

Your Raukawa Iwi Newsletter

Issue 53

# Te Kakara

Tatauranga Aotearoa  
Kawenata

Whiria Ngā Hua

Kaumātua Reconnecting  
Through Kai



Raukawa Ki Pōneke  
Ministerial Forum



# RST Chair Message

*Welcome to the spring edition of Te Kakara, our pānui that aims to update our whānau on key mahi and achievements that have occurred since our last edition.*

It has been a busy past few months for our iwi as we navigated the cooler wetter months of winter to support the aspirations of our Raukawa people and to provide support to those most in need in our communities.

I want to start by acknowledging the promotion of our former Tumu Whakarae, Maria Te Kanawa, to Tāhuhu Rangapū, Raukawa Chief Executive. Maria has been a key member of our team for more than 14 years working in senior leadership roles – including finance manager and corporate services group manager – for our iwi.

It is a pleasure to be able to promote someone with the wealth of experience and knowledge of the Raukawa Charitable Trust and Raukawa Settlement Trust (RST) to the role. The process to re-activate the role of chief executive for the group began following the resignation of executive chairperson Vanessa Eparaima in July 2021.

When I was elected chairperson, it was agreed that we would return to a conventional chairperson position separating out executive or management functions so I could focus on strategy, leading the board and monitoring the performance of our various business units.

In August, Maria joined me in her new role along with key members of our team for a signing of a relationship agreement between Tatauranga Aotearoa – Stats NZ and Raukawa. The signing marks many months of

mahi between our organisations to develop our working relationship to allow us to access relevant data to support more informed decision making for our people and iwi. I want to thank all on our team who have helped advance this worthy kaupapa.

As I touched on in my last report, in July a delegation including kaumātua, kaimahi and advisors travelled to Wellington to meet with the Crown for our annual Ministerial Forum. This was a productive hui which was well prepared and supported by our kaimahi. We discussed and progressed several kaupapa and we updated the Crown on progress made to date.

I want to thank Maria and our advisors for the mahi put in to ensure Raukawa presented with knowledge and mana throughout the forum.

There are a range of stories covered off in this edition of your pānui, including a journey taken by Ōngāroto Marae whānau members, called the Hūkere Project. The project aims to empower and enlighten around ancestral practices, tikanga marae, cultural narratives, and whakapapa.

Please take some time to read through this edition whānau and take in the many inspiring and worthy kaupapa being undertaken by whānau and kaimahi of our iwi.

