



Te Haonga Mai

Whanganui River Maori Trust Board Newsletter
2003

ISSUE FIVE, OCT/JAN



*Tihei māuri tū,
Tū ki runga,
Ki te whai aō, ki te mārama,
Ka rongō te pō, ka rongō te aō.*

*Mai I te kāhui Maunga ki Tangaroa,
Kua mōhiotia e Te aō whānui,
I tōna otinga atu e kii nei,
'ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au'.
O tātou mate huhua o te wā,
Nā kōutou te mānuka I whuia ki te papa
Ma mātou e hiki, ōtira, ma tātou katoa.*

Tēna koutou me nga mihi, kia ora rawa atu tatou katoa.

TRUST BOARD

Sincere apologies from the kaimahi here at the Trust Board for the delay in the production of this panui, this is definitely not a reflection on our ability to find stories more so the amount of work, events and activities that we have been involved with over the past few months.

This year is going to be yet another busy one with the political climate as hot as ever. The proposed Seabed and Foreshore Legislation being top of the list continuing to gain momentum to 'D' day or should I say 'V' (vote) day. The revamped National Party, lead by Dr Don Brash will also see us traverse some interesting times with his no nonsense Maori policy, or lack off should we say.

The priorities for the Trust Board this year will be;

- Continuing to administer and support the Whanganui River Claim
- Managing current Trust Board operations
- Increasing Iwi Registrations and communications

The latter will assist with the transition phase from the Trust Board to Te Runanga O Te Awa Tupua. Both the Waitangi Fisheries Settlement and the Whanganui River Claim Settlement will require us to quantify our Iwi population.

Simply put, the Statistics New Zealand state that 8820 people identified as being from Te Atihaunui A Pāparangi in the 2001 Census.

The Iwi has to prove that we have a certain percentage of those people registered on our Iwi register.

That's where you come in to the picture. We need you and your families to enrol on our Iwi register so that we can seek your opinions on strategic directions or developments for the Iwi and approvals or rejections on any settlement.

For those of you who are already enrolled and might be sitting there saying well I haven't heard anything, don't worry. At the moment our focus is on building the registrations, once we have done that the focus will shift to communicating with our Whanau.

We have included a registration form in this latest pānuī. If you are already registered please hand it on to someone who hasn't. Remember filling them in is only part of the job, you need to return it back to us here at the Trust Board.

The Trust Board is currently selling key chains (lanyards) with Ātihaunui a Pāpārangi on them as pictured below;



They cost \$10.00 ea and are available at the office.

The profits from the sales of this product will go toward an education programme on the negative effects of P Methamphetamine use. This programme is being run in cooperation with Te Oranganui Iwi Health Authority.

The Trust Board in conjunction with Te Runanga O Te Awa Tupua Whanganui is running a logo competition. We are looking for a logo for Te Runanga O Te Awa Tupua Whanganui. This is our Iwi Governing organisation that will lead us into the future.

The competition will run through till March 31th. The selection of the logo will be made by the Runanga. The successful artist will receive \$500 and acknowledgements.

KERERU'S KORERO

Investiture - Archie Taiaroa

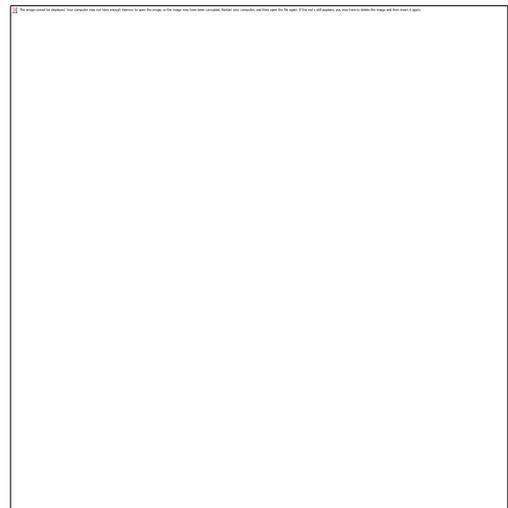
1 November 2003 saw several hundred people migrate to Ngapuwaiwaha Marae in Taumarunui for the Investiture of our Rangatira Archie Te Atawhai Taiaroa.

The Governor-General Dame Silvia Cartright was there to present the Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit to Archie, an honour equivalent of a knighthood.

