



ISSUE #17 | June2020 / Pipiri2020



A word from your poari

Ngā mihi i te wā Matariki, te tau hou!

Our last kawerongo, sent out in March, arrived in your email inboxes in the midst of Aotearoa's Covid-19 lockdown.

Our staff were out of the Ngā Pōtiki office at the time and so were unable to print and mail out the hard-copy version of the newsletter.

It was a time of great uncertainty and change and, for many of our whānau, that might still be the case.

Sadly, over the past few months, businesses have been forced to close, jobs have been lost, and budgets have been tightened.

While many people might feel like their lives have pretty much returned to 'normal' now, there are members of our community who are still doing it tough.

At the start of May, we launched the Ngā Pōtiki Covid-19 Response Survey to try and understand the unprecedented situation we were in and what urgent assistance our whānau needed. People could fill out the survey online or over the phone.

Thank you to all of you who completed the survey, your answers helped inform our response and are continuing to do so.

As a result of the information gathered in the survey, the Ngā Pōtiki board has decided to create 'navigator' capacity within the organisation to help guide and support members of our whānau through this difficult period.

If you need help accessing services – budget advice, finding affordable accommodation, supporting the education of your tamariki etc. – you can contact our navigator by emailing kiaora@ngapotiki.org.nz.

All whānau who completed the survey will also receive an email this week providing more information about how the navigator service works.

The survey identified five priority areas of need in our community and at the top of that list was 'dealing with debt, rent or mortgage payments'.

One way we have responded to that is by hosting a money management webinar earlier this month via the video conferencing tool Zoom.

Our Ngā Pōtiki host and an expert panel from Westpac New Zealand answered questions from attendees and covered topics including: the impacts of Covid-19 and what help is available for people struggling to pay their mortgage or rent, traps and risks that people should be aware of and try to avoid, advice on how to start tackling your debt, tips around managing your KiwiSaver fund, and more.

It was a very successful session and we will be looking to host more webinars in response to some of the other areas of identified need.

Despite the difficulties of the past few months, there have also been some milestones to celebrate.

Tahuwhakatiki Marae (Rōmai) has launched The Urupā Restoration Project and the response from the people of the marae and the wider community has been incredible.

Even more incredible is the amount of progress that has already been made. There is more information about that project in this newsletter.

There is also a very exciting announcement from our housing team in this newsletter.

Meanwhile, Ngā Pōtiki has also been involved in the blessings of two new school sites in Pāpāmoa in the first half of this year – Te Okuroa Drive School and Suzanne Aubert Catholic School.

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We are looking forward to building a solid partnership with these two new schools, as we have done over the years with all local schools in Pāpāmoa.

Unfortunately, we also have some sad news to share at this time.

Our general manager, Erana Brewerton, will be leaving Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust at the end of this month to return to her whānau fulltime in the Waikato.

We are so grateful for the time she has given us and the way she has led the organisation.

Erana has skillfully steered the Ngā Pōtiki waka towards a bright future and has built a team of dedicated staff, all of whom are very sad to see her go.

E te māreikura, nāu te waka i urungi kia ū ki ūta, nāu i tū hei poutokomanawa mo tātou, nāu i poipoi, nāu i akiaki. Nā mātou te waimarie e te tuāhine. Pūhaehae katoa tātou i ngā taniwha o Tainui. Kua oti pai ngā mahi, kei te tū tonu te mana o Ngā Pōtiki.
'He Toka Tū Moana'.

Ngā mihi mahana

Colin Reeder and the board of Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust.

Whanaungatanga

In this issue, four of our trustees answer a few questions about themselves.



Victoria Carroll

Deputy Chairperson and Trustee

My Ngā Pōtiki connection is through my tino kuia, Tiria, who was one of three Ngā Pōtiki women taken after the battle of Te Tumu and then re-ensconced onto Ngā Pōtiki whenua by Eru Tamapahore Te Tauhau.

What is your favourite place in Aotearoa, and why?