**Nā Kataraina Hodge**

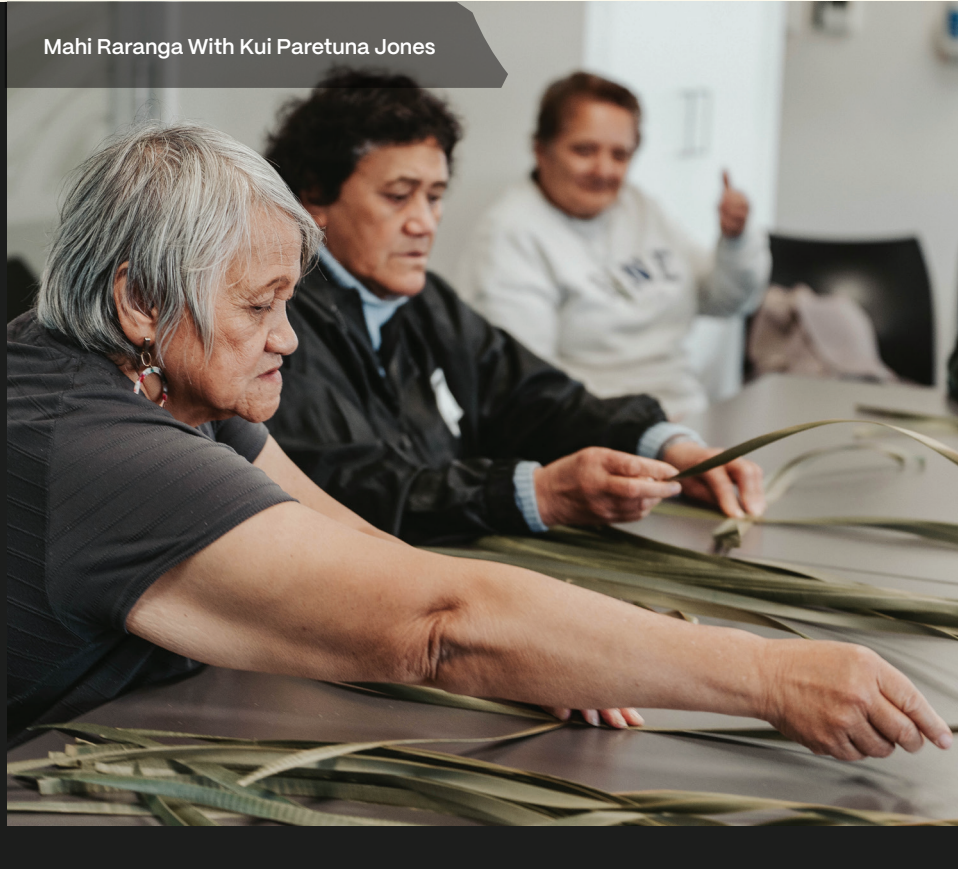
*Raukawa Settlement Trust Chairperson*

# Whakareia

Ministerial Forum 2023



Mahi Raranga With Kui Paretuna Jones



Raukawa Kaimahi Anaru Begbie and South Waikato District Mayor Gary Petley



Julie Barnett, Kai Ora Participant



# Kawenata with Tatauranga Aotearoa

*August 18 marked another milestone as we embarked on a partnership with Stats NZ.*



Tatauranga Aotearoa intends to establish an enduring, Tiriti-derived relationship with our iwi via a partnership with Raukawa.

*"We are endeavouring to meet our responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi by working with iwi to support their data aspirations. Today, we celebrate our commitment to Raukawa by partnering with them to build an understanding of their data needs."* said Government Statistician, Mark Sowden on the day of the signing.

This relationship aims to create the foundation for the priorities of Raukawa being realised, including our vision – Raukawa kia mau, kia ora – through the support and development of iwi data capability.

Sowden also said *"At Stats NZ we recognise the unique relationship Raukawa has with the government, including Tatauranga Aotearoa. We aim to demonstrate our commitment to Tiriti-centric outcomes as a core business mechanism supporting the delivery of data success for Māori, iwi and hapū."*

Our chairperson Kataraina Hodge said information was crucial to making key decisions to support the health and well-being of whānau. She stated, *"We are very pleased to continue to grow the relationship, and the access to data, that can inform decision-making to support our people."*

*"I want to thank Tatauranga Aotearoa for demonstrating a clear commitment to partnership with Raukawa."*

Maria Te Kanawa, Tāhuhu Rangapū, said the signing marked good progress between the two organisations and demonstrated the foundations of a solid partnership.

She stated that *"We have continued to make strong progress in the relationship between Raukawa and*



Luís Carrasqueiro, Minister Willow-Jean Prime, Kataraina Hodge, Maria Te Kanawa



Raukawa, Stats NZ and the ministers office celebrating the signing of a kawenata.

*Tatauranga Aotearoa. It is a relationship focused on working together to advance the essential mahi we both do to support our communities."*

Raukawa provides a range of support and services across our takiwā, and communities within, and this mahi is enriched by information which allows us to target specifically where it is most needed.

# Whiria Ngā Hua Ki Ōngāroto

*In a profound display of unity and commitment to their ahurea, Ōngāroto Marae began an inspiring journey. The initiative, otherwise known as the Hūkere Project, funded by Whiria Ngā Hua, a Whānau Ora-driven approach to capacity building, has become a beacon of cultural revitalisation and connectivity within Ngāti Whāita.*



The project's core focus was to empower and enlighten participants about their ancestral practices, tikanga marae, cultural narratives, and whakapapa. This endeavour had an overarching goal: to foster a profound sense of connection among the participants while equipping them with a deeper understanding of their heritage.

The inaugural wānanga, a pivotal event for the project, drew together whānau from diverse generations. Over the course of a weekend, attendees were immersed in an enriching environment that encouraged collaborative learning. This wānanga offered an empowering and inspiring approach that allowed participants to be active contributors to their own cultural knowledge.

