

TE KAKARA

Te Kakara o te Hinu Raukawa - Your Raukawa Iwi Newsletter

NGAHURU EDITION
Pānui 31 | 2016



He Korowai Aroha Leading Kaumātua Acknowledged



Waka Taua Wellness

Time Capsule Planting

Festival of Cultures

RST Chair Message

Welcome to the autumn edition of Te Kakara. It is always a pleasure to introduce each edition which covers a range of activities and developments for our iwi over the previous months.

Last month, led by our kaumātua, Raukawa joined with others from the community at Te Whetu village, 20kms east of Tokoroa, for the Tōtara Legacy Project time capsule planting. The capsule was buried beneath the Taranaki planting site and will not be opened again until 2135.

The capsule includes a taonga, photographs, documents, and messages from Raukawa and partners.

I was also asked to write a message for those who open this capsule in 120 years time. It was a powerful example to me, and I am sure for all who took part in this wonderful event, of the importance of the work we do and of laying sturdy and powerful foundations that will sustain our iwi for this and future generations.

It was a wonderful opportunity to try to comprehend the world that our people will live in, in those many years ahead, maintaining our traditions and our history and of the legacy that we all have a part to play in creating and maintaining for those yet to come.

Also included in this edition is important collaborative work being done by our Environment Group, Pūtake Taiao to protect Hangahanga Pā which is about 8kms east of Pārāwera Marae in the Waipā District.

A mining company had applied for resource consent which would have resulted in the destruction of the historical site and degradation to the Mangaohoi Stream. The stream runs beside the pā site and is acknowledged as an awa tūpuna (ancestral waterway) by Pārāwera whānau.

The collaborative steps undertaken to oppose this application is a wonderful example of manaakitanga and kotahitanga between iwi who have a shared interest in this important landmark. Over the last two years, Pūtake Taiao has been working with Ngāti Hauā, Ngāti Korokī Kahukura and Pārāwera Marae to respond to this application.

There are many more stories in this edition including the wonderful community Waitangi Day commemorations led by Kākano Whakatupu, our Treaty Group, which brought many from across the community together to acknowledge the significance of the day and to celebrate unity and working together.

Also included is a wonderful story of a taonga gifted by the Pouakani Trust following a joint farming partnership formed late last year, and the wonderful work of our team working with youth on the Waka Taua Wellness Programme.

These are just some of the wonderful achievements and activities engaged by our staff and our people since our last pānui. I encourage you to take in the range of updates and the continued progress of Raukawa in the following pages.

Nā Vanessa Eparaima
Raukawa Settlement Trust Chairperson



Acknowledgement and Appreciation



Centre: Kaumātua Hori Deane receives a korowai from the Raukawa Settlement Trust at the inaugural Raukawa Day Festival.

Leadership, guidance, dedication and passion are just a few words used to describe respected Kaumātua, Hori Deane, who for more than a quarter of a century has worked tirelessly for Raukawa.

Hori was honoured for his support and dedication to Raukawa over more than 25 years' with the presentation of a korowai at the Raukawa Day Festival held in December last year. Hori said he was surprised and humbled by the presentation.

Born on the 4th April 1929, Hori hails from Ngātira Marae (hapū Ngāti Ahuru) and is the son of the late Charles Frances Deane and Te Miri Terore.

The eldest of 9 siblings, Hori has for many years been a leading voice in ensuring Raukawa moved away from being represented by the then Tainui Māori Trust Board to speak on matters and those things important for Raukawa.

Hori has continued as a leading advocate for Raukawa and a powerful voice for the iwi. He continues as an advisor for the various business groups of the Raukawa Charitable Trust, and the Raukawa Settlement Trust (RST). He continues to work especially close with the environment and treaty groups. He was a key advisor and supporter of the Raukawa Treaty negotiations.

RST Chairperson, Vanessa Eparaima, said she was eternally grateful for the support and sage advice provided by Hori when his knowledge and wisdom is sought.