This was a very special occasion with Hinengakau and the whanau from Tuwharetoa looking after us from dusk till dawn (or for some way after).



**Ko te pae tāwhiti, whaia kia tata
Ko te pae tata, whakamaua kia tina.**



Ngā mihi nui ki a koe e te Rangatira.



Regional Kapa Haka Festival

1 November 2003 was also the day for the Regional Kapa Haka Festival, held in Hawera this year.

Yet again Te Matapihi performed with excellence emerging the 2003 winner of nearly every category.

Ngā mihi nui ki koutou, tino rawe tōu kaha ki te hapai te Mauri o te Awa Tupua.

Te Awa Tupua Exhibition

As dawn broke on 29 November 2003, 2000 people guided by the rakau and the karanga traversed the steps of Te Papa Tongarewa Museum in Wellington for the opening of the Te Awa Tupua Exhibition.

The most significant thing about the day had to be the number of Te Atihaunui a Paparangi, Whanganui Iwi who travelled from all corners of the country to support this event.

This exhibition provides an opportunity for Whanganui to tell its own story, uninterrupted. You will find out how both the river and we as an Iwi have been affected by changes to our lands and to the use of our river's resources. You can explore how these issues came together in the Pakaitore occupation in 1995.

You will also see how we are facing the challenges posed by the past and securing the future for our mokopuna – the generations to come.

The exhibition will run until, May 2006 so if you haven't already been, next time you are in Wellington it is a must on the 'what to do list'.

Don't forget to call in and see our resident kaumatua, you will find them in their offices on level 4.

New Horizon for Brendon Puketapu

On 12 January 2004 a delegation traveled to Christchurch to take Brendon Puketapu to his new role as Chief Executive of Te Tapuae o Rēhua.

Te Tapuae o Rēhua is a joint venture company between Ngai Tahu Development Corporation, Christchurch Polytechnic, Lincoln University. The Christchurch College of Education, Canterbury University and the University of Otago. The focus of the company is to put in place high quality Maori curriculum and increase Maori participation in tertiary education.

Although he's moved to Te Waka A Maui he will be returning regularly to Te Awa in his role as one of the lead negotiator's for the Whanganui River Claim and as a Tamaupoko representative on the Whanganui River Maori Trust Board.

Kia kaha, kia piki te ora ki a koe Brendon.

GENESIS

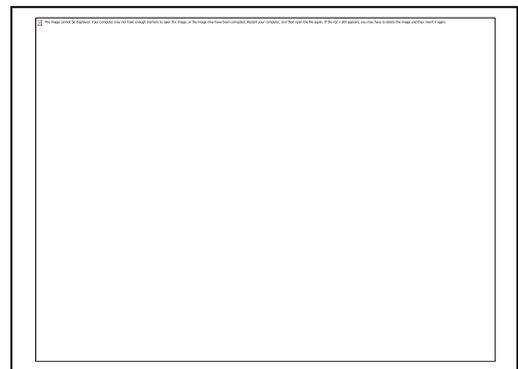
In 2001, Genesis Power were granted resource consent to continue to divert water from our Tupuna Awa, Whanganui, Whangaehu and Moawhango for the hydro electricity operations of the Tongariro Power Development Scheme for another 35 years.

From 1 October through to 3 October 2003, site visits were held on the Eastern and Western diversions. The Judge, commissioners and lawyers accompanied on this journey by the whanau.

Ngati Rangi then invited the Environmental Court to Tiorangi Paa to hear their appeal objecting to 35year resource consent. On 4 November Ngāti Rangi took the Environment Court on a site visit to view diversions from Wāhianoa, Waiharakeke, Maakahikatoa, Tokiaahuru, Whangaehu and Moawhango Tupuna Awa.

