

Your Raukawa Iwi Newsletter

Issue 63

Te Kakara

Honouring
Leadership

Community
Development

Mana Whenua
in Action



Te Awa Kōrero o Raukawa
A Return to the Taiao





RST Chair Message

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Te Kakara. I hope everyone was able to get plenty of whānau time in over the holiday period and summer months.

I want to start by acknowledging all our whānau who joined us for the AGM at Papa o Te Aroha Marae in December. It was good to see some new faces for our hui, and as always, wonderful to see those who have been with us consistently since our new Raukawa entities began post-settlement in 2012.

The annual general meeting is a time to share the performance, progress and outcomes for the financial year before. It is also a timely opportunity to reflect on our progress since our inception, over several years now, and to consider the foundations we are laying down for those who come after us.

I am humbled by the growth and success of our iwi. We have continued to take firm, considered steps as we grow our ability to support our own, to fund our marae, to nurture the use of te reo and to grow the cultural kete for our people.

We started from incredibly humble beginnings, devastated by colonisation, and the pervasive exclusion that sidelined our people and our voice. We now have a strong base to grow and increase the influence and ability to ensure the voice of our iwi is heard on matters important to our people, so that we can perform our role as kaitiaki of our waterways and whenua, and our whānau.

The AGM is a time to also acknowledge, that despite our impressive growth and achievement, our financial base remains very small relative to the significant needs of our people. Our commercial company distributed more than \$5 million last year, while continuing to grow our asset base for future generations. This pūtea funds our iwi governance, our marae, and our kaumātua, education and sports grants. As importantly this pūtea also supports the voice of our iwi, to ensure we are no longer relegated to

the sidelines of the communities built on our whenua. It ensures we have the means to hold the Crown and others to account if required, and to ensure we are heard on matters important to us all.

I thank again those who joined us to acknowledge the progress of the last financial year. I look forward to seeing you all again in December this year when we will meet again.

A significant milestone for this year has been the launch of Te Koha a Raukawa, our new housing development in central Tokoroa. Te Koha is a development that will provide warm, secure homes that strengthen connection to whenua and community. I encourage you to read the update in this issue covering this exciting development for our iwi.

This edition of Te Kakara also takes time to honour those whose leadership has shaped the foundations we now stand upon. We acknowledge former Raukawa Trust Board chairman, George Rangitūtia, whose calm, considered stewardship during the settlement of our comprehensive claim was a key plank in setting a strong foundation for the future of Raukawa. George led at a defining moment in our history. It is fitting that we remember and recognise his contribution as part of our ongoing story.

There are several stories across this edition. Take time to read them and appreciate the strong mahi and commitment by those who came before, as well as those who continue to strive for our iwi, so that those yet to come will have a strong, vibrant platform to support their place in our iwi and takiwā.

Nā Kataraina Hodge
Raukawa Chairperson

Tōia Tainui tapotu ki te
moana, mā wai e tō?
Māku e tō, mā
whakatau e tō.
Whakarongo ake au ki
te taaha o te rangi,
He tārawa i nuku, he
tārawa i rangi.



Te Koha a Raukawa

Hei Painga mō te Iwi

On 19 February, over 100 whānau gathered at Papa o te Aroha Marae to join the official launch of Te Koha a Raukawa — marking a significant milestone in the journey to deliver quality, attainable housing for our uri.

The evening brought together Raukawa, Raukawa Iwi Development Limited (RIDL), and Ka Uruora to present the vision, pathways, and practical next steps for whānau interested in being part of the new neighbourhood located in the heart of Tokoroa. Attendees heard detailed presentations outlining what Te Koha will deliver, followed by opportunities to kōrero directly with project representatives at information stalls that were set up.

A historical kōrero was shared by Raukawa kaimahi, Phyllis Tahere, grounding the development in our whakapapa, hītori and the wawata of those who came before us. The name reflects both the historic act of gifting associated with this whenua and our contemporary commitment to creating sustainable housing pathways for our uri.

Aamer Daji, Raukawa kaimahi and key project lead, told attendees that Te Koha is about long-term transformation.

“Te Koha represents years of strategic planning and persistence. It is about using our commercial strength to create intergenerational opportunity. These are quality kāinga in a carefully designed neighbourhood — but more importantly, they are pathways for our whānau to build stability, independence and connection to whenua.”

Iwi Chairperson Kataraina Hodge reflected on the significance of the moment for Raukawa.