"It was wonderful to be able to acknowledge all the work Hori does and continues to do, through the gifting of a korowai at the Raukawa Day Festival. It was also timely to have the Minister of Treaty Negotiations, Chris Finlayson, and Minister Louise Upston, on hand and to take part in the ceremony to acknowledge the mana of Hori."

Vanessa said it was a fitting tribute to a man who continued to work tirelessly to support the interests of the people and who helped ensure that the knowledge of our Raukawa tūpuna continued to guide decision making of the iwi.



Stowing History for Future Generations

March 15 2016 is a date frozen in time for future Raukawa generations to come. Buried beneath the surface at the Taranaki planting site near the historic Te Whetu village, around 20kms east of Tokoroa, rests a time capsule protected inside a pou whenua installed at the site. The capsule will not be opened again until 2135.

Chairperson of the Kaunihera Kaumātua, Hori Deane, led the karakia for the Tōtara Legacy Project time capsule planting as a large group gathered to mark the occasion. Following the karakia, an emotive message was read out by Kuia Ruthana Begbie on behalf of Hori Deane, a message to those who will unearth it in 120 years time.

“We implant this time capsule to emulate our spiritual guardian’s actions and leave you our kura tangata, to retrieve it when the time is right and to use what knowledge we impart as a stepping stone into your world beyond the horizon. Know that we are with you always, and you need only to ask for our help and guidance as we have done to those gone before us.”

The watertight capsule includes a taonga, photographs, documents, and messages from Raukawa and partners.

RST Chairperson Vanessa Eparaima reflected on the past and future in her reading saying *“My hope is that Raukawa, our people, have continued to progress and prosper in this new world. That our marae continues to be a vibrant part of our culture, that our love and appreciation for kaumātua is a guiding principle, and that we are truly equal partners throughout your world, supported, as our generation has been, by the wisdom and knowledge of your ancestors.”*

Pūtake Taiao Group Manager, Grant Kettle, commented on the successful day which allows both the past, present and future to connect, future generations will be able to culturally harvest these stands of tōtara because of the collaborative effort we have undertaken.

The project was developed and managed by Pūtake Taiao (RCT Environment Group) in partnership with Hancock Forest Management. The time capsule will protect this information for future generations to retrieve when harvesting the timber in 120 years time.



New Headquarter Construction Underway

Construction began in early February on a major project that will see the centrally located Grayburn House on Leith Place, Tokoroa, transformed into the new headquarters for the Raukawa Settlement Trust and Raukawa Charitable Trust.

Raukawa is working closely with building and design experts, HiTech Commercial Interiors, who have more than 25 years' experience in high-end commercial fit-outs and refurbishments.

Lengthy and meticulous planning has been undertaken to ensure that the new headquarters will be fit for purpose, not only as a workplace that nurtures and supports our more than 60 staff, but also a place that connects with our people, our iwi identity and the wider community. The building and its central location is designed to welcome iwi members and the community to engage with Raukawa at all levels.

The new premises will incorporate the essence of Raukawa into its design and layout with the southern elevation and entrance being lined with Raukawa trees.

The waka – Te Timatatanga - will be on public display in a specially designed whare waka on the first floor which is surrounded by glass walls on three sides to ensure an open-air view.

The premises will also feature a large community space for pōwhiri and other community hui, a taonga room to hold and showcase our treasures and artefacts, and a library/research facility that focuses on Raukawa literature, minute books, records and publications for iwi members and the wider public who are wanting to learn more about our iwi.

The second floor will feature large open plan workstations and the addition of multiple consultation and meeting rooms that allow our staff the space and flexibility to undertake their important mahi on behalf of the iwi.

Raukawa specific kōrero and traditional designs will be incorporated through artwork, timber and modern fittings into both the exterior and interior design. With months of work ahead for our builders we expect the project to reach completion in August.