Debbie Thompson, an uri and participant stated that *"This wānanga provided us with a unique space to learn and grow together. It was amazing to see different generations share their talents, skills, and knowledge, creating a space for collective growth in our whānau."*

Event organiser and Whiria Ngā Hua applicant Mal McKenzie said that *"This wasn't just a learning experience; it was the beginning of a journey of self-discovery and whānau connection. Our stories converged and our connections reaffirmed."*

Yet the Hukere Project is not a singular, isolated kaupapa. It flourishes within a broader context cultivated by the nurture of Whānau Ora and the Whiria Ngā Hua fund. This funding has allowed Raukawa stories to find new avenues to flourish and be shared. It is a testament to the dedication towards capacity building and working to create a thriving iwi.

Our aspirations extend beyond individual projects – they envision a tapestry of thriving initiatives woven into the korowai of our iwi identity. The Hūkere Project is a single miro threading together with many other kaupapa funded by Whiria Ngā Hua that will help our people forge a pathway for themselves, our community and our uri whakatupu.



# 2023 Ministerial Forum in Wellington

*On June 20, we travelled to Wellington for our annual Ministerial Forum. The forum is an important event where we discuss relevant kaupapa and concerns with the Crown and government officials, as we continue to champion our 2030 vision Raukawa Kia Mau Kia Ora – A Thriving Raukawa Iwi.*

A small rōpū of Raukawa kaimahi, kaumātua, trustees and advisors, supporting our chairperson, met with a rōpū of Ministers and government officials. Unfortunately, the Prime Minister was unable to attend, but it was still an important opportunity to share our successes over the last year and solidify the growth of our relationship with the Crown.

We showcased some of the mahi that we have been carrying out with our whānau, wider community and across our takiwā, and to acknowledge shared understandings and strengthen our partnerships between Raukawa and the Crown.

It was also an opportunity to re-affirm our shared commitment to upholding the mana and integrity of our Treaty settlements and to remind the Crown of their responsibilities and commitments to our iwi.

Last year in 2022, we hosted the Ministerial Forum where we presented our data-driven approach to enhancing Raukawa wellbeing. This year, we provided an update on the project, as well as the introduction of our new kaupapa 'Enhancing Raukawa Climate Resilience – Our Marae-Centric Approach.

This ambitious proposal will not only benefit our uri and taiao, but it will also support and further the Crown's response to climate change, and work to build climate resilience. It will benefit all people, resources and the environment in our takiwā and further build on the data-driven project arising from the 2022 Ministerial Forum.

Presentations and kōrero were led by our chairperson Kataraina Hodge, and our Tāhuhu Rangapū Maria Te Kanawa, alongside members of our senior leadership team. In addition to our climate resilience kaupapa, presentations focused on current environmental legislative reforms, the Raukawa, Waikato-Tainui, Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Ngā Iwi) Ministry of Education Kawenata with the Crown, and strategic partnering across health and social services.



The forum was an important opportunity for Raukawa and the Crown to come together. It was beneficial for everyone sharing the year's progress, to re-affirm commitments, set expectations, and continue to build relationships with the Crown.

For us, it's about bringing real benefits to our people and community. We were able to share our kōrero, stories of success and hardship and deliver key messages driven by our vision that encompasses who we are as a people. Our Raukawa vision continues to guide us, it describes the future we want to achieve, and brings us together in shared purpose, Raukawa kia mau, kia ora, a thriving Raukawa iwi.



# Matariki Ki Te Whare o Raukawa

*Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki, te kaitō mai i te tikanga, i te ahurea, i te wheako hōu ki te motu. I te wiki i mua tonu i te rewatanga ake o Matariki, i whakanuia e te tari o Raukawa te kaupapa whakahirahira nei. Ko te whakaaro nui, kia noho tahi ai tātou i roto i te hāneanea mō tētehi wā paku noa iho ki te kōrero, ki te whakarongo, ki te ako i ētahi tikanga e pā ana ki a Matariki.*

Ko te manako nui, kia pai ai te kawē o ngā kaupapa whakanui i te hararei nei e ngā kaimahi o Raukawa ki ō rātou kāinga maha. Kia mōhio hoki tātou ki ētehi o ngā tikanga e hāngai pū ana ki tēnei wahanga o te tau mō te tūpono ka pakari ake te tū o ō tātou kaimahi, kia pai hoki ai tā rātou whakaako a tōna wā ki o rātou whanaunga.

