



Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whānau who attended the Kai Tahī in Whanganui with our Trustee Kushla Okano and Cultural Advisor Aaron Hemi.

Whanganui Kai Tahī

27th May 2022

On the 27th May 2022, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō held a dinner in Whanganui at the Kingsgate hotel for iwi members and their whānau living nearby. The event was attended by approximately 70 iwi members from both Pūaha te Rangi and Tarakaipa Hapū.

Our Cultural Advisor Aaron Hemi and Trustee Kushla Okano hosted the evening on behalf of the Trusts. Whānau were welcomed by Aaron and Kushla, followed by karakia and everyone enjoying some delicious kai. After dinner, Aaron and Kushla spoke about their work for Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō.

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The event gave members an opportunity to catch up with whānau and connect with other iwi members living nearby. I was fortunate enough to attend alongside Kushla Okano. We had a fun evening catching up with whānau and iwi members living in Whanganui.”

Aaron Hemi, Cultural Advisor

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Kia hiwa rā

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FROM THE CHAIR



Ngāti Apa Investment Limited (NAIL) held a mihi whakatau at the newly acquired business of Mountain Valley Honey situated in the foothills of the Mt Arthur Range in Nelson. After the speeches, everyone took the opportunity to view the operations and meet with the shareholders and staff.

Mountain Valley Honey have hives throughout the top of the South Island and down into Maruia and Springs Junction. Please look out for this beautiful honey, you will hear more on this purchase when the Annual Report is presented, but we will try to feature an article on the founders of this business, their business philosophy and ethics, and the rationale behind the Apa purchase.

Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo, our collaborative Māori language revitalisation initiative with Rangitāne o Wairau proved as successful as last year. The symposium had a host of proficient te reo speakers willing to share their stories relating to their te reo journey. They also offered participants encouragement to either start their own journey or continue on their current path. We were lucky to have the renowned Tā Timoti Kāretu present again and his words of wisdom were inspiring.

Both iwi had the amazing practical support of staff and whānau. On behalf of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trusts, we thank them for their dedication to the cause as their professionalism contributed greatly to this well-run event.

Trustee Kushla Okano helped host the whānau get-together at the Kingsgate Hotel in Whanganui in late May. This initiative is a continuation of the iwi connecting strategy. More on this fabulous evening on the front page of this pānui. Thanks to all whānau who took the opportunity to get together, share a meal and enjoy each other's company. Thanks to Kushla and our

Cultural Advisor, Aaron Hemi, for hosting this event on the Trust's behalf.

Trustee Fayne Robinson helped host a get-together in Kawatiri, another connecting strategy initiative. Initially, this was to be a Kaumātua afternoon tea gathering but with small numbers in the area, a decision was made to open the gathering up to local iwi members. I understand that it was well attended in spite of the unseasonably bad weather. Thanks to Fayne and our Office Manager, Lynne Owen, for hosting this event on the Trust's behalf.

Many staff, trustees and our whānau have tested positive for COVID over the past month, this has been trying but the trustees are appreciative that everyone has pulled together as a team and managed to stay on top of business. Everyone is trying their best to deal with the COVID situation and we appreciate your participation and patience.

A number of our trustees are involved in a variety of community projects and over the coming months, we hope to bring you some updates on progress with these endeavours.

I'd like to remind iwi members that they are welcome to participate in a karakia evening which is held every Sunday at 7.00 pm. Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is the host iwi for the prayer session on June 26th (join the zoom with ID: 822 4020 8382, PW: 384 088).

The first Matariki public holiday will be held on Friday, June 24th. Matariki is both the name of the Pleiades star cluster and of the celebration of its first rising in late June or early July. This marks the beginning of the new year in our Māori lunar calendar. We hope that everyone enjoys this holiday with their friends and whānau.

Until next time whānau, please look after each other.

Ngā mihi
Hinemoa Conner

Rēhītatanga | Registration

You can complete your registration online through our **website** or **MāoriMe**. You will need to enter details related to your Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whakapapa. You will also need to select a tipuna from our **Tipuna Guide**. The more information you can enter, the easier it will be for our team to validate your whakapapa and enter you on our register.