Visit www.raukawa.org.nz



LATEST NEWS & STORIES

- ✓ Tribal Registration
- ✓ Education Grant Applications
- ✓ Kuia Koroua Wellbeing Grant Applications
- ✓ Learn more about our organisation

Raukawa Students Reach for New Heights

Raukawa Charitable Trust in collaboration with the Waikato – Tainui College for Research and Development and the University of Waikato are proud to support two uri of Raukawa, University students, Anaru Begbie (Pikitū Marae) and Clifton Kelly (Ruapeka and Tāpapa Marae) to complete a Masters of Social Science (MSocsc) degree at the University of Waikato.

Anaru will be focusing his research on cultural priorities for Raukawa in the Upper Waikato and Waipā River catchments. This research will support the Waikato and Waipā Rivers Restoration Strategy which is under development. The focus of this strategy is to provide a framework of prioritisation for organisations including, hapū and marae, involved in Waikato and Waipā River catchment restoration activities. The strategy will help guide the Waikato River Authority funding for the next 5 -15 years.

“I am greatly honoured to be part of the Waikato River Restorations and Masters Scholarship programme. To be a representative for Raukawa is a privilege I do not take lightly. The programme has presented me with an opportunity to learn about mātauranga Māori, te tikanga o ngā tūpuna, me te awa o Waikato, and in doing so, learn more about myself. It is my hope that my research will be of benefit to ngā iwi o te awa, and that we may hold fast to our tikanga to ensure that future generations have a firm understanding of the importance of our awa”.

Clifton will be aligning his research with the Raukawa Water Strategy development which is a priority project for Pūtake Taiao and supports the Raukawa Charitable Trust (RCT) priorities in relation to robust policy frameworks.

His ultimate goal is to work with like-minded individuals that value kaupapa Māori perspectives in relation to our land, forests and waterways to protect and sustain our natural resources for generations to come.



“I have a deep respect for our culture and our natural surroundings. Currently our awa tūpuna are subject to injustices caused by misuse and mismanagement. I feel very privileged and humbled to be part of a team that will address these injustices and work towards restoring, protecting and sustaining our rivers and taonga for generations to come.”

It is important that Raukawa uri take these opportunities to further their education in the environmental research field. It is a positive step in growing our kaitiakitanga role, and participating in the development of strategies that will be the building blocks of the way resources are managed within the Raukawa takiwā. Both students feel very honoured to be able to do this mahi on behalf of their iwi and they look forward to contributing further when their studies are completed in 2018.

Raukawa Hui Explores Healthy Rivers

On 24 February 2016 Raukawa held the second of an ongoing series of hui to inform and engage with uri on the Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora project. Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora is a collaborative project to develop a change to the Waikato Regional Plan to give effect to The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River/Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato by restoring and protecting the health of the Waikato and Waipā rivers. The goal is to have the rivers safe for kai gathering and swimming, along their entire length, by 2096. Waikato and Waipā River iwi (Waikato-Tainui, Maniapoto, Raukawa, Te Arawa River Iwi Trust, and Tūwharetoa) and Waikato Regional Council are partners in the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project.

Raukawa are actively engaged in the project. RCT Deputy Chair Kataraina Hodges (QSM) is co-chair of the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee. Pūtake Taiao Group Manager, Grant Kettle, is part of the project management team Te Rōpū Hautū. The project is approaching an important phase with a proposed plan change to control discharges of nitrogen, phosphorous, sediment and e.coli to the rivers due to be recommended to river iwi and the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee in May 2016.

The hui was an opportunity for kaumātua, marae representatives, trustees, land trusts and uri to be informed of the project's progress and provide their feedback. Kataraina, Grant and Tokoroa dairy farmer George Moss, who is a member of the collaborative stakeholder working group which is developing the plan change, all spoke at the meeting and

answered questions from uri. A lot of discussion was generated by George's presentation which focused on the ideas the collaborative stakeholder working group has developed for inclusion in the plan change. These include:

- excluding stock from waterways;
- resource consents for certain types of land use change and intensification;
- property plans for intensive land users who are part of a certified industry scheme;
- resource consents and property plans for intensive land users in low risk areas who cannot meet certain conditions, such as good management practice, and for intensive land users in high risk areas, where there is a large gap between current and desired water quality.