Ehara i te mea he wānanga noa iho te kaikawe i te mātauranga, i puea ake ai mā roto tonu i ngā mahi raranga i whakaakona e Ata Brown rāua ko Ngā Tran, i tū hoki ai he taumāhekeheke mūtōrere. I ako waiata hoki mātou hei whakangahau i te hunga i noho mai ki te hākari i taua wiki tonu. E whakamānawatia nei a Matariki ki roto i te tari o Raukawa kia pai ai tō tātou whakanui i ngā kaupapa Māori, kia ora anō ai ētehi tikanga hei painga mō te iwi, mō te hapori, mō te motu whānui.

Kō tētehi āhuatanga hōu i whakaritea mā tātou, ko tētehi whare e kiia nei ko Te Whare o Hiwa. I roto i te whare nei i tuhia ko ngā wawata o ngā kaimahi mō te tau hōu, ka whakairihia ake ki te tāhūhū o te whare, ki ngā whetū o te rangi pīataata mai ai. Koia nei ko ngā wawata nui o te iwi e whakairihia ake nei ki te tāhuhu o Ranginui me he whetū takitaki i te atapō. Mānawatia o tātou tikanga, mānawatia tō tātou Raukawatanga, mānawatia a Matariki te kaiwhakaū i te whakaaro nui ki ngā tohu o tau hōu.



Paretuna Jones weaving a kono

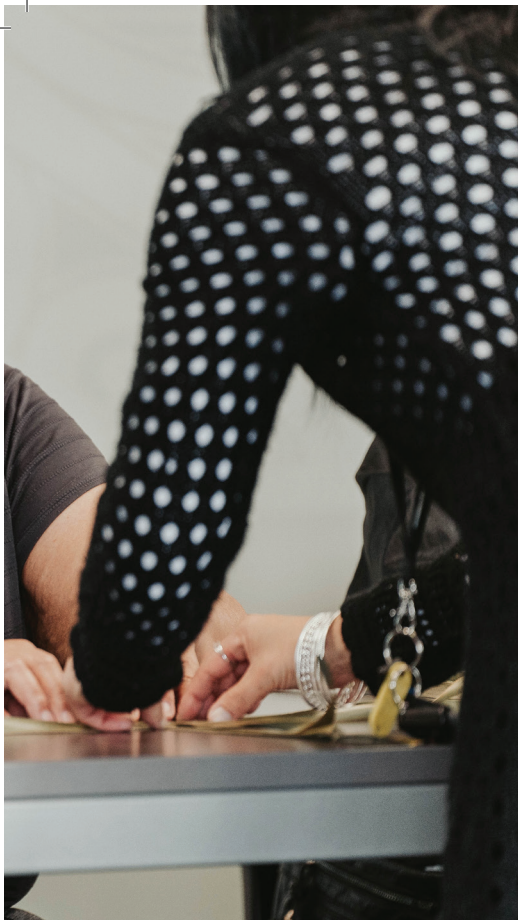


Paul Howe and Kai Ora join for hākari



Ata Brown teaching raranga





# Kaumātua Reconnecting through Kai

***For eight weeks, kaumātua have come together every Tuesday for the Kaumātua Kai Ora programme. The programme consists of learning gardening skills, cooking skills, and focusing on their hauora. But the programme is much more than that. It is about connection, learning together in a safe, comfortable environment and socialising – kanohi ki te kanohi.***

Our kaumātua were given māra resources to take home and plant, such as potting soil, seedlings, and tools, and for three weeks they learned new recipes with new cooking equipment. The programme finished off with a hauora day, with health checks offered and external services coming in to provide kōrero and support.

Cooking has been a highlight for many of our kaumātua. They have made a range of meals. One week they cooked recipes based around Matariki – Waitī (watercress pesto), Waitā (mussel fritters and garlic prawns), Tupuārangi (berry compote) and Tupuānuku (mushroom and chicken bread cases). They have also made fruit smoothies, chicken stir-fry, steam pudding, pork chops, meatballs and potato croquettes.

Kaumātua Chris Waea is retired, and is enjoying learning new things in the kitchen, while connecting with people around the same age.

