



Kicking off the Tūāpapa Wānanga series

Whānau from across the rohe recently came together for the first of our new Tūāpapa Wānanga series.

The kaupapa behind the series is all about creating welcoming spaces where whānau can give things a go, learn together, and build confidence over time. Tūāpapa means foundation, and these wānanga are helping lay those foundations for future generations.

Over the course of the wānanga, whānau spent time side by side taking part in pahi building, knot tying, raranga, and waiata. From laughter around the mahi, to time spent together on the whenua, it was clear

everyone had a great time simply being together as Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō.

This series also connects closely to the development of our Pahi at Rotoiti, inspired by the way Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō traditionally gathered, travelled, learned, and lived in relationship with the whenua.

This first wānanga was only the beginning, with the next Tūāpapa Wānanga taking place from 12–14 June.



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Tēnei te rā ka tō
Tēnei te rā ka ara
Ka ara mai anō
A Apa ki runga
Kia eke panuku
Kia eke Tangaroa
Haumi e
Hui e
Tāiki e!

HE KŌRERO NĀ NGĀ KAIHAUTŪ FROM THE CHAIR

I am honoured to share a brief update on behalf of our Poari Whakahaere and reflect on some of the kaupapa progressed by the Trust over the past six months.

Thank you to the whānau who supported the recent SGM, where members considered and voted on required changes to the Trust Deed. These changes were needed to keep the Trust compliant with the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 and the updated Māori Fisheries Act 2004, and to ensure our governance documents remain fit for purpose in protecting Iwi fisheries assets for future generations. Both resolutions were passed successfully, confidently meeting the required approval threshold.

At the hui, whānau also tabled a motion asking the Trust to reconsider the timing of the AGM, so it better aligns with the summer holidays and supports whānau who wish to return home to Te Taihū for Hui ā Iwi. In response, we are looking into the costs and practical implications of changing our financial year and will report back to whānau.

In the meantime, the AGM will be held in September, with an improved online participation option. It will still cover the activities and financial performance of the previous financial year, meet our annual reporting obligations, and provide an important opportunity for whānau to receive updates, ask pātai, and help shape the ongoing direction of our Iwi.

Rather than hold a larger Hui ā Iwi this year, we plan to focus our efforts on the opening of our new Pāhi in February 2027. Given the cost of supporting travel for two major whānau hui in a short period, the Trust will focus its financial support on helping whānau return home for this kaupapa. More details will be shared as planning progresses.

Lastly, at our previous AGM we shared the proposed new logo and received helpful feedback from whānau. Under Fayne's guidance, the design has continued to be refined, with care taken to bring it closer to the places and spaces that are significant to us. The next version reflects that feedback and the kōrero that has shaped the design.

The beautiful image included with this pānui, taken by Keelan Walker, shows our tūpuna roto, Rotomairewhenua, and is proudly displayed in our Wairau tari. When I look at that photograph, I see the story of the new logo and the space that joins our hapū collectively.

Ngā mih

Nicole Akuhata
Chairperson



Ngā Kanohi o te Iwi *Member Profile*

For Irihapeti Mahuika, serving as the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō representative on Te Kāhui Hauora o Te Taihū is about far more than governance. It is about ensuring Iwi voices are present in the spaces where decisions are made about the future of our people.

“Ko Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō tōku Iwi. My whakapapa connects me deeply to Te Taihū, and to the responsibility of carrying our people’s voice into these spaces,” she explains.

“Being Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is not just an identity. It is a lived obligation to uphold the mana of our tīpuna and ensure our mokopuna inherit strength, stability and opportunity.”

That responsibility is grounded in whānau, whenua, and a commitment to advocating in ways that are both courageous and strategic.

As part of Te Kāhui Hauora o Te Taihū, Irihapeti’s role focuses on ensuring Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō perspectives help shape health system decision-making across the region. This includes advocating for equitable health outcomes, influencing commissioning priorities, holding the system accountable to Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations, and ensuring whānau perspectives remain central to planning, investment and service delivery.