“We had some good kōrero”, says Kataraina, “and the meeting was a reminder that the plan change will apply to everyone. We all have a part to play in the restoration of the rivers and I encourage uri, kaumātua, lands trust and incorporations to attend our next hui which is due to be held in May.”

More information and updates on the project can be found on the Waikato Regional Council website: <http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyrivers/>

Grant Kettle
Group Manager Pūtake Taiao

Joint Effort to Protect Hangahanga Pā

Our Environment Group, Pūtake Taiao, has been working collaboratively with the whānau of Pārāwera Marae and neighbouring iwi in a joint effort to protect a site of cultural significance within the Raukawa takiwā.

Raukawa is a large iwi that covers a significant district rich in cultural heritage. The vast land, water and skylines of Raukawa are home to many sites of cultural, historical, spiritual and archaeological importance. These sites range from natural features and wāhi tapu to pā sites and papakāinga. Hangahanga Pā is one of these sites and has strong cultural associations to Pārāwera Marae, Ngāti Hauā, Ngāti Korokī Kahukura and other iwi.

Hangahanga Pā, located approximately 8km due east of Pārāwera Marae in the Waipā District, is currently subject to a private application for resource consent which would have resulted in the destruction of the historical site and degradation of the Mangaohoi Stream. The stream which runs next to the pā site is acknowledged as an awa tūpuna (ancestral waterway) by Pārāwera whānau.

Pūtake Taiao has been working as part of the Mana Whenua Collective (Ngāti Hauā, Ngāti Korokī Kahukura, Pārāwera Marae) to oppose the resource consent. The three iwi have stood together and worked collaboratively on this matter given their shared associations for the last two years. The matter was considered by the Waikato Regional Council Hearings Commissioners and a decision to deny the application to mine was released in early April.

Protecting and preserving New Zealand's cultural heritage is, to say the least, a complicated and multifaceted issue. Pūtake



Taiao is tasked with resource management and environmental matters for the Raukawa Charitable Trust (RCT) and undertakes a wide range of work that aims to protect and enhance our natural environment for current and future generations.

Grant Kettle, Pūtake Taiao Group Manager, says that:

“the team here at the RCT works hard to support our marae across a range of environmental matters and looks forward to continuing to work with other iwi and partners to protect shared sites of cultural significance.”

Taonga Symbolises Partnership and Growth

Raukawa kaumātua, leaders and uri members were on hand in January to acknowledge the gifting of a taonga - Te Rau Kawakawa – by the Pouakani Trust to acknowledge the essence of a new partnership between Pouakani and Raukawa.

On the 22 January, Raukawa came together with the Pouakani Trust at Te Rangiita Marae, Taupō, to mark the formation of a major farming partnership.

The partnership relates to the purchase by Raukawa from the Pouakani Trust of a 47.5 per cent stake in the 2,500ha Ranginui Station, located in the Otorohanga District - 15kms west of Mangakino. Raukawa Chairperson Vanessa Eparaima said the purchase was a major development for Raukawa, returning it as a significant landowner within its tribal boundaries.

“Raukawa are grateful to be able to work alongside strong Māori partners who share our commitment to sustainability and best practise.”

The purchase undertaken by Raukawa Iwi Development Limited, the commercial company of Raukawa, saw the company partner with the Pouakani Trust and Pūtake Limited a joint venture of Te Tumu Paeroa and Lake Taupō Forest Trust’s Taupō Moana Group.

The joint venture has resulted in the formation of a five-member board made up of two directors appointed by each entity and the appointment of an independent chairperson.

The symbolic taonga depicts the humble Raukawa leaf and reflects the values of kotahitanga, aroha, kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga. These important principles are upheld by both Raukawa and the Pouakani Trust in their new partnership. The mataī rākau (timber) from which the taonga was crafted has ancient origins and was salvaged from the Waipohutu forest which is cared for by the Pouakani Trust.



