



Kōrero o te Tiamana

Tēnā koutou ngā uri o Ngāti Rangitihi

The year is now well underway and it promises to be an exciting one for Ngāti Rangitihi. The mahi that our trustees and staff have undertaken at the back end of 2017 and the early stages of 2018 has meant we are well set for a successful year.

A key focus of our work this year is on advancing our Treaty settlement. Our negotiating team has been working with officials and we have made excellent progress, particularly in demonstrating our mana whenua status in Matatā. We will be meeting with Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister Andrew Little on Tuesday 24th of April to discuss an Agreement in Principle shortly and will keep all of you updated as we move through the process.

More broadly, the Trust is continuing to implement projects we initiated last year, including helping our young people achieve in education through another one-year contract with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and continuing to support our Wi-Fi for Matatā programme. It is great to see these programmes getting such strong support from our whānau and delivering meaningful gains to our tamariki and rangatahi.

It has also been pleasing to see the three campgrounds we manage on behalf of the Department of Conservation – Ash Pitt, Brett Road and Tapahoro – in operation this summer. This year we had the added challenge of water quality issues at Tapahoro campground which saw us temporarily close the campground for safety reasons.

I hope some of you have had an opportunity to visit the Waimangu Volcanic Valley eco-tourism experience we jointly own in partnership with Tūhourangi. This investment is an exciting opportunity for Ngāti Rangitihi and will bring important strategic and commercial benefits to our iwi.

Finally, I'm excited to welcome Kereama Wright to our team. As part of his new communications role, he'll be working to engage with the wider iwi this year, primarily by sharing stories and information via the Trust's Facebook page and website. If you haven't already liked our Facebook page, search Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihi Trust and give us a 'like' to keep up to date with the latest Trust developments.

Ngā mihi,
Leith Comer, Chairman
Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihi

Treaty Update

Our engagement with the Crown has in recent months focussed on demonstrating our customary interests in Matatā over the period 1840 – 1866. The Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) engaged a leading historian, Merata Kawharu, to write an independent report. The conclusions of this report are that Ngāti Rangitihi most certainly occupied the Matatā/Te Awa o Te Atua area and were actively strengthening their economic and political footprint during this historical period.

We will be meeting with Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister Andrew Little on the 24th of April to discuss the proposed settlement before it goes to Cabinet, ahead of a formal offer being made by the Crown.

Update Your Contact Details

The Agreement in Principle in our Treaty Settlement process is expected in the next few months so it is vital that we have your correct contact details to keep you posted on developments and how to get engaged in the process.

Make sure you and your whānau have your details up to date. Phone Alana Hunter or Darcy Stoneham on 07 322 2452 to update your details today.

New Trustees

Following our latest trustee elections, we have three new trustees to introduce: Melanie Cheung, Taichi Playle and Tia Warbrick.

Melanie Cheung

Growing up in Edgumbe, Melanie has been interested in Ngāti Rangitihī politics for the past ten years and is passionate about transparency, social justice and the desire to see tikanga/kawa prioritised within Trust processes. With a PhD in neuroscience and a career history in Māori health, Melanie has presented at the United Nations in New York and has met iwi leaders from all over New Zealand. Melanie believes we need to work together to achieve and strengthen our social, economic, health, environmental and cultural bases, and to uphold our mana and keep our home fires burning. She asks the question “are you ready for it to be US for US?” Melanie’s grandparents were Kauī Rondon and Alan Caverhill; their daughter Potchie (Robin) is Melanie’s mother.



Taichi Playle

Taichi is a current trustee of Ruawahia 2B Trust, having previously worked for five seasons with the Wilding Pine Crew. He and his partner, plus their six tamariki, have lived in Matatā for the past seven years, and Taichi plays an active role within the community. His passions include rugby and hunting for kai, and, with a “PhD in spud-peeling” at the marae, he is committed to helping our people plan for their future and to focus on our values as whānau.



Tia Warbrick

Tia co-leads a busy consulting company, providing management, policy and project management services to a range of government and iwi-based organisations. With experience in a number of management roles within government, Tia has an extensive knowledge surrounding human rights, the workings of government and the settlement journey. As the chairman of the Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihī Charitable Trust, she considers it vital that we strengthen our focus on developing economic, cultural, social and environmental capital. She believes that balancing the needs of today with the investments of the future has never been more important and sees our combined knowledge and diversity as one of our greatest strengths to create our legacy for our whānau.



Pokohu A3 Māori Reservation land

Ngāti Rangitihī is currently exploring changing the responsible trustee for Pokohu A3 Māori Reservation land. This land was originally awarded to Ngāti Rangitihī by the Native Land Court in the late 1800s. Following a Māori Land Court decision in 1973, the land was set apart as a Reservation, as a place of historical and scenic interest for the common use and benefit of our people. The Te Arawa Māori Trust Board became the responsible trustee to administer the land on behalf of Ngāti Rangitihī.

Today, the Te Arawa Lakes Trust is the responsible trustee. Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihī has recently commenced negotiations with the Lakes Trust for it to become the responsible trustee.

Te Arawa Lakes Trust elections

Te Arawa Lakes Trust elections are coming up later this year. We want to see top-quality Ngāti Rangitihī candidates standing for the three positions available. If you are interested in standing for election please contact the Lakes Trust office.

We need Ngāti Rangitihī iwi to register with the Lakes Trust, so we can all vote for our candidates.

Please fill out the registration form enclosed with this newsletter and send it to the Lakes Trust. You can download a registration form [here](#).