While much of the mahi happens at a governance level, the focus always comes back to the realities faced by whānau every day.

“What motivates me is simple. Our people deserve better.”

“Too often Māori are expected to navigate systems that were never designed with us in mind. I’m motivated by the opportunity to help shift that, so Ngāti Apa ki te Rā

Tō aspirations are not treated as an afterthought, but as a starting point.”

There is also a strong awareness of the long-term impact this work carries.

“The decisions we influence now will shape access, outcomes and wellbeing for generations. That’s not a responsibility I take lightly.”

In the current environment, she believes clarity, trust and accessibility are more important than ever for whānau engaging with the health system.

“Whānau need services that are culturally grounded, communication that is transparent and accessible, and investment that reflects actual need rather than historical underfunding.”

“Equity has to move beyond language and into measurable outcomes.”

Strong Iwi leadership also plays an important role in helping communities navigate complex system change and ensuring that change translates into meaningful impact on the ground.

For Irihapeti, the work is ultimately about ensuring Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō continues to have a strong voice in shaping systems that directly affect the wellbeing of whānau, both now and into the future.

“This mahi only matters if it stays connected to our people. That connection will always be the most important part.”

Irihapeti Mahuika



Kōrero mai - Do you have any news to share with Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō?

Do you have any whānau achievements that you would like to share through our monthly pānui?

If you do then please email comms@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz so we can highlight the amazing mahi of our Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whānau.





Te Anamāhanga

Wetland Restoration Project

Over recent months, mahi has continued at Te Anamāhanga as part of our ongoing wetland restoration kaupapa. To date, more than 1300 native plants have been planted to uplift the mauri of our repo (wetland).

Repo are an important part of our taiao. Around 90% of repo across Aotearoa have been drained or lost over time, largely through land development and farming practices. Restoring and protecting our repo is important for the health of our wai, taonga species, and the overall wellbeing of our taiao.

This kaupapa has been strengthened through a meaningful partnership with Snowchange Cooperative based in Finland, whose values and approach to caring for te taiao strongly align with our own. Their mahi alongside Indigenous communities across the world reflects a shared passion for restoring the mauri of repo, while protecting Indigenous mātauranga, tikanga, and whanaungatanga within te taiao. Through this partnership, Snowchange has helped enable our whānau to lead the restoration of Te Anamāhanga.

Our next step for this kaupapa is to develop and implement a mauri monitoring framework that can support whānau to monitor the mauri of our repo over time, grounded in Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō mātauranga.

Ngā Kaupapa Taiao

Taiao Submissions Update

The Government has proposed some major changes to environmental and local government laws that will affect decisions about about our whenua, wai, and natural resources across Aotearoa.

One of the biggest changes is the replacement of the current Resource Management Act (RMA) with two new laws — the Planning Bill and the Natural Environment Bill. Changes are also being made through the Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Bill, which will impact how councils operate and make decisions.

These reforms will have significant impacts on how Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō are involved in decision-making across our rohe. Earlier this year, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō made three submissions to the Government. This included a collective submission alongside ngā Iwi o Te Taihū, as well as separate Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō submissions on both the RMA Reform Bills and the Local Government Bill.

Our submissions were focused on protecting and upholding the mana of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō. We highlighted the importance of protecting our taiao and ensuring Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō can continue to exercise tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga within our rohe from ki uta ki tai. We also stressed the importance for better resourcing and support to ensure Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō can be meaningfully involved in environmental planning, policy development, and decision-making processes across our rohe, particularly given the capacity constraints and unrealistic timeframes set by the Government.

We have formally invited all 5 councils to enter into Manawhakahono ā Rohe agreements. These agreements will provide a framework for strengthening our relationship and ensuring meaningful participation by Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō in resource management and in decision-making processes within our rohe.