Toki Toki Point, Ranginui Rd, because it's home.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received, and who was it from?

'Measure twice, cut once.' In other words, if you're going to do something, do it properly – from Jimi Cookson, my grandad.

What is something unusual or interesting about you that many people wouldn't know?

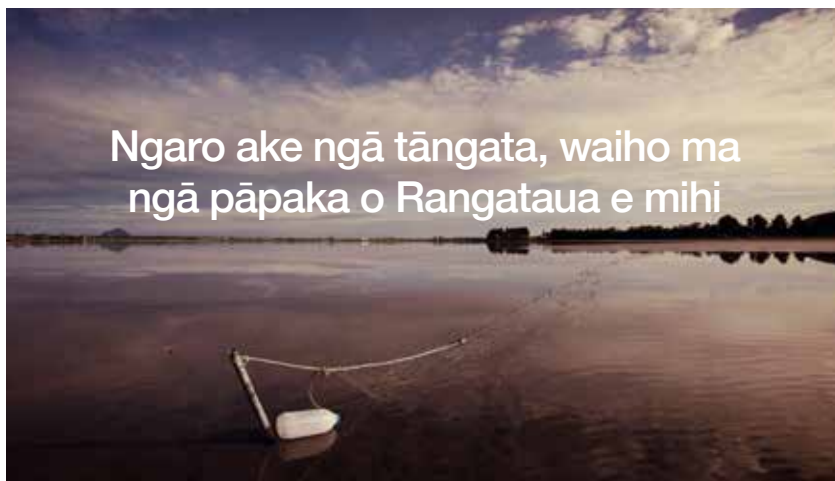
In 2000, I travelled to London to attend a Privy Council hearing as part of a legal team representing Māori land-owners against the Hastings District Council, which was trying to take Māori land under the Public Works Act. Technically we lost the case, but Hastings District Council never built the road through our client's apple orchard and the case set a far-reaching legal precedent for other Māori to protect their whenua. We were paid in apples, pumpkin and kūmara! And celebrated the end of the hearing at one of the cousins' places in Mayfair, next door to Madonna's house! One of my best experiences.

Since becoming a Ngā Pōtiki trustee, what is something that has stood out to you, or something you have learnt?

Just how awesome our people can be and how much I miss our loved ones and kaumātua who have passed on, they were a fountain of knowledge and a great strength to us to get to where we are today. I hope we can honour their memories and make this a better place for our tamariki, mokopuna.

If you could have an evening of kai and conversation with three other people, who would they be?

Mum, Dad and Elvis.



'While the people are absent, the crabs of Rangataua will welcome you'



Lara Burkhardt
Advisory Trustee

My connection to Ngā Pōtiki began in a solicitor/client capacity some years ago, after I returned to Tauranga in 2009. As a lawyer specialising in environmental law, I have had the opportunity to assist Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust with some of its work in this area, most notably the early release and development of Te Hou Hou. I whakapapa to Ngāti Whātua and Ngāpuhi, and also have Danish, Swiss and English heritage.

What is your favourite place in Aotearoa, and why?

Ōmanu, where we live, still stands out as my favourite place. I would have loved to grow up right next to a beach (I grew up in Whangārei), so now that I have children (Zoe and Leo) it's really special to me that they will never know any different (and hopefully swim like fish).

What is your favourite kai?

It's boring, but I still love having what was my favourite childhood/birthday dinner – pork chops carefully grilled to make it crackle. The trade-off is tough-as-gumboots meat, which is why you need heaps of apple sauce, mashed potatoes and peas.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received, and who was it from?

I have always liked and remembered the lyrics from *The Sunscreen Song* from the late 90s, like “Whatever you do, don't congratulate yourself too much, or berate yourself either. Your choices are half chance; so are everybody else's”.

What would your dream holiday involve?

Going anywhere along the Yasawa Islands chain in Fiji. Best place to relax,

recharge and adventure in the warmer waters of the South Pacific Ocean. I have always had whānau on the mainland to visit as well. Bula vinaka!