Ahuwhenua Trophy - Ngāti Rangitihi farming excellence

In mid-April, Onuku Māori Lands Trust hosted judges and more than 300 manuhiri and fellow farmers from across the country at their final field day, as well as judging for the Ahuwhenua Trophy. This trophy is the most prestigious award for Māori agriculture.

One of Onuku's six blocks, Boundary Road Farm, is up against a Hokitika-based farm, The Proprietors of Mawhera Incorporation. Ahuwhenua Trophy Management Committee Chairman, Kingi Smiler says, "it is great to see top dairy farms selected as finalists for this prestigious trophy. They are performing very well in some of the most challenging times, especially with the volatile weather conditions which have plagued the farming industry in the past two months."

Boundary Road Farm comprises a 72ha block near Lake Rotomahana. It manages 220 cows which produce about 90,000 kg of milk solids. The manager of this farm is Onuku's only Ngāti Rangitihi farmer, Alan Rondon, mokopuna of Bobby Rondon. Born and raised in Matatā, Alan has worked on Arthur Burt's farm for ten years where he made his way up to management. Alan says the highlight is "working on our own whenua. I'm the only member of my immediate whānau working this closely with our whenua, so they're enjoying it too."

The judges' final decision will be announced at the Ahuwhenua Awards dinner at Wigram Airbase in Christchurch on May 25.



Māori Roll or General Roll – your choice

If you're Māori and 18 or over, it's time to make a simple but important choice - do you want to be on the Māori Roll or the General Roll? You won't get to choose again until 2024, so it's worth thinking about. The Māori Electoral Option runs from 3 April – 2 August 2018.

To find out more, go to www.maorioption.org.nz, call 0800 36 76 56, or visit www.facebook.com/maorioption

Bilateral Agreement with Ministry of Education

Following on from last year's successful programme of Māori immersion initiatives to support Ngāti Rangitihi students towards achieving educational success, we have once again committed to working with eighty of our school-age children to achieve the same outcomes.

The two 'Muri Kura' (after-school) programmes will be transformed into a two-hour, weekly stint in the Matatā School rumaki class and a number of small group 'Muri Kura ki te Kainga' sessions in Rotorua.

We will continue to support secondary school students with 'Kura Tauwhi', a special immersion programme conducted during weekends whereby students learn and achieve credits towards NCEA qualifications.

A new feature of this year's programme includes a joint approach with Taichi and Carly Playle to provide Ngāti Rangitihi youth with a maunga/awa/marae/moana holiday camp experience. This initiative is designed to guide our youth towards acquisition of Rangitihi identity and we expect that over a period of time the camp will morph into immersion.

A particularly successful feature of our 2017 Ma Te Reo contract was the Kura Reo held on Mokoia Island with parents, children and grandparents learning together in an immersion environment. We will duplicate that immersion experience and encourage one adult plus one child participation (One Plus One) as a way of promoting Māori language in the home.



Navy clean up at Brett Road

The Trust and the Department of Conservation were recently approached by the New Zealand Navy who were keen to send six enthusiastic and hardworking team members to help clean up our rohe for a day. Our Brett Road Campground in Rerewhakaaitu needed a tidy up, so we put our willing Navy volunteers to the task on a hot March day. Thanks to those whānau who came and joined in the clean-up, clearing overgrown trees, bushes, scrub and lawns.

It was a great effort and our campground is again looking ka pai.

Charitable Trust Grant Recipient

In each newsletter, we profile one of our Charitable Trust Grant recipients. This edition, we give an update on Tawharangi Smith.

Tawharangi received a grant of \$500 in January 2016 for Waka Ama. This year he is competing in the J19 Elite Boys' Waka Ama 2018 IVF Va'a World Club Sprints to be held in July in Tahiti. This development squad has only seven young men – but it will be one to watch! Getting into this elite team is a significant achievement and we wish Tawharangi all the best and look forward to hearing of his progress.



New Charitable Trust criteria

We have recently reviewed our Charitable Trust categories and criteria. The new categories are: Community, Education, Sports and Kaumātua. The criteria for 'Education' have changed, whereby grants are made for studies completed. The Kaumātua category (for iwi 70 years +) provides for reimbursement of up to \$200 for medical items and services.

You can read more about our Charitable Trust and see full grant application details on our website www.ngatirangitih.iwi.nz

Charitable Trust Grant Recipients April 2018

Simon Davidson, Education	\$1,000
Teah Elliott, Education	\$500
Stacey Niao, Education	\$1,000
Pirihita Patrick, Education	\$300
Taepounamu Ruha, Education	\$500
Wharengaro Ruha, Education	\$500
Aroha Ruha-Hiraka, Education	\$500
Dani-Maree Savage, Education	\$500
Darlene Smith, Education	\$300
Riān Warbrick, Education	\$500
Dusky-Rose Tāwhai, Education	\$500
Alex Hyde, Education	\$300
Eva Tione, Education	\$1,000
Leah Warbrick, Education	\$500
Jess Wiperi, Education	\$500
Mokonuiarangi Edmonds, Sport	\$500
Te Roro o Te rangi, Sport	\$500
Hana Paterson, Sport	\$105
Ruby Paterson, Sport	\$136
Zack Paterson, Sport	\$300
Carlos Savage, Sport	\$500
Linda Schuster, Sport	\$560
Anahera Smith, Sport	\$500
Tawharangi Smith, Sport	\$500
Geoffrey McCaull, Sport	\$500
Josephine Scott, Kaumātua	\$200
Mahora Whiston, Kaumātua	\$200
Freda Semmens, Community	\$1,433



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