Please note, members aged 18 years and over must register themselves. Tamariki may be registered with their parents, guardian, or caregiver.

Registration is essential to be eligible for wānanga, grants, and other assistance.

Education profile – Gina Blackburn

Kia ora e te whānau,

Ko Mason Meihana McDonald tōku koroua

Ko Nellie Waipapakura McDonald (nee Watson) tōku kuia

Ko Samuel Kainu McDonald tōku pāpā

Ko Jane MacDonald tōku māmā

Ko Tama Blackburn tōku hoa tāne

Ko Gina Blackburn ahau

Our whanau lives in Waitara, Taranaki. My husband and I have three tamariki, Ariria (14), Epiha (8) and Hiwa-i-te-rangi (2).



I have recently accepted the wero of completing a Masters in Māori and Indigenous Leadership through the University of Canterbury. This journey will help me to gain a stronger understanding of how the Mounga Settlement Act currently being completed for our tupuna mounga, Taranaki, will affect our people moving forward.

I am very grateful to our iwi for approving my scholarship request, supporting me to be able to pursue this area of study and continuing to fill my kete of knowledge.

Ngā mihi mahana kia koutou katoa, nā Gina

Kurahaupō PLD Collective

Recently, our Kurahaupō PLD team held Hui Whakarewa at both Nayland Primary School and Birchwood School to mark the official beginning of our professional development mahi for school staff in Te Taihū.

“It was awesome to be able to get started and I’m looking forward to getting stuck into the mahi”

Aaron Hemi, PLD facilitator and Cultural Advisor for Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō.

Using the traditions and pūrākau of our tipuna Kupe, the team began supporting staff in their growing understanding of Kurahaupō history, whakapapa, and knowledge.

In the early 2000’s, the Treaty Negotiation Teams strategically purchased schools as a way of returning land to our iwi in locations which were/are significant and as a way of opening the door to participating in the education of our tamariki and rangatahi. Rangitāne o Wairau Trustee and Kurahaupō Historian Dr Peter Meihana said, “We wanted to extend our footprint into areas we, through Crown processes, had been excluded from. The mahi that we are doing now, nearly 15 years later, was what was envisaged at the outset”.

Schools make contact with the tari regularly for support with projects they are working on. PLD Facilitator and Education Strategy Lead for Ngāti Kuia Vanya George said, “we are looking forward to supporting school

boards, leaders, teachers, and whānau with their cultural capability and the development of their local curriculum in a sustainable and meaningful way”.

The Kurahaupō PLD team will be working with Birchwood and Nayland for the next 12-18 months respectively and will be looking for opportunities to partner with schools in other parts of Te Taihū in future.



Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo 2022

This year, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō and Rangitāne o Wairau worked together to hold Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo for a second year, this time in Whakatū. We had almost 800 people come along to the Trafalgar Centre for this busy two-day wānanga on the 17th and 18th of May. This was double the people who came along last year!

Te Rā Tuatahi

On the first day of this Te Reo Revitalisation Symposium, we heard from accomplished Te Reo kaikōrero Jeremy (Tātere) MacLeod, Te Aorere Pewhairangi, Hemi Tai Tin and Dr Hinurewa Poutu.



"Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo just continues to grow and grow." **Tātere MacLeod**



"The benefits of the sacrifices my parents made, to have them protest and fight for the revitalisation of the language so that I can grow up in an environment where it is nurtured." **Te Aorere Pewhairangi**



"Sit back and think, what do I actually enjoy doing? What does my whānau enjoy doing? What does my community enjoy doing? And how can we incorporate Te Reo Māori or celebrate Te Reo Māori in that way?" **Dr Hinurewa Poutu**



"A lot of people get hung up on being correct all the time instead of just accepting that their mistakes are their next lessons." **Hemi Tai Tin**



Te Rā Tuarua

The sun came out to shine on us for day two of Te Kaiaotanga this year! A day made even more special by the amazing kaikōrero presenting: Tā Timoti Kāretu spoke of the many different wero for iwi of Te Taihū; Turuhira Hare spoke on the tapu of Te Reo; Paraone Gloyne talked about the mauri of the language and how we are the guardians of our reo; Stacey Morrison was interactive with the audience, providing opportunity for people to ask questions, and Safari Hynes finished up the symposium for us speaking on his journey with Te Reo as his second language.