The sculptured piece was designed by craftsman and artist Delani Brown who hails from Raukawa, Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Whātua and Ngāti Tūwharetoa.

Delani provided a kōrero about the taonga, saying that *“our tikanga helps us uphold our Kawa, when we uphold these principles we become our truest selves, so it is most important that we hold on to the essence of Raukawa, for it is a symbol that guides us inwards, for inwards and together is where our kawa resides and grows.”*

**Get your FREE
subscription to
Te Kakara!**

Enjoy the latest news from Raukawa with your quarterly subscription of Te Kakara. If you are a registered iwi member to the Raukawa Settlement Trust, you are eligible to receive a free copy delivered to your New Zealand address. Call **0800 RAUKAWA** or e-mail us at info@rauakawa.org.nz



Kua puta te ihu hei Ika-a-Whiro

Tērā tētehi o te Rau Ahurea i whai wāhi atu ki te whakapōtaetanga o te Panekiretanga o Te Reo Māori i te māwharu o Poutū-te-rangi. Tē ai au ko te moe i te ahiahi, ka whakaara i te moe kia whitirere ngā Tore-kai-huruhuru ki runga rā, ā, ka kotahi atu te haere i te whare makatea o Rangiaowhia, i Raroera ki te pareparenga o te awa o Waikato.

Kerekere tonu ana te āhuetanga o te atapō ka tae ki te awa. Ko te ihi, ko te wehi tērā ka rangona puta noa i te rourou iti ā-haere i tere pīpī whākao ki Pukete, ki te wāhi e taki haere ai ngā karakia.

Noho puku ana te Rangapū nō rātou e rārangi mai ana i te tarawāhi awa. Ka whakatakohe haere ki te wai kia hīwawā ai te wai mitimiti ki ō rātou whatianga raparapa. Nā wai rā ka kōmanawa ake he rau maharatanga mō te mahi i tutuki i a rātou i te tau ka hori.

Tū ana ngā tohunga ki te whakahaere i te wāhi i whakaritea ki a rātou. Kātahi ka takutaku i ā ratou nei karakia marutuna, i mene te tūmāngai, i mene te wero taniwha, i mene te whakapuru, i mene te paraparau.

Katoa katoa ērā e whakarite ana i ngā Tore Kai Huruwhuru o te Rangapū Tuangahuru mā Tahī kia puta ki te whaiāo ki te ao mārama hei Ika-a-Whiro, hei toa reo Māori.

Mutu kau ana ngā karakia i te atapō, ka ao, ka awatea. Waihoki i wetekina katoatia ngā here o te Tore kai Huruwhurutanga. I matamata rongō ai rātou ki ā rātou anō, ki ngā tohunga, ka tangi, ā, ka tau te mauri.

Hāunga te karakia, ko te reo rāhiri me te whakatau i te Rangapū Tuangahuru mā Rua te mahi e toe tonu ana.

Maru ana te papa o Raroera i te hākerekere ka tae atu ki tēnei tāhuna-ā-tara. I haere mai a Manuwhiri i ngā tōpito katoa o te ao. I tae atu ngā matamata huānga i Hawaiki rā anō ki te kite i te āhuetanga o tēnei wānanga e kīia nei ko Te Panekiretanga o Te Reo Māori. He mōhio nō rātou me uaua ka kitea, me uaua ka rangona ēnei momo nekenekehanga i wānanga kē atu.

Tokowhā ngā reo karanga o Te Rangapū Tuangahuru mā Tahī i kōwhiria hei kākā haetara. He rōreka,



he wainene te reo o ēnei puru rourou i tuku maioha ki ngā manuwhiri ka tau atu. Tokotoru ngā whītiki o te kī i tohua hei pā whakawairua kia whakaaio ai te umu pokapoka a Tū. Mō te whakatauiria i te kounga o te reo, kāore he painga i te tokowhita rā. Wahine mai, tāne mai ko tā rātou he whakakōrero i ngā tauria i whakatauiratia ai e te Tokotoru a Paewhiti me ā rātou apataki.