Since becoming a Ngā Pōtiki trustee, what is something that has stood out to you, or something you have learnt?

The number of important issues that the Trust is engaged in to support and further the interests of Ngā Pōtiki.

I am excited to be part of some of the incredible work the Trust does.



Peter Stokes
Trustee

Te toto te toto, I am Ngā Pōtiki through my mum, Iria Stokes (nee Taite). Iria is a daughter of Te Rahui Kura Taite (nee Ngatai) and Haimona Taite – my grandparents. Haimona's grandparents were Titihuia Raimona (nee Haimona) and Kirikau Raimona.

What is your favourite place in Aotearoa, and why?

Hauraki Gulf – plenty of fish.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received, and who was it from?

'Marry a Māori, boy' – from my aunty.

What is your favourite kai?

Kaimoana.

Since becoming a Ngā Pōtiki trustee, what is something that has stood out to you, or something you have learnt?

Amazed at the leadership of our wāhine.

What would your dream holiday involve?

Rest, relaxation, and good kai.

Date set for Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust will be held on Saturday, November 14 from 10.30am.

The meeting will be held at Mangatawa Marae (Tamapahore).

There will be an election process this year. Details and nomination forms will be sent to all adult registered members at the beginning of August.



Colin Reeder
Chairperson and Advisory Trustee

My Ngā Pōtiki connection is through my koroua Riini Paraire.

What is your favourite place in Aotearoa, and why?

Kairua – because I live in the old family homestead surrounded by Ngā Pōtiki whānau and pā maunga. Kairua is the centre of the universe.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received, and who was it from?

'Kia tau te rangimarie' – from whaea Ani Tia, Ngāti Kuri.

What is your favourite kai?

Cook Island umukai and ika mata, and Samoan palusami.

Since becoming a Ngā Pōtiki trustee, what is something that has stood out to you, or something you have learnt?

That Ngā Pōtiki is, for all intents and purposes, an iwi.

If you could have an evening of kai and conversation with three other people, who would they be?

Jesus, Muhammad and Buddha.



Ngā Pōtiki Housing update

Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust is excited to announce that it will be building six three-bedroom rental homes at Manawa. Construction of these houses, which has been funded by Te Puni Kōkiri and Ngā Pōtiki, will be completed by the end of the year.

There will be more information in the September newsletter about this rental housing project and the process for applying to be a tenant.

If you have any questions, please email Linda Carroll:

linda@ngapotiki.org.nz.

Meanwhile, Stage 2B of the Manawa development is now complete. All titles have been issued and all sites settled. A financial update will be given at the Ngā Pōtiki Annual General Meeting in November.

The 2020 Manawa Shared Equity Scheme application process is ongoing for the second group of Ngā Pōtiki whānau.

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NGA PŌTIKI
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Connecting with Ngā Pōtiki.

Create an online account – Whakauru mai!

During the recent Covid-19 lockdown, it became clear to us that we need to improve the way we connect, and stay connected, with our members. So, we have been working to improve the accessibility of our registration and membership system.

We cannot just rely on the post to send out pānui or newsletters, we also need to be able to connect with our members online, on the phone, and via email.

We have created a new registration and membership page on our website, to help us connect with all of you online.

Please visit the page and follow the instructions. Click through to our new registration/membership portal and create an online account with us.

Once you have an online account, you can update your contact details and receive notifications from us about upcoming events and opportunities.

If you are not yet a registered member of Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore, you can apply to become a member via this new online portal.

It is vitally important that we have up to date contact details, so that we can keep you informed about important hui like our Annual General Meeting. If you are able, please take the time to create an online account with us, and update your contact details.

If you need some help with the process, please feel free to call us at the office on 07 572 3344, or email us at:

kiaora@ngapotiki.org.nz.

Marae Development Plan Hui

Saturday, August 8

Mangatawa Marae (Tamapahore)

10am-12pm, followed by lunch

**This is the start of a series of hui organised to discuss
the future priorities of our marae.**

**The Mangatawa Marae Committee has prepared a 25 year strategic plan
that it would like to share with whānau and receive feedback.**

A contact form will be available to fill in on the day to create a database of whānau, so that we can keep in touch with you for communication purposes.