We would like to thank our MC, Tom Alesana, for keeping everyone engaged throughout the days. We would also like to thank the awesome kaimahi from Rangitāne o Wairau for all the work they put in to organise this amazing event with us. And finally, we would like to thank the sponsors for this event: Te Mātāwai, Nelson City Council and Nelson Regional Development Agency. Ngā mihi nui koutou!



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“We are asking: Where is my reo? This reo that I feel in my puku, this reo that I know is part of me... there is no way to get out of this journey without being horribly embarrassed! We can never hear enough that you are enough, that you are Māori enough, and that there is enough time to learn te reo Māori.”

Stacey Morrison



For those who attended, please complete the post-event survey to let us know how we can make Te Kaiaotanga o Te Reo even better in the future! Go to www.surveymonkey.com/r/X79G9V2

Core and Restore project

As mentioned in our December pānui, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is a proud partner of the 'Blue Carbon Core and Restore' project. This kaupapa, led by Tasman Environment Trust, aims to determine how much carbon is stored in coastal sediments in Te Taihū.



Kaimahi from Tasman Environmental Trust, Cawthron, and our Taiāo Manager Jen Skilton taking core samples from Onetahua (Farewell Spit).

So, what exactly is blue carbon? Blue carbon is the carbon stored in coastal and marine ecosystems. Overseas studies have shown that coastal ecosystems – like saltmarsh and seagrass – store much more carbon ("blue carbon") than the same amount of forest on dry land.

Following sampling in the Waimeha Inlet in November last year, the second round of sampling occurred in May at Onetahua. Following a pōwhiri at Onetahua Marae, Jen Skilton, our Pou Taiāo, spent the night at the Health Post Nature Trust Whare at Onetahua with the 10-person strong sampling team. The following morning began with karakia at sunrise, followed by core sampling (0.5m long sediment cores were collected in areas with different densities of seagrass).

The cores were sub-sampled, and the sediment is now being analysed for carbon content. The results will help us to understand the carbon storage value of local estuaries and the need to protect and restore coastal blue carbon habitats.

Read more about this cutting-edge kaupapa here and stay tuned for future updates: www.stuff.co.nz/environment/climate-news/127435508/blue-carbon-sites-could-limit-retreat-from-coast-groups-say



Trustee nominations

Keep an eye out for the call for Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trustee Nominations.

This year, nominations will be called for the election of two (2) Tarakaipa Trustees to represent the Tarakaipa hapū on the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust and the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Charitable Trust. The highest polling candidates will be appointed to both trusts for a three-year term. Have a think about who you want to see on the Trusts and make sure to nominate them when the call goes out!

Please note, nominees must:

- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Be a registered member of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō (applications to register may be completed at www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz);
- Submit nominations in writing, signed by the nominee and not less than one (1) adult registered member of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō;
- Undergo a Police vetting process;
- Whakapapa to Tarakaipa Hapū.

Whakapapa me ōna kōrero

In the 1870s, tipuna of Ngāti Apa, Ngāti Kuia and Rangitāne gathered to record whakapapa and stories to support the Te Waipounamu Land Claims being made with Ngāti Māmoë and Ngāi Tahu. Meihana Kereopa recorded the whakapapa and payments made into the Kereme fighting fund to support the claims.

Ko Kurahaupō te waka

This whakapapa, recorded from Ihaia Nohota and Pirimona Pokiki in May 1876 and again in 1879 by Meihana Kereopa, illustrates the descent of Tarakaipa from Ruarangi and Rongoueroa who came in the *Kurahaupō* waka with their sons:

- **Rauru**, who disembarked from the Kurahaupō waka at Whakatane with Apa. Rauru is the founding ancestor of Ngā Rauru;
- **Awa / Awaawa**, who disembarked from the Kurahaupō waka at Te Tai Tapu on the Northern South Island and is an ancestor of Ngāti Kuia. He was the founding ancestor of Ngāti Awa of Te Waipounamu – this should not be confused with the tipuna or iwi of Ngāti Awa and Te Āti Awa from the North Island;
- **Apa**, who disembarked at Whakatane with Rauru and settled at Pūtauaki. Over generations, his descendants (Ngāti Apa) migrated to and settled between the Whangaehu and Pukerua Bay. They intermarried with the neighbouring hapū and iwi, which is why we often have shared whakapapa with these hapū and iwi.
- **Whatoka / Whatonga**, who disembarked at Te Māhia Mai Tawhiti Peninsular. In our whakapapa, he is the father of Tūmatakōkiri (founder of Ngāti Tūmatakōkiri), Māmoë (founder of Ngāti Māmoë), Tara (founder of Ngāi Tara), and grandfather of Rangitāne (founder of Rangitāne).

All these iwi intermarried with Ngāti Apa, which provides us with a rich heritage.

Ko Tarakaipa te tangata

Tarakaipa married Te Heiwi of Rangitāne. They came in a migration from Te Tai o Rehua, the lower west coast of the North Island. Through the many strategic marriages of Tarakaipa descendants, he became a significant ancestor for Ngāti Apa, Ngāti Kuia and Rangitāne. Tarakaipa's son *Rongo tā mea* married Kuia, the founding ancestress of Ngāti Kuia. Some descendants married in to tipuna from Ngāi Tūmatakōkiri, Ngāti Māmoë, Ngāi Tara and Ngāti Wairangi which gives us whakapapa and heritage to some of the earliest settlers of Te Waipounamu. Some Tarakaipa descendants were known as Ngāi Te Heiwi, an important hapū who had communities at Tōtaranui (Queen Charlotte Sound), the Wairau, Te Hoiere (Pelorus district), te Tai Aorere (Tasman Bay) and Tarakaipa Island at Te Awaitea (Tennysen Inlet). Tarakaipa's descendants married into the other migrations of Ngāti Apa who settled in Te Taihū (the Northern South Island).

Ko Tarakaipa te hapū

Tarakaipa was chosen as our hapū tipuna to represent the Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō descendants in Te Taihū for our claims and settlement.



Shanell Kelly on the NCC sub-committee

The appointment marks a significant moment for iwi and the Nelson City Council (NCC). The four appointees were put forward by the Te Taihū Iwi Chairs after consultation with NCC. The mihi whakatau acknowledged this appointment, and the iwi leaders present (Te Ahu Rei, Melanie MacGregor, Waihaere Mason, Jane DuFeu and others) supported the transition of the appointed iwi representatives. Mayor Rachel Reese, Councillors and NCC kaimahi showed much aroha and manaaki in receiving the appointees into the NCC whānau.

Naomi Aporo-Manihera – Infrastructure Committee
Chanel Starkey – Urban Development Subcommittee
Shanell Kelly – Audit Risk and Finance Subcommittee
Tommy Alesana – Community and Recreation Committee



Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese, Chanel Starkey, Naomi Aporo-Manihera, Shanell Kelly and Deputy Mayor Judene Edgar. Photo © Skara Bohny, Stuff



“I am born and bred in Whakatū and have been involved with many of my iwi in Te Taihū. Being able to represent my people is an honour, and incorporating a mātauranga Māori perspective is very important in honouring the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership. I’m looking forward to awhi more open conversations and utilising the skills and experience I have for our people and our community.”

Shanell Kelly, Capability Advisor for Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō.



Upcoming events

Mana Rangatahi Hōtoke 2022

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō are holding their Winter Mana Rangatahi programme in Whakatū this year! We will be staying at Bridge Valley Adventure Centre and Te Āwhina Marae.

Rangatahi will spend the week connecting with their heritage, culture, and whānau. This wānanga is open to registered Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō iwi members between the age of 13 and 18. Younger members will be considered if they have attended a Mana Rangatahi wānanga previously.

We invite whānau to come along on Saturday 23rd to see what the rangatahi have been working on for the week and enjoy some kai for lunch.



Photo © Naomi Aporo-Manihera

When? Tuesday 19th – Saturday 23rd July 2022

Where? Bridge Valley Adventure Centre, Whakatū

Who? Registered rangatahi, age 13 – 18

Register? Through our website! Registrations are open now: www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz/our-events/calendar-events/mana-rangatahi-hotoki