Ko Tangiwai Tepana tētehi o roto mai i ngā wahine tokowhā kua kōerotia ake nei. He māringanui nō māua ko tōku hoa taraongaonga i te tari Rau Ahurea ka hoki mai tēnei wahine marae me ōna pūkenga hōu ki waenga i a māua.

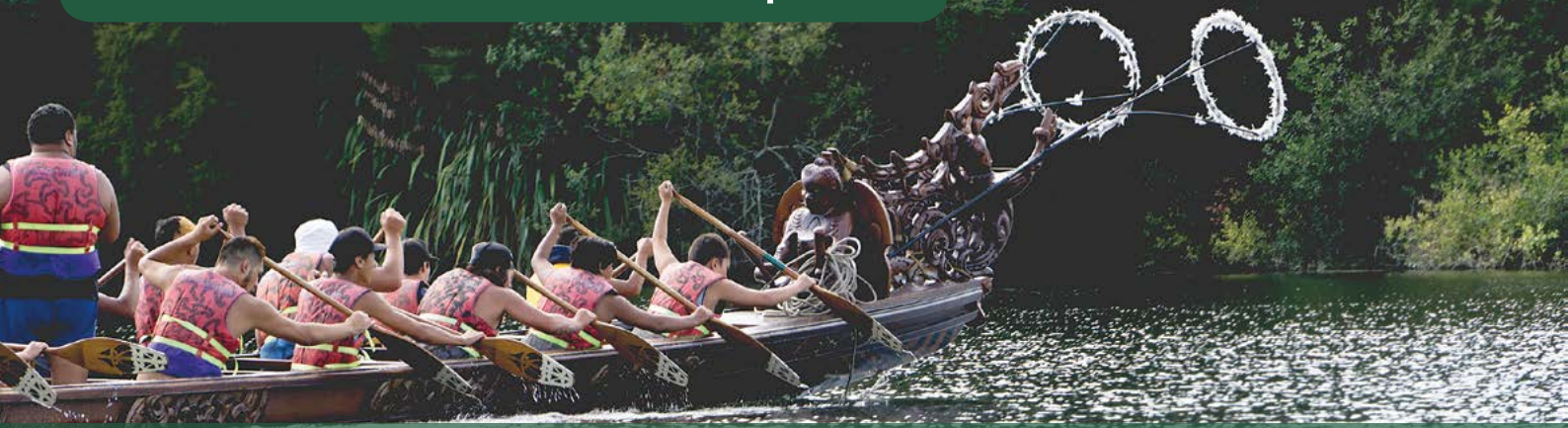
Heoi, tokowhā o roto mai i ngā Ika-a-Whiro hōu e irihia ana ki te poti o te ngutu i tēnei wā ka whai pānga ki a Raukawa. Tūrangahakoa ana te ngākau i te kōrero i puta te ihu o Tangiwai rātou ko Ngāhuia Kopa, ko Rangī Te Whiu, ko Te Aturangi Stewart. He kaihaka rātou o te rōpū Mōtai Tangata Rau, he kanohi kitea i ō tātou marae me ngā kaupapa huhua o te Iwi. Nau mai e ngā Ika-a-Whiro.

Nā Louis Armstrong
Cultural Project Co-ordinator



Tīwai Hauora

Raukawa Health & Social Development



Participants of the Waka Taua Wellness Programme out on the Waikato River.

Humble Beginnings

The origins of the Waka Taua programme are directly linked to Ngā Waka Taua o Tūrangawaewae, Te Rangatahi, Tūmanako and Taheretikitiki. While attending regatta training at Tūrangawaewae Marae a whānau member immediately noticed the impact the awa, tūpuna waka and a specific kaupapa was having on the people involved - especially the tāne Māori. She noted their positive kōrero, the whanaungatanga, participation and focus and from this point the concept of utilising waka as a vehicle for positive change and well-being began to emerge.

