for a korero - you might just find yourself with a new job! Mauri ora whānau!"

> Nā Jade Hohaia South Waikato Youth Services Manager



Te Uru Raukawa e ara e!

Wānanga Tuatoru

Nā ngā manu tīoriori te whāriki wairua i raranga haere hei takahitanga mā Te Uru Raukawa nō tātou tōna 35 tāngata nei e whakaeke ana ki runga i te papa o Aotearoa marae. Karanga atu, karanga mai ka tau ai ki ngā pae. He māringanui nō matou, i te mea i reira te kaumātua a Motunau John Kopa rāua ko Paraone Gloyne hei whakatau i ngā uakoau me ngā matamata huānga ki te marae raka.

Jaitī noa atu ana tā Paraone whaikōrero i tā matou i whakaaro ai, ka mutu, kua tū hei whakatauira noa atu i te taumata mā mātou ko ngā kaikōrero o Te Uru Raukawa. Ko tā Te Uru Raukawa noa, he whakarongo, he whakamīharo ki ngā kōrero āna.

Mutu ana te pōwhiri i kotahi atu ki a Te Maungārongo kai ai.

Nā te Motunau te marae me te whare tūpuna o Hoturoa i whakakōrero. Tae rawa mai ki te mutunga o tāna whakamārama e mōhio pū nei Te Uru Raukawa he whānau kotahi tēnei. Nā, ko Paraone anō tēnā ka waha nei i a mātou ki ētehi wāhi tapu o taua takiwā o te rohe.

Ko Toka Haere te wāhi tuatahi hei kai mā-te-mata, hei kai mā-tehinengaro anō hoki. Ko te wāhi tuarua i kōrerotia nei e Paraone ko Tauranga-a-kohu, ā, i whai muri iho, ka peka atu mātou ki te Manga Tū.

Kua pau i Te Uru Raukawa tēnā wāhanga o te rohe te amio haere, te pōkai, ka hoki ai ki te marae whakatā ai.

Orua tonu te hokitanga atu ki te marae i tō Tiare taenga mai i te tangihanga i Tangata marae. Na, ko te taiākotikotihia ngā whārangi o Wiremu te mahi e whai ake.

Ko aku kaupapa hei ketuketutanga mā te tauira ko te kupu 'he', te 'ko' me ngā kupu whiti, tūmahi whiti rānei. Koia rā te mahi o te ahiahi, he tātari i ngā āhuatanga me ngā rerenga kōrero hou e whakamahia ana i ēnei āhuatanga kia whakatinana ai i tā te tauira i whakaaro ai.

He rerekē tā Tiare ropū mahi. Ko tā rātou kē ko ngā whakakāhoretanga. I te menemene mai tōna māpu i mua i te tīmatanga o te mahi, ā, nā wai i uaua kātahi ka piere nuku kē atu.



Kei te kōrero a Paraone Gloyne ki Te Uru Raukawa mō Toka Haere

Ko tōna whā hāora nei ngā rōpū e rua e whakapau kaha ana ki te koromaki, ki te ako, kia mau, kia ita i ēnei āhuatanga o te reo hei painga tonu mōna.

I te tōnga o te rā, ā, ka whai whakaaro ki te runga rawa, me kore e tau te whakaaro nui ki a mātou. Nā te Motunau tā mātou karakia i whakahaere, ā, mutu ana tērā ka kōrero ia mō tōna tupuranga i Aotearoa marae.

Kia hiamoe mai te rōpū nei tino kore rawa atu nei, engari mō te āta whakaoko, koinā mātou. Ko te kaupapa kōrero hei whakaokotanga mā mātou ko te waka tonu o Tainui. Ko te reo o Paraone i kawe nei i a mātou ki ō tuauriuri wā, arā, ki te wā i mua tonu i te whakarewaina tuatahitanga o Tainui waka. I pau i a Paraone ana korero te koreroa ka hoki ai ki te moe.

> Ka maranga mai te iwi i te pātōtōtanga o te ua ki te tuanui o Hoturoa, ā, kotahi atu ki te whare o te ora parakuihi ai. I mihia te kai i hora, ngā niho wera i whakapau werawera me te hau kāinga i manaaki pai mai, ka mutu, ka waiho nā Te Motunau mātou katoa i whaka-te-atua i mua i te hokitanga atu ki te kāinga. E horokukū rawa ana te hoki ki te kāinga. Kātahi nā te wānanga pai ko tēnā e Tai mā!

Bill Looks to be Introduced by Matariki

Raukawa Comprehensive Deed of Settlement Legislation

E kore au e ngaro, he kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea – I can never be lost, for I am a seed planted from Rangiātea.

This whakataukī is certainly apt for this pānui as we near the commencement of Matariki. Matariki is a time of cultivating the fruits of our labour and tending to the "seeds" (kākano) that will sustain us into the future. In this case, the kakano are metaphorical expressions of the Treaty settlements that Raukawa have successfully completed over the past five years. The last of these kakano being our historic Comprehensive Deed of Settlement signed in June 2012 at Aotearoa marae.

Matariki is also a time of new growth and new phases of life. For the Comprehensive Deed, this also means the beginning of the next stage of its evolution. In this respect the Treaty team have been working with the Crown towards introducing legislation into parliament that will enshrine our Deed of Settlement into law. The passage of our legislation to become law begins with the drafting of a bill. The Raukawa Treaty Team and the Office of Treaty Settlements are currently working through the drafting. The team have been working with the Kaumātua Kaunihera to complete the historical background to the bill. "This is another important phase in the Treaty process, one that will see our Deed of Settlement forever enshrined in New Zealand's law." Vanessa Eparaima, Chairperson of the Raukawa Settlement Trust.