“This launch signals that Raukawa is not only talking about solutions — we are delivering them. Te Koha honours our history while actively shaping our future. It creates real opportunity for our uri to access healthy, affordable housing within our own takiwā.”

Located on the former Old Tokoroa East School site, Te Koha will deliver 56 residential lots — including 40 high-quality homes and 16 fully serviced sections. The homes include two, three and three bedroom plus office options.

Each home is fully landscaped and fenced, with generous backyards, quality fixtures and fittings, thermally broken double glazing, hot water heat pumps, and sustainable materials.

Through partnership with Ka Uruora, Te Koha offers multiple housing pathways, including progressive home ownership, affordable rentals and whānau affordable purchase options.

For whānau wanting to build themselves, the 16 fully serviced sections are available with a design guide in place to ensure quality across the neighbourhood.

Civil works remain on track for completion in early 2026, with the first homes programmed for completion from June 2026 and move-ins continuing through 2026 and early 2027.

Whānau who were unable to attend the launch — or who wish to take the next step — can access the full information pack and register their interest at www.tekoha-tokoroa.nz or email kiaora@tekoha-tokoroa.nz.

Te Koha is more than a development. It is a commitment — to quality, to opportunity, and to a thriving Raukawa future.



The Ka Uruora team helping whānau to explore housing pathways



Aamer Daji presents the vision of Te Koha



TE KOHA

The Gift of Quality Living



Entrances from Main Street and Giles Street



Lot 10, 1 Office, 3 Bedrooms, 126M2

Lot 11, 3 Bedrooms, 125M2





Giles Street entrance



Lot 12, 2 Bedrooms, 104M2

Lot 13, 3 Bedrooms, 127M2

Ngā Tarahati o te Iwi

Juanita Te Marama o Whakaaratamaiti Marae

Tōia ngā waka, tapotū ki te moana uriuri, ki te moana tea, ki Te Moana Nui a Kiwa. He putanga ariki, he putanga tauira. Ka ura te rā, ka hina te marama, ka ara ake ko Juanita hei māmā, hei kaiako, hei tarahati e. He kanohi kitea a Juanita Te Marama i tō tātou hapori, i ō tātou kura, i runga i te marae o Whakaaratamaiti. Ko tōna ngākau ki a tūnohunohu mā, ki a pikipiki ake mā, e ārahi āna mahi i te poari o Raukawa.

Nā wai koe?

He ūto o Ngāti Kiriparu, o Ngatangi'ia, he tētē o Hautere. I tae mai a Pāpā i Rarotonga, ki Ākarana i te tau 1952, kātahi ka tau ki Te Kaokaoroa Pātetere. He kaimahi ia i te mīra o Pinedale, i reira ngā kāinga mō ngā kaimahi me wō rātou whāmere.

Te kaiwhāngai i tō mauri?

He kaiako, he kaitiaki ahau. Ko Te Aho Matua te tūāpapa, māna hei tiaki i ngā taonga a kui, a koro mā. Ko te kaikawe i te tukuihotanga o ēnei mea ki ngā tamariki-mokopuna o tēnei takiwā o Raukawa, ko te reo Māori.

Inā te nui o ngā pārekarekatanga o te mahi whakaako tamariki, me whakanui te katoa ka tika. Tōmua ko taku noho hei toka tū moana, hei ringa atawhai, hei kaiarahi i ngā mokopuna ki tā Te Aho Matua i kī ai, ki te puna o te mōhio, o te oranga, o te maungārongo. Kei waenganui ko ngā tamariki wāwāhi tahā, ko te hunga taikaha. Ki te whai hua tētehi o ēnei ākongā āku kua harikoa ahau! Tōmuri ko ngā raukura kua puta te ihu ki te ao marama. He mahi nunui rawa atu te whakaako tamariki. Ki reira kite ai koe i ngā mata katoa o Māui.

Atu i ngā mahi whakaako ko te tau o taku ate, ko Ferd Swinkels o Hōrana, ko ā māua tamāhine e rua, ko Te Rongorito rāua ko Kahureremoa ngā kuku o tōku manawa.

He aha koe i tū ai hei tarahati?

Ko te oranga o te marae o Whakaaratamaiti Pā. Kia toitū hoki a Ngāti Mahana, a Ngāti Āhuru, kia whai mana ai hei kōkiri i wētehi kaupapa. Kia ora tēnei mea, te kaitiakitanga.

