

# *Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi o Te Tau Hou*

## Kurahaupō Collective

Ngāti Kuia, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Rangitāne o Wairau have come together to provide professional learning and development support, enabling teachers and kaiako to provide more responsive and rich learning experiences for all ākonga and students in Te Taihū. The announcement in 2019 that Aotearoa New Zealand's histories will be taught in all schools and kura from 2022, together with the growing calls from New Zealanders to know more about our history and identity, motivated our Kurahaupō iwi to respond.

Often contacted by schools to support kaupapa Māori, iwi saw a need and decided to formalise the support they offered by becoming accredited facilitators, giving schools access to much needed regionally allocated funding from the Ministry of Education.

Representing the three iwi of Kurahaupō, the team will draw on tīpuna kōrero, history, whakapapa, waiata, kapa haka and Te Reo to move teachers and school leaders to the next step in their cultural responsiveness journey.



Aaron Hemi, Tom Alesana, Irihāpeti Mahuika, Vanya George and Dr Peter Meihana bring whakapapa and years of teaching and learning experience to this role and are excited to begin working with schools in 2022.

## *Kia hiwa rā*

NEWS AND EVENTS

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Keeping you informed of news, announcements and opportunities, from around our rohe and the motu.

# FROM THE CHAIR



There has been an unfortunate interlude since our last pānui, our Communications Advisor left some months ago and it has taken more time than anticipated to find a replacement. However, I'm happy to announce that Grace Tocker has joined the group as our Events and Communications Co-ordinator.

Unfortunately, moving about the country has been a little more troublesome for me of late. I have managed to keep up regular contact with various entities and groups via Zoom, audio conference and, where applicable, face to face. Moving forward, there is a real acceptance that Zoom or webinars are tools that will change the face of how we meet in the future. Face to face will always be my preferred option, but in these days of uncertainty, it is always wise to have a 'Plan B'.

Last month, I met with Hugh Morrison, Port Nelson Chief Executive Officer. I believe there is an opportunity for Ngāti Apa members to be part of the future port expansion projects, perhaps in the form of apprenticeships and other building initiatives.

My regular meetings with Mayor Jamie Cleine have been beneficial and potential opportunities in Kawatiri are being explored.

I, along with other Te Taihū iwi chairs are still being briefed by Minister Mahuta and her advisors regarding Three Waters. 'Street language' seems the best way to describe the current status, 'it's a bumfight'. How one can fairly determine who could/should be on the proposed governing bodies will no doubt expose yet another layer of perceived injustices.

It is hard not to be cynical at the moment given the disturbing housing shortages and the unprecedented increases in house prices. This, coupled with the increase in child poverty and mental health issues, signals that we need to keep an eye out for each other. The festive period brings its own stresses and strains, and it is very important that look after all our whānau, keep in touch with each other, and be vigilant of our tamariki.

Trustees recently invited iwi members of the sub-committees, commercial board, and staff to be part of a strategic planning day. I'll be in a position to update you on future initiatives in the new year.

Given the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, Tarakaipa and Puaha te Rangi Hapū committees wish to announce that the Christmas functions, normally held at this time of year, have been cancelled. It is anticipated that there will be an opportunity sometime in mid-2022 to catch up, but at this stage committee members will take a watching brief.

Finally, with all that has happened over the past year, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe, healthy, and happy Christmas and a very joyful new year.

Ngā mihi nui  
**Hinemoa Conner**

## Blue carbon projects

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is working with the Tasman Environment Trust on a kaupapa looking at how much blue carbon is stored in our local coastal ecosystems.

This collaborative 'core and restore' project was launched recently, with our Cultural Advisor, Aaron Hemi, offering the karakia on the shores on the Waimeha Inlet. This was followed by the collection of sediment cores from saltmarsh and seagrass habitats. This sediment is currently being analysed for its carbon content and the results will provide us with an insight of how much carbon these systems store, right here on our doorstep. The information will also help us to prioritise areas for restoration.