*"We are using lots of new techniques and equipment, like the air fryer" she said. "It's about building my confidence, cooking new things and trying new foods while having fun."*

The Kaumātua Kai Ora programme stems from the successful Kai Ora programme. With the high cost of living and inflation, many kaumātua who are retired, are struggling to survive. They are finding it hard to make ends meet, often skipping meals or stretching the budget too far.

We wanted to help them and provide guidance with growing their own gardens, budgeting for groceries and cooking easy, nutritious meals within a budget.

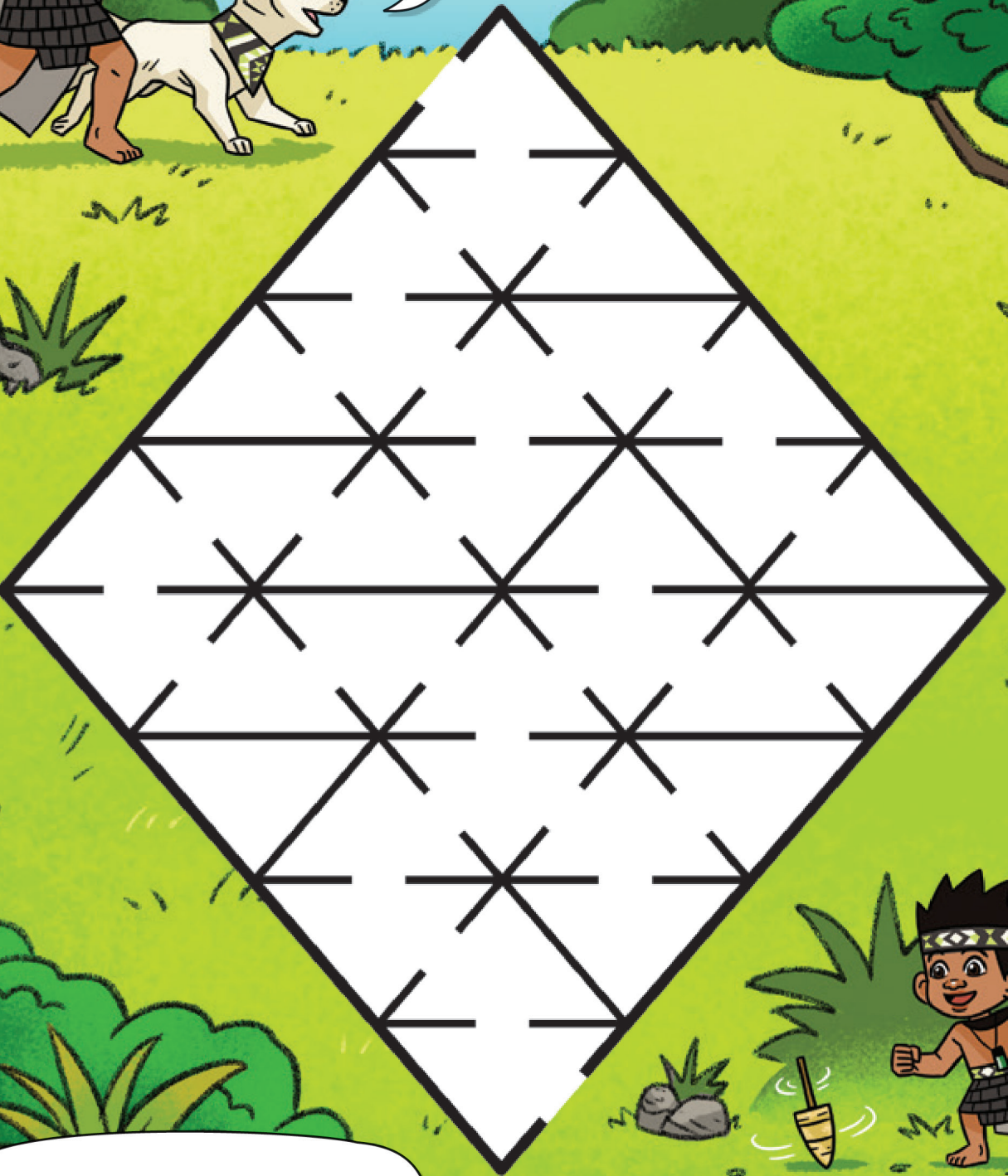
Follow us on Facebook for upcoming wānanga, or call us on 0800 RAUKAWA to learn more about our programme and how to join.