Raukawa Trust Board (RTB) and Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA)

The following year the Waka Taua kaupapa was revealed to the RTB at a time when the organisation was positioning itself as an innovative provider with programmes designed for the people, by the people. On a national health level Māori and drink driving was at the fore and so a waka seemed an appropriate vessel to carry this kaupapa. This programme would initially be funded by LTSA and the Waikato Rural Drink Drive Project, however, the capacity to extend this programme to its potential was imminent and always a focal point for the staff involved. Since then the majority of our funding has come from the Health Funding Authority (HFA) and currently the Waikato District Health Board (WDHB), briefly we also received funding from the Department of Justice and Corrections for mahi carried out in several prisons around the country.

RTB and Project Management Group (PMG)

Much research and kōrero was gleaned prior to the building of the waka and many kaumātua and whānau were involved at different stages during the development and growth of the programme, some within Raukawa and others from afar. Wally Papa was Chairperson of the RTB and he and the Trustees were very supportive of the kaupapa. The initial PMG which was responsible for the management of the kaupapa comprised of Koro Hori Deane as Kaumātua and Chairman of the Kauneihera Kaumātua, Basil Pakaru as Raukawa Health Manager, Tina Winikerei was the Raukawa Service Delivery Manager, Mana and Haami Winikerei and other kaumātua.

The People

Further acknowledgements must go to Ora Muru for his tiaki and senior members of the Rangatahi Waka who prior to the waka being built participated in hui and discussed the kaupapa, type of waka, concerns, tikanga and safety. To Paraire Huata for his clinical oversight and to Shane Graham for his relentless supervision during the building of the waka and its eventual launch in the South Island. Spooks (Taupiri Matehuria) and Jake Puke for their enduring karakia, Koro Haki Thompson was involved in the initial kōrero with Koro Hori Deane around the naming of the waka, Uncle Hoko (Te Oko Horoi Winikerei) and Uncle Potae (Albert Heke) attended many Waka Taua noho and wānanga, Harry and Te Aroha Haika and Te Aroha's dad (Te Paki o Hewa Martin) who took us to Tūwharetoa for our maiden voyage Sonny Winikerei for his support and awahi, Andrew Paul and the many of the RTB staff and whānau that supported the programme over the years, especially Faith, Tina and Lorita Winikerei. Initial HFA portfolio holders were Tania Hodges, John Royal, Donna Lewin and eventually Karina Elkington from WDHB who has been totally supportive of the ongoing funding of this programme.





Te Timatatanga – (New Beginnings and Journeys)

John Dobbe from Tasman Bay Motueka was commissioned to build the waka - Te Timatatanga. It is purpose built for easy accessibility and towing. It is approximately 45 feet long and 6 feet wide; we can seat a crew of 22 including the Kaea (Captain) and Kaihautu (Steerer). The Hull of the waka is constructed from laminated kahikatea and is finely coated in fiberglass for easy maintenance and durability. The Rauawa is mahogany and the whakairo are unused tōtara from Papa o Te Aroha Marae. This was John’s second waka and he would eventually go on to build a small fleet for Te Wānanga o Aotearoa of similar construction.

Kereti Rautangata from Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Te Awamutu, is responsible for all the carvings; Mana Winikerei presented the kaupapa to Kereti and his team and their interpretation is depicted on the waka. The whakairo represent particular aspects of oranga, tapu and noa. The three figures in the taurapa of the tāne embracing his wahine and their pēpi are often likened to baby Raukawa and his parents. The tauihu represents new beginnings and readiness for the future.

Launch at Ongaroto Marae

The official launch of Te Timatatanga in 1998 began with an unusual midnight pōwhiri at Ongaroto Marae due to a road accident which caused delays for several hours whilst the waka was en-route to Tokoroa. The following morning the waka was launched on the Waikato River starting at the Ongaroto Quarry and ending just south of the Tram Road Bridge and was followed by a hākari at the marae.