Another part of this mahi involved planting teabags. Yes, you read that right! Nelson City Council scientists are conducting a teabag study to find out how healthy our estuaries are and their potential for carbon sequestration. This is part of a global study called TeaComposition H<sub>2</sub>O (you can check it out online at [www.bluecarbonlab.org/teacomposition-h2o](http://www.bluecarbonlab.org/teacomposition-h2o)) which analyses litter decomposition within wetland ecosystems using two specific varieties of household teabags – green and rooibos tea made by Lipton. So, next time you sit down for a cuppa, spare a thought for the teabags out there in the mud!



Aaron Hemi



Nell Kelly

## Meet the new team members

### Aaron Hemi – Cultural Advisor

Kia ora koutou katoa! Ko Aaron Hemi tōku ingoa. I am a father of three with my fiancé, Matariki. I am from Rātana, where my mum Jessica Hemi and many other whānau reside. I hold a Bachelor of Education from Massey University. I spent the past six years in Nelson working at NMIT as a Māori tutor, Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tuia te Matangi, then with Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō part time as an Advisor and back to NMIT again. I have recently moved into the full-time role of Cultural Advisor. I feel really lucky – opportunities like this don't come around every day and I'm looking forward to getting stuck in.

### Nell Kelly – Capability Advisor

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou, kia ora e te whānau, Ko Reuben Manihera rāua Ko Hinekawa Manihera nee Hiporaiti ōku tīpuna, Ko Jack rāua ko Pipi āku Tamariki, Ko Shanell (Nellie) tōku ingoa, nō Whakatū ahau. I was born and brought up in Whakatū and whakapapa to Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō as well as four other iwi of Te Taihū. I whakapapa through my tīpuna; Mahanga, Hiria Hemi, Hamuera Tuhiwairua, Hinekawa MacGregor, Taare and Teone Hiporaiti. My former working career has been as a Chartered Accountant, and I am honoured to be working for my iwi in service of my people. My role at Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is as Capability Advisor primarily focused on assessing the needs and aspirations of our iwi and its people. I look forward to engaging with our whānau and would love for whānau to visit or contact me with any pātai or whakaaro you may have.

## Mana Rangatahi

Registrations open!

Head over to our website to register for the upcoming Mana Rangatahi! This raumati, Mana Rangatahi will be held at Lake Rotoiti, where rangatahi will learn about their Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō cultural identity, sites of significance, taiao, mahinga kai, Te Haeata and more.

### THE DETAILS:

**When:** 24 – 28 January 2022

**Where:** Lake Rotoiti

**Who:** Open to rangatahi 13 – 18 years old (younger will be considered if they have attended a Mana Rangatahi wānanga previously – at the discretion of the Trust)

**Head to our website to register!**

## Waka Whānau Day

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is hosting a Waka Whānau Day for iwi members on 29 January 2022 at Lake Rotoiti!

We will also be smoking the tuna caught by the rangatahi during the week and having a Hākari at Rotoiti Lodge for lunch. This wānanga will be limited to 100 people, so make sure to register your interest in attending when the call goes out!

### THE DETAILS:

**When:** 29 January 2022

**Where:** Lake Rotoiti

**How do I register?** Keep an eye out for registration information to come!



# Upcoming events

## Local iwi lunches

Keep an eye out for details of the local iwi lunches coming to Whanganui and Ōtautahi in the new year!

## Te Ipukarea

Ngāti Toa is organising the upcoming Te Ipukarea! Watch this space for details on the when and where for Te Ipukarea 2022!

## Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo

He hui kei te haere! Save the date.

**When:** 17 & 18 May 2022

**Where:** Trafalgar Centre, Whakatū



## Off to school!

Since the last pānui, we have had three tamariki send through a photo with their Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō education school starter packs.

Happy birthday to Harper Withers, daughter of Jacob Withers, mokopuna of Tania Gapper; Blake Philson, mokopuna of Liz Pirie, mokopuna nui of Kath Hemi; and Meia Miller, mokopuna of Aroha Bond. Tau kē!