He aha ngā wawata kei a koe?

Kia kitea te whanaungatanga me te mahi ngātahi a ngā kaiārahi me ngā rangatira o Whakaaratamaiti Pā. Kia hanga anō i ētehi wahanga o te pā pēnei i te wharekai, i te wharemoa, me ētehi papa hiko. Kia aro anō tātou ki te ora o te taiao o te marae. Ngā mea pēnei i te waiparuparu, me te hanga repo hei whakapaipai i taua wai. Mātua me tiaki i te Kohanga Reo o te Raungaiti. Ko te toitūtanga o te pā ki te anamata te whāinga. Ko aua mea tonu e ārahi nei i āku mahi hei tarahati. Ka tika a roto, ka tika a waho. Kei reira te oranga o ō tātou pā harakeke hei oranga anō mō tō tātou iwi.



Te Rongorito Te Marama-Swinkels, Kahureremoa Te Marama-Swinkels, Juanita Te Marama, Whakaaratamaiti Marae



Te Awa Kōrero o Raukawa

Te Whakarewatanga o te Kaupapa

Pupuke ana ngā tai whakamiha, ngā tai whakamānawa, pari nui atu ana ki te ākau o mahara nui, o mahara roa, o reo kia rere, o ahurea kia māori. Ko te pupuketanga o manawa nui, o manawa tina, o manawa toka, ka rewa ki runga i a rauringa. I tutuki ai tā tātou kaupapa, a Te Awa Kōrero o Raukawa, nā rātou.

E ai rā te kōrero, ko moana pukepuke ka ekea e te ihumanea ka mutu, inā kē te pukepuke o ngā wai i puta atu ai te ihu o te kaupapa nei. Ahakoa ua, ahakoa rā, ahakoa ngā tohu katoa o te taiao, i whakaterere waka tātou i te awa, i toutou tātou i ngā ahi o te whare wānanga, o te whare kōrero o Raukawa.

Tihore mai ana ngā rangi hāuaua o Pēpuere, ikapahi atu ana ngā uri ki runga i a Hoturoa, i Aotearoa Marae. Ki konei hikā ai te ahi kōmau, whakaterehia ai te waka kōrero ki ngā pari o Te Awa Nui o Taikehu, o Waikato. Koinei tō mātou nohoanga, koinei tō mātou akomanga. Ko ngā kaiako ko ngā manu, ko te papa tuhituhi he ahi, ko te pene he arero, ko mahara te pukapuka. I motuhia e te iwi te taura ki te hangarau atamai, ka hoki atu ai ki te atamai tūpuna, ki tā te taiao hangarau.

He rautaki tēnei nā Raukawa hei tuitui, hei tūhono, i ō tātou uri ki te reo Māori me tōna ahurea, me tōna taiao. Hei tā tētehi o ngā kaiako, hei tā Paraone Kohipō, *“Kia hoki mai te aroha mā te hono anō ki tō tātou awa, tōna mana, me tōna mauri.”*

Ka rima rangi te iwi e ketekete ana i tō tātou awa, e korihi ana, e korokī ana i raro tonu i te tāhuhu nui o Rehua. I te otinga iho, he wheako ēnei hei whāngai i te mauri o te tangata, kia aroha hoki ia ki tōna taiao, ki tōna reo me tōna ahurea. Ka whakairihia te hoe ki runga, ka tōia te waka ki uta hei ā taihoa utaina atu anō ai ki tō tātou awa.



Te Awa Kōrero o Raukawa 2026, Aotearoa Marae





HOTUROA

JUST DO IT.





George Rangitūtia

A Humble Raukawa Statesman



In remembering the leaders who shaped the course of Raukawa's modern history, the name George Rangitūtia stands with distinction. His humble, determined leadership helped guide our iwi through one of the most defining chapters in our collective journey — the settlement of our historical Treaty claims.

As chair of the Raukawa Trust Board and then Raukawa Settlement Trust, George played a key role in ensuring unity and progress through negotiations with the Crown. The work was complex and often demanding, spanning years of preparation, coordination, discussion, and resolution. Those who worked with George speak of a leader of quiet dignity and purpose — focused on ensuring a worthy sustainable outcome for the generations yet to come.