For more information, contact: linda@mangatawa-marae.org.nz

Ngā Pōtiki ā Tamapahore Trust

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Te Ara ō Wairākei – the path of Wairākei

As many of you will know from whānau kōrero, the Wairākei Stream once teemed with native fish and birds.

It was connected to and fed into the vast wetlands that stretched across the Pāpāmoa coast behind the sand dunes.

To enable large-scale flax harvesting, then farming, and, later, residential development, those wetlands were gradually drained.

Over time, the Wairākei was cut off from both its headwaters in the Pāpāmoa Hills, and its natural coastal outlet into Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa (the Pacific Ocean).

It is no longer a stream.

What exists now – a few streets back from the beach, wedged between residential subdivisions – is a substitute waterway that’s main purpose is flood control and stormwater disposal, treatment and storage.

That is why, for a long time, it was known as the Papāmoa Main Drain.

Now, it is called Te Ara ō Wairākei – the path of Wairākei.

The new name acknowledges its rich ecological and cultural history.

While this meandering network of stormwater ponds and canals remains a highly modified remnant of the original coastal wetlands, it is a far cry from the stream that was named

“Wairākei” for its translucent water.

In summer, after long dry stretches without rain, algal blooms now often flare up and the water starts to stink. Where Wairākei Stream once flowed freely through this corridor and emptied out into the sea, the water now sits stagnant.

And yet, remarkably, life remains – including some of our native taonga species, like tuna.

We have been working with Tauranga City Council and other iwi and hapū to make sure native species are given every opportunity to re-establish themselves and flourish in Te Ara ō Wairākei reserve.

The Te Ara ō Wairākei project is an opportunity to preserve and enhance

what is left of the natural environment along this significantly important 15km green corridor.

One way of doing that is by carrying out native riparian planting along the waterway.

Already, hundreds of thousands of native plants have been planted.

Some of the native planting along Te Ara ō Wairākei will provide edge habitat for inanga (which have an “At Risk – Declining” DoC conservation status), in anticipation of these fish returning to spawn.

Other indigenous plant species have been chosen to improve water quality (especially temperature), stabilise banks, and provide aquatic habitat for native resident species such as tuna – shortfin eel, and longfin eel (which also have an “At Risk – Declining” DoC conservation status).

The type of plants chosen will also reduce the potential for public/pet contact with water that is unsafe, reduce lawn clippings entering the ponds (which contributes to the algal blooms), and provide an easily maintained edge for mowing contractors.

But especially important for Ngā Pōtiki, the native planting will improve water quality and biodiversity, and that is something everyone will benefit from.

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The Urupā Restoration Project

The marae trustees and hau kāinga of Tahuwhakatiki Marae (Rōmai) have launched a project to restore their urupā. During the recent Covid-19 lockdown, marae trustee Ropata Stephens and a small group of whānau helpers started work on the project. The team live within walking distance of the site and spent the quiet lockdown days clearing the bank of gorse, blackberry and noxious weeds.



The main aim of the restoration project is to mitigate erosion on the edge of the urupā, by building a retaining wall and planting native trees and plants along the bank.

The project has been funded by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

On June 13, a group of whānau helpers and volunteers from the wider community spent their Saturday morning planting more than 1000 native plants along the bank of the urupā.

Chair of Tahuwhakatiki Marae, John Ohia, said the planting day was "inspiring".

Marae trustee Matire Duncan said it was "really awesome to see the amount of people that have joined in to help us with this project".

She said: "It's the community. It's not just people of the marae and of Ngā Pōtiki, it's actually the community."



Congratulations to everyone involved in this project. Ka rawe!

**We produced two short videos about
The Urupā Restoration Project.**

You can watch those here:

Part I: <https://vimeo.com/424916889>

Part II: <https://vimeo.com/429513462>



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Marae Contacts



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