Alongside these submissions and Manawhakahono ā Rohe agreements, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō also lodged an Official Information Act (OIA) request with the Ministry for the Environment to better understand how Iwi were engaged within the Government's reform process.

This mahi is important to uphold the mana and rangatiratanga of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, protect the mauri of our taiao and ensure our role as kaitiaki within our rohe continues to be recognised and upheld.

“Toitū te whenua, Toitū te moana, Toitū te Tiriti”

He Pānui Whānau

Special General Meeting Update

On Saturday 2 May 2026, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust held a Special General Meeting at Omaka Marae to consider a number of resolutions relating to the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 and the future governance arrangements of the Trust.

It was a beautiful Marlborough day and we were delighted to achieve quorum, with strong whānau participation both in person and through voting processes. The Trust would like to sincerely thank all members who took the time to engage with this important kaupapa.

The following resolutions were considered at the hui with results as follows:

SPECIAL RESOLUTION 1

To approve amendments to the Current Deed to comply with the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 and to remain compliant with the updated Māori Fisheries Act 2004.

- APPROVE: 172
- DO NOT APPROVE: 1
- BLANK: 1

With 99.42% support from those who voted on the resolution, the resolution was carried.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION 2

To adopt the Amended and Restated Deed as the new deed of trust for Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust on 26 July 2026, when the relevant provisions of the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 come into force.

- APPROVE: 171
- DO NOT APPROVE: 4
- BLANK: 2

With 97.71% support from those who voted on the resolution, the resolution was carried.

RESOLUTION 3

To approve that the amendments to the Trust Deed are for the collective benefit of all Members of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō.

This resolution was passed unanimously by show of hands.

RESOLUTION 4

To approve:

(a) the amendments to the AHC constitution have been made to comply with the Māori Fisheries Amendment Act 2024 and to remain compliant with the updated Māori Fisheries Act 2005; and

(b) that the amendments contemplated by (a) above are for the collective benefit of all Members of Ngāti Awa ki te Rā Tō.

This resolution was also passed unanimously by show of hands.

Following the hui, whānau shared kai together and took the opportunity to reconnect and discuss the future direction of our Iwi.

The updated Trust Deed and Asset Holding Company Constitution will come into effect on 26 July 2026. Copies will be available on our website and can also be requested from the office by phoning 0800 272 829 or emailing office@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz.

He Aha kei te Heke Mai?

What's Coming Up?

Tūapapa Wānanga

When: June 12-14
Where: Rotoiti

Te Kaiaotanga o te Reo

When: June 24-25
Where: Trafalgar Centre

Hui-ā-Tau

When: September 19
Where: Omaka Marae

Ipukarea

When: November 20-21
Where: Wairau

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Roadshows

Dates TBC

For more info visit:
ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz



“Mā te huruhuru ka rere te manu.” *Adorn the bird with feathers so it may fly.*



Mānaia



Ilah Beattie



Brya Roussel

Ngā Ara Mātauranga *Education & Scholarships*

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is proud to support our taura through our education grants and scholarships programme, helping our whānau pursue their goals and build strong futures.

This year’s recipients are following pathways across te Reo Māori, nursing, and environmental management, with each taura carrying a strong passion for giving back to their people and communities through their future mahi.

Mānaia Ieremia is studying Māori Studies and Te Reo Māori at Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington. Ilah Beattie is completing her nursing studies at NMIT with aspirations of becoming both a Registered Nurse and midwife. Brya Roussel has started a Bachelor in Environmental Management through Te Wānanga o Raukawa, focusing on te taiao and environmental restoration.

Congratulations to our scholarship recipients Mānaia, Ilah, and Brya as they continue their study journeys.

Our Education Grants round is now open, any Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō member undertaking tertiary study or training can be awarded up to \$1,600.

Our Trades Training Grants also remain open year-round to support whānau pursuing apprenticeships and trade qualifications.