Raukawa, kei whea koe e tama?

E hoa, āwhinatia mai, kia tae pai atu māua ki a Raukawa!



Kei konei pāpā!

Kei te ngahere ahau e tākaro ana!

# Te Waka o te Ora



Waka: Te Timatatanga

*Over the years, we have offered many services to our uri. Among all of our services, our Waka Taua service has stood the test of time. This service is carried out by two kanohe kitea of our community, Mana and Haami Winikerei and is based on the tikanga of maintaining wellness amongst our people, particularly our rangatahi. The Waka Taua programme is about caring for our taitama tāne and providing them support by incorporating wellness practices from te ao Māori and te ao Pākehā.*



Mana Winikerei teaching the waka taua boys

Our rangatahi attend weekend wānanga at marae throughout our rohe where they learn under the tutelage of our kaimahi and programme coordinators Haami and Mana. Delwyn Hakaria our Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Clinician Lead says that. "Our programme takes our boys back to our marae. Our marae cloaks our taitama tāne, provides them with physical and spiritual nurturance and security to be themselves."

Mana says that "Water has always been healing for our people" and that bringing our people to the water and on the waka gives our people kaha and cleanses them of mamae. This is a practise that has been passed down and informs the teaching of this programme, a programme that has helped generations of young Māori in our rohe.

We were able to share the stories and kōrero from Mana and Haami in a short video on our social media. In the video Mana and Haami speak to their experiences of years of service and how a traditional mātauranga Māori practice informs clinical practices to create a service that benefits our people.

Our social media space is a place where you can find many stories about the mahi and the changes we are making in our community. Follow Raukawa on Facebook for more.

To hear more about this story follow the link or scan the QR code below: [rauikawa.info/wakataua](https://rauikawa.info/wakataua)



Haami Winikerei taking the boys on the awa





# Returning Home Inspires Te Reo Māori Journey

*Living and raising tamariki in Australia was Jennifer King's drive for studying towards her Bachelor of Arts, with a double major in Te Reo Māori and Māori and Indigenous studies.*

Jennifer, known as Honey, was living with her whānau in Australia before returning home at the end of 2020 due to her father-in-law being sick. She wanted her tamariki to learn who they are, where they come from and the long line of greatness they descend from. Her tamariki inspired her to return to university, and by doing so, created the pathway she can only describe as *"Te ao Māori is my navigator that directs my journey and te reo Māori is my guide that shows me the way."*

Honey was born in Putāruru and raised in both Tokoroa and Australia. The youngest of 14 brothers and sisters, her father's side is from Ruapeka, Rengarenga and Paparaamu Marae and her mother's side is from Pikitū Marae. She was living in Australia as a child, came back to Aotearoa for intermediate and high school and then returned to Australia with her husband for mahi where they stayed for 21 years.

Between her and her husband, they have five tamariki and one mokopuna. When Honey, her husband, and their two youngest tamariki returned home to Aotearoa, they enrolled them at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Hinga and they now attend Te Wharekura o Te Kaokaoroa o Pātetere. This inspired Honey to begin her own te ao Māori journey.

*"My studies have brought me home,"* Honey said. *"It has been, and still is an arduous journey, but most definitely rewarding. Reconnecting with whānau, marae, and iwi has strengthened my bonds with them all."*

But seeing her tamariki blossom in all areas of te ao Māori has been the biggest gift of all. It reaffirms the commitment we all made to each other coming home. Honey is currently in her final year of studies. She has been taught by great lecturers, not just within the university, but also within her own rohe of Raukawa – Te Kaokaoroa o Pātetere.

She said anyone who has studied anything Māori knows the highs and lows and the world of emotions that this haerenga can take you on.

*"However, I am forever grateful and count myself very lucky to have been gifted the opportunities I have, with the highlight being the kōrero tuku iho and pūrākau that I have been present to hear from everyone I have crossed paths with."*

Once graduated, she will give back and be of service to her community and her iwi of Raukawa.

*"I want to be a part of strengthening and building our iwi, our community through all avenues to see it prosper for a bigger and brighter tomorrow."*

Follow this story and more from our grant recipients on our Facebook page.