WAKA TAUA TIMELINE

- 1997 – 1998** RTB vested an interest in the Waka Taua kaupapa
- 1998** Mana and Haami assess potential waka at Te Porea Trust, Rotorua
- 1998** Waka Taua Drink Drive Programme presented at ALAC Conference in Nelson
- 1998** John Dobbe commissioned to build the waka
- 1998** Waka construction completed and comes home
- 1998** Completed eight hour maiden voyage across Lake Taupō
- 1998** Waka officially launched at Ongaroto Marae
- 1999** Completed full journey of the Waikato River from Tokaanu to Port Waikato
- 2000** Waka Taua kaupapa presented to Te Arikiniui Te Atairangikaahu at the Ngātira Poukai
- 2000** Waka Taua kaupapa presented at Hui Whakawhanaungatanga Lincoln University, Christchurch
- 2000** Waka Taua Programme Evaluation completed and presented at Tangata Marae
- 2000 – 2016** Service Delivery

Nā Mana Winikerei

Waka Taua Facilitator





Festival Celebrates Cultural Diversity

E ngā mana, e ngā waka, e ngā reo, e ngā rau rangatira ma o te iwi Raukawa. Nau mai haere mai whakatau mai rā.

On the week of the 6th February 2016, the Raukawa Charitable Trust, together with the Youth Leaders Advisory Board, the South Waikato District Council (SWDC) and the South Waikato Pacific Island Community Services (SWPICS) led a weeklong festival celebrating the signing of te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi. Of the collaboration, Vanessa Eparaima, Raukawa Settlement Trust Chairperson said *“It is good to see Raukawa and the wider Tokoroa community working together in a common goal and a common purpose as envisioned by the Treaty”*.

Kākano Whakatupu Group Manager, Nigel Te Hiko states that in organising the activities for the occasion, the organising group was inspired by the saying of King Pōtatau, who said

“Kotahi te kōwhao o te ngira e kuhuna ai te miro mā, te miro pango me te miro whero.”

“There is but one eye of the needle through which the white thread, the black thread and the red thread traverse.”

This saying, Pōtatau gave at the birth of the Kīngitanga. In this regard the saying speaks of strength and beauty through both unity and diversity, by alluding to the beauty and the strength of the woven tukutuku. Individual threads are weak, but the process of weaving makes a strong fabric. Individual colours tell no story, but woven together they become beautiful and tell a far richer narrative.

The weeklong celebration was the first time that the Tokoroa community had come together to celebrate this important kaupapa that recognises and rejoices in the cultural diversity of the community.

The festival was opened with a dawn karakia held on Colsons Hill, Tokoroa, followed by a breakfast at the South Waikato Sports & Events Centre. The occasion was attended by the SWDC, Mayor Neil Sinclair, Deputy Mayor Jenny Shattock and Chief Executive Craig Hobbs, SWPICS Chief Executive Akerere Henry, and Rev Timoti. Kaumātua and whānau members were also present.

Other events were held throughout the week including a workshop on the pōwhiri and a Raukawa history workshop. Later in the week two further events were held. The first, a Community Leaders Forum, discussing the importance of cultural diversity within a wide range of organisations and a Youth Forum with Ray Bishop and the iDream project.

The activities concluded on the 13th February with a very successful open air concert and festival celebrating the diverse cultures within Tokoroa. The concert included cultural performances, youth band, Summit Three, the crew of the very successful local production of Heart Beats, local group Jam Doctors and local musician Carmel Zammit.

The children partook in a variety of fun events including a bouncy castle, waterslide and a 3D Maze. They also enjoyed the rough and tumble of the Bubble Soccer and delighted in the smoothie cycles. Over 1000 people attended the festival.

Nā Nigel Te Hiko

Kākano Whakatupu Group Manager & Co-Negotiator