During the third reading of the Raukawa Settlement Bill, Minister for Treaty Negotiations Christopher Finlayson paid tribute to George's contribution. Reflecting on the signing of the Deed of Settlement — which George was unable to attend due to ill health — the Minister described travelling to Waikato Hospital so that George could personally sign the deed.

"This settlement is a fitting legacy for George and demonstrates all his efforts over many years on behalf of his people... It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit."

Those words captured George's leadership. His mahi and focus was driven by a commitment to service, rather than personal prestige. It was on ensuring that Raukawa's grievances were acknowledged and compensation for all that was lost, ensuring pūtea and resources to help sustain the iwi into the future.

When our people gathered at Aotearoa Marae to formalise the settlement, George's presence was deeply felt. Weeks later, Raukawa gathered again — this time, for his farewell. The proximity of those moments reminds us how closely leadership and legacy can be intertwined.

Today, the structures, resources, opportunities, and pathways created through settlement continue to support our uri. As we look ahead, we do so mindful that the foundations we stand upon were shaped by leaders like George Rangitūtia, whose foresight, determination, and humility remain part of Raukawa's enduring story.



George speaking at our Waikato and Waipā River Co-Management signing at Lake Whakamaru, 2009

Te Whare Hui Ora

A Shared Vision for Community Wellbeing



Raukawa is proud to have contributed to the vision, cultural narrative, and identity of Te Whare Hui Ora, the new indoor community stadium at Matamata College. Early discussions in 2025 brought together Raukawa, Ngāti Hinerangi, and Ngāti Hauā to consider how mana whenua could be expressed through design, patterns, and colours that reflect iwi identity while serving a shared community space.

Working with Matamata–Piako District Council, iwi guided the incorporation of three key traditional patterns throughout the building. Pūhoro on door panels symbolises speed, agility, movement, and the rhythm of nature. Kaokao on the front glazing represents strength, connection, and unity. Mangōpare, across the court walls, draws inspiration from the hammerhead shark, symbolising determination, leadership, resilience, and guardianship. The name Te Whare Hui Ora – wellbeing through connection – was gifted by iwi to reflect the stadium’s purpose as a space for gathering, movement, and strengthening relationships.

The blessing on February 2 acknowledged both spiritual and community foundations, with iwi leading proceedings and sharing kōrero, waiata, and kai. Originally initiated by Bruce Magan and the Matamata Futures Trust, the stadium gained support from Matamata–Piako District Council, Sport Waikato, the Ministry of Education, and local contributors. A shared-use agreement ensures it serves both students and the wider public.

Te Whare Hui Ora features a double-court gymnasium, multi-purpose spaces, mezzanine, changing rooms, and storage. Built on school grounds but designed for the district, it meets growing demand for indoor sport and community facilities. Raukawa kaumātua, trustees, and kaimahi were there to support the kaupapa. The stadium officially opened on February 21.



Mangōpare



Kaokao



Pūhoro



Important Changes to our Raukawa Grants

Here's What You Need to Know



Raukawa Grants Team, (left) Abbe Pōmare and Thelma Reti

Each year, Raukawa makes a range of grants available to support our uri across marae, sport, wellbeing and education. This form of annual pūtea is one of the practical ways we help our people stay connected, participate fully in their kaupapa, and reduce some of the financial pressures whānau face along the way. Whether it's supporting tamariki into sport, helping rangatahi and pakeke with education pathways, or assisting kaumātua with their wellbeing needs, these grants are here to hāpai our iwi.

Behind this mahi is a small but dedicated grants team who work closely with our uri every day. Many of you will already know Thelma Reti, whose friendly face is often seen at poukai, marae events, hauora days and sports kaupapa across the motu. Thelma works within our grants and whakapapa team, supporting uri to register, affiliate to their marae, and access the grants and services available to them. She is often the first point of contact for whānau and is well known for taking the time to kōrero things through over a cup of tea.

Alongside her is Abbe Pōmare, Transformation Lead, who supports both the Iwi Register and the grants distribution process. Abbe's role focuses on making sure our systems are clear, fair and fit for purpose, while keeping the needs of uri at the centre. Together, Abbe and Thelma work as a tight-knit team, helping whānau understand what support is available and how to apply successfully.

Upcoming Changes

This year we will be introducing some changes to our sport and education grants. These updates have been made in response to a significant increase in applications and are designed to improve fairness, clarity and access for all uri.