Education Grant Recipient, Minor-Major Stratford Nicholls

# Raukawa Grants and Key Dates

## Education Grants

Depending on your studies, registered iwi members are able to apply for up to \$2000 in education related support.

Study Type	Period that this grant covers	Applications Open	Applications Close	Applications considered
Short course* Certificate, Diploma	01 Jul 2023 – 31 Jan 2024	01 Jul 2023	31 Jan 2024	28 Feb 2024
Bachelors and Masters	2024 Academic year	30 Nov 2023	31 Jan 2024	28 Feb 2024
Doctoral	2024 Academic year	30 Nov 2023	31 Jan 2024	28 Feb 2024

\* Short courses include Te Kura Reo o Raukawa and Te Uru Raukawa programmes offered by the Raukawa Charitable Trust



## Sports Grants

Registered iwi members can apply for a contribution towards costs incurred while competing as an amateur sportsperson at a local, regional or national representative level. It is open to amateur competitors such as athletes, coaches, managers and officials (umpire, referee, judge).

Type	Period that this grant covers	Applications Open	Applications Close	Applications considered
Sports grants round 1	01 Jun 2023 – 30 Nov 2023	01 Jun 2023	30 Nov 2023	Dec 2023
Sports grants round 2	01 Dec 2023 – 31 May 2024	01 Dec 2023	31 May 2024	Jun 2024

## Kuia and Koroua Wellbeing Grants

Registered kaumātua can apply for a contribution towards costs incurred or needing assistance with their wellbeing.

We have streamlined the process to make this service more accessible for our kaumātua. There is no longer a need to hold your receipts for this grant.

Type	Period that this grant covers	Applications Open	Applications Close	Applications considered
Kuia and Koroua Wellbeing grants	01 Jun 2023 – 31 May 2024	01 Jun 2023	31 May 2024	30 Jun 2024

To register as a member of Raukawa follow the link below. If you have any questions about our grants process call 0800 Raukawa and ask for our grants team.



Scan the code or visit [rauakawa.info/grants](https://rauakawa.info/grants)



# Governance Pānui

## Appointment of Sir Henry van der Heyden

I am pleased to announce that Sir Henry van der Heyden has joined the board of the iwi commercial company – Raukawa Iwi Development Ltd (RIDL) – Te Mana Pupuru Rawa.

Sir Henry is passionate about the South Waikato, where he has spent most of his life. He brings a wealth of experience to Raukawa.

Starting out as a farmer, Sir Henry purchased his first farm in the South Waikato in 1985. For the next quarter of a century, he was influential in the evolution of the New Zealand dairy industry, where he went on to play an instrumental part in the formation of the New Zealand Dairy Group (NZDG) and then was a key player in the creation of Fonterra. Sir Henry became chairperson of Fonterra in 2002, standing down in 2012.

Today, he is chairperson of Rabobank Australia Limited, Maxwell Farms Limited and Rimu SA / Mānuka SA in Chile. In addition to his current roles as chairperson, he is also a Director of Foodstuffs North Island Limited, Foodstuffs New Zealand Limited, Pascaro Investments Limited and is a director of a number of his own family businesses.

His previous chairing roles included Auckland International Airport Limited, Tainui Group Holdings Limited and Rabobank New Zealand Limited.

Sir Henry brings a straight-forward approach to business and has a deep interest in and understanding of productive land assets, aligned to creating shareholder value and contributing to New Zealand long-term.

I was taken by Sir Henry's eagerness to work alongside iwi, as well as his shared passion for the region. He said, as he approaches the back end of his corporate governance career, that his focus has shifted to doing what he can to support and grow productivity in the South Waikato. His primary focus is on community and improving the lives of people that live within those communities. Values and priorities which align very much with those of Raukawa and our passion for whānau and whenua, and doing what we can to support and nurture our people and grow success across our takiwā.

Sir Henry took part in his first RIDL meeting on Tuesday July 25, where he joined the board, which is made up of: independent chairperson John Spencer, myself, Raukawa Settlement Trustees Deb Davies and Charlie Griffiths, and independent directors Vanessa Eparaima and Jon Stokes.

## Nā Kataraina Hodge

*Raukawa Settlement Trust Chairperson*

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Raukawa