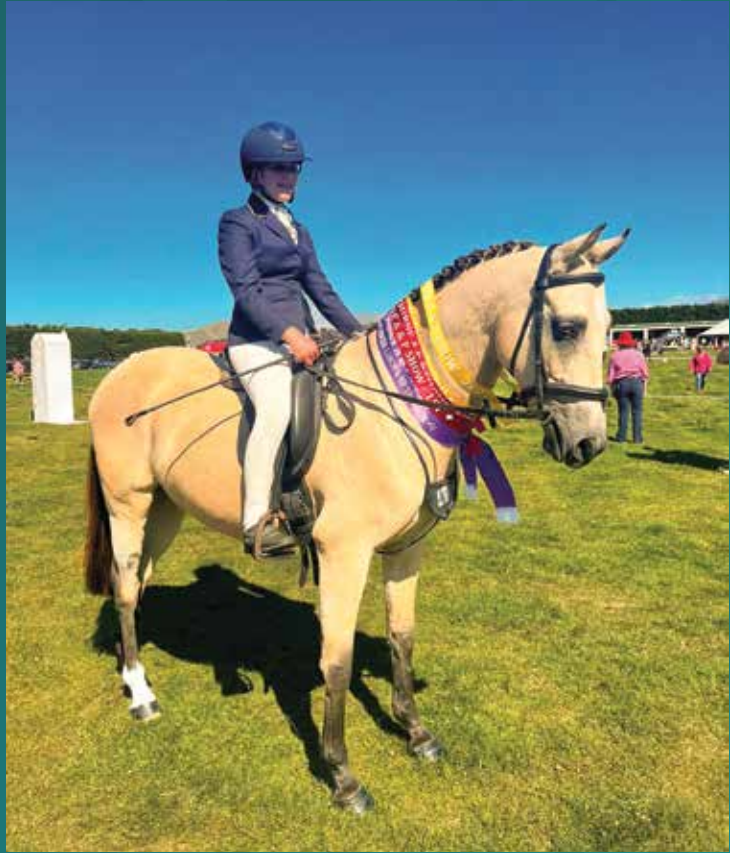
We encourage all eligible uri to explore the opportunities available and apply.

Simply apply via our website or email office@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz for more information.

Ngā Toa Hākinakina



Riley Midgley – Riley in his new kit. This is his first year playing for an Academy team.



Sophie Mason - Sophie and Stan (Brenwood Buck the Trend) got Champion novice saddle hunter pony at the 100th Flaxbourne A&P show.

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TE REO**
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**TE KAIAOTANGA O
TE REO**
Māori Language Revitalisation Symposium



Te Whānau Taueki

Kia ora Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō team,

On behalf of our whole whānau, I would like to sincerely thank you for the support you have given us through the sport grant this softball season.

Your contribution has made a real difference for our whānau, allowing all of us to participate together. It has supported not just our involvement in sport, but also the health and wellbeing of our whānau as a whole. Being able to play, grow, and enjoy this season together has meant a lot to us.

As the softball season comes to an end, we are truly grateful for the opportunity you have provided. The memories, development, and time spent together as a whānau are something we will carry forward.

Ngā mihi nui for your continued support of our people and whanau

Ngā Kōrero o te Pahi

Progress on our Pahi continues to move steadily ahead, with site works and infrastructure now beginning to take shape on the whenua. Foundations are now complete, and the concrete slab for the tuna processing area has been poured.

We are excited to move into the next phase of the build, where the floor structure will begin going down and the laminated timber portals and frames will start rising from the ground. This stage will bring a real sense of scale and form to the project.

As part of our recent Tūāpapa Wānanga, whānau visited the site and spent time reconnecting with the whenua and kaupapa. We are also looking forward to the upcoming Tūāpapa Waka Wānanga on Saturday 13th – Sunday 14th June, where whānau may have another opportunity to visit the site and see the latest progress firsthand. Future wānanga will continue to create opportunities for whānau to engage directly with the site and experience the pahi developing.



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