Sport grants are now aligned to summer and winter sports rounds, making it easier for whānau to apply at the right time of year. Funding is also distributed more evenly, which may mean individuals receive slightly less than in previous years, but this approach allows

Raukawa to support more people overall and reduce the number of declined applications. Sport grants can help with costs such as travel, accommodation, uniforms, and tournament expenses, with payments generally made retrospectively after each round closes.

Changes are also coming to our education grants, with a refreshed policy designed to make things simpler and more equitable. One key change is the introduction of a new secondary school education grant, which allows parents and caregivers to apply for support towards uniforms and stationery costs. This responds directly to feedback from whānau and recognises the growing financial pressure of sending tamariki to kura. These grants will be paid retrospectively and calculated on a pro-rata basis.

For tertiary students, education grants have been streamlined into two application rounds per year, regardless of course length, making it easier to apply at a time that aligns with study start dates. Funding is now also calculated on a pro-rata basis, helping us to distribute available pūtea more fairly across all applicants. Importantly, a new partnership with the Māori Education Trust means eligible tertiary recipients may receive additional top-up support, without increasing costs to Raukawa.

Across all grants, one message remains the same: being registered on the Raukawa Iwi Register is essential. Registration confirms your affiliation and allows the team to support you. If you are unsure of your registration status, or need help with the process, Abbe and Thelma are always happy to assist.

We encourage all uri to stay connected, keep an eye on our communications, and apply early where possible. These grants are here to support you – and the grants team is here to walk alongside you every step of the way. To view our grants, head to www.raukawa.org.nz/grants

For grant help and support call us on **0800 RAUKAWA** or email us at grantsprocessing@raukawa.org.nz

Education Grant



Education Grant Recipient, Minor – Major Stratford Nicholls

Education Grants

Important Update

- Funding level (per round) are pro-rata, based on the number of successful applicants in each round
- From March 2026, grants are now aligned with A and B semesters to support students beginning mid-year
- Parents and caregivers of secondary school students are now able to apply for an education grant to contribute to school uniforms and stationery costs
- Each uri may receive only one grant type per round. Study types D–H are reviewed just once annually

Education Grants	Funding
A Secondary School	up to \$300
B Short courses Including the following wānanga provided by Raukawa – Kura Reo, Uru Raukawa, Whare Kōrero and Te Awa Kōrero	up to \$300
C Certificate	up to \$300
D Diploma	up to \$500
E Degree	up to \$750
F Postgraduate	up to \$750
G Masters	up to \$1000
H Doctorate	up to \$1500

Sports Grant



Sports Grant Recipient, Dion Newth

Sports Grants

Important Update

- Funding level (per round) are pro-rata, based on the number of successful applicants in each round
- Grants are now aligned with summer and winter sports seasons
- Up to two grants per uri per calendar year (one per round)
- Clearer guidelines on what evidence is required (e.g. selection letters, receipts)
- A transition period is in place to support the move to the new schedule

Funding Levels (per round)

Local up to	Regional up to	National up to
\$200	\$400	\$600



Education Grant Recipient Anastacia Parekawa Cuthers

Raukawa Grants and Key Dates

Education Grants

Depending on your studies, registered iwi members are able to apply for up to \$1500 in education related support.

Study Type	Period that this grant covers	Applications Open	Applications Close	Applications considered
Round 1	01 Mar 2026 – 30 Jun 2026	01 Mar 2026	30 Jun 2026	Jul 2026
Round 2	1 Jul 2026 – 31 Jan 2027	1 Jul 2026	31 Jan 2027	Feb 2027



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
Summer Sports	01 Dec 2025 – 31 Mar 2026	01 Dec 2025	31 Mar 2026	Apr 2026
Winter Sports	01 Apr 2026 – 30 Sep 2026	01 Apr 2026	30 Sep 2026	Oct 2026

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	Annual	01 Jun 2025	31 May 2026	Jun 2026

Want to Register with Raukawa or Need Help?

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

Raukawa Iwi Survey

For iwi, by iwi. This survey is about us — our needs, our aspirations, our direction. When you participate, you help guide iwi priorities and secure stronger outcomes for our whānau.



Scan the code or visit
rauikawa.info/iwisurvey

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Authors: Te Ahua Manu, Tōmai Smith and Teanonui McKenzie

Photography: Arun Vincent

Graphic Design and Layout: Savannah Whiteman

Production: SOG Creative Content Print, Nawton, Hamilton



Raukawa