November 5th and 6th November consisted of customary and technical evidence from:

- ❖ Colin Richards
- ❖ Te Nape Wood
- ❖ Turama Hawira
- ❖ Aneta Rawiri
- ❖ Alan Titchener
- ❖ Whakataumatatanga Mareikura
- ❖ Ida Taute
- ❖ Jim Edmonds
- ❖ Keith Wood
- ❖ Dr Shane Wright
- ❖ Molly Melhuish

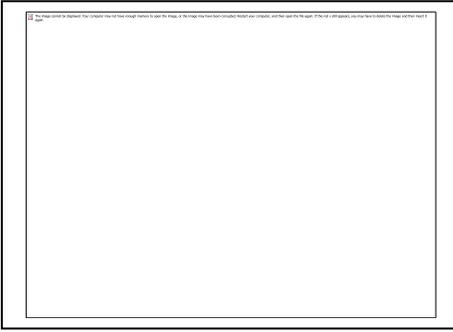


Following the Ngāti Rangi evidence, Whanganui Iwi held their hearing's in Taumarunui from Monday 10 November to 12 November 2003. Evidence over the two days was heard from:

- ❖ Julie Ranganui
- ❖ Hemi Takarangi
- ❖ Anihera Henry
- ❖ Archie Taiaroa
- ❖ Dardanella Meteking-Mato
- ❖ Ross Wallis (Tamahaki Appellant)
- ❖ Arthur Anderson
- ❖ Michael Potaka
- ❖ Ken Mair

The hearing's concluded on the 12 November 2003 with a Jetboat trip from Tawata to Pipiriki, they stopped at Tieke for lunch and then finished off at Paraweka Marae, Pipiriki.

The Judge and all who were present were blown away by how beautiful our Awa is, and they all got a little sense of what our Awa really means to us.



Final Arguments from Genesis were held in Wellington on the 8th of December. The Judge thanked all witnesses who provided evidence over the last eight weeks and informed us that the outcome of the hearings will not be until the end of March. So we will keep you informed in the next edition of Te Haonga Mai.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in this lengthy process.

Regardless of the results we will continue to fight to ensure the wellbeing of Te Awa Tupua is paramount.

AWA TUPUA CLAIM

Last year was a year of gathering information and testing that information with our Iwi to ensure that the Health and Well being of our Awa Tupua is paramount. This year we expect to move on 'how' we are going to achieve what our Hapu/Iwi are saying to us with various hui being held around the month of March/April, so keep your eyes and ears open for these confirmed dates.

Presently the Crown is preparing a Cabinet paper to submit to the cabinet policy committee by the end of March 2004. The Cabinet Paper would seek cabinet's view on our legislative body and our legislation within the criteria of the health and well being of Awa Tupua and the various options of ownership. Both parties agreed that its priority project had been the cabinet paper, so there has not been any further substantial work on the A.I.P (Agreement in Principle), which was to be signed off by the end of March, nevertheless work is progressing within the Jurisdiction and Historical teams for the A.I.P.

Our Lead Negotiators are meeting in Wellington on Tuesday's every fortnight and the full claims committee are still meeting every Friday at 11am in Whanganui, Taumarunui and Raetihi.

FORESHORE AND SEABED

Tariana Turia received resounding support and praise for her stance opposing the Crown's foreshore and seabed proposal at a hui at Putiki Marae last month.

The hui gave Te Tai Hauauru *constituents* a chance to offer feedback on her opposition to the Crown's proposal to put ownership of the foreshore and seabed in the hands of all New Zealanders.

Mrs Turia announced she would 'abstain' from voting on the seabed and foreshore proposal and wouldn't 'cross the floor' and vote with National.

"I don't agree with the government, but I won't vote for others who will make our lives worse."

Mrs Turia said she never thought she'd see the confiscation of the last land Tangata Whenua hold rights over and are being denied the rights of due process.

"The economy of this country has been built on the backs of our lands. The government agree we held kaitiakitanga, which is now Customary Rights," she said.

Maori Affairs minister Parekura Horomia and Wellington Tenth Trust Tumuaki Ngatata Love attended the hui in support of the proposals.

Professor Love said he doesn't oppose the idea of the framework because nearly 70 per cent of New Zealand's coastline, which is owned by the Crown and local authorities, will be easier to access.

"The situation we're in now means we can't touch Crown and Territorial land because it's protected through the Treaty. But once that land is put in the Public Domain, it can be accessed by Maori," Mr Love said.

"The framework does not take away what we already have, but builds on it....If government changes Maori will be in big trouble."

Kevin Amohia said there were no guarantees the next government wouldn't change legislation and Tangata Whenua interests wouldn't be protected.

"It might be harder to change once it's up and running, but it can still be changed. Once it's in the legal framework the opportunity to change it will always be there. The Resource Management Act will have the last say," Mr Amohia said.

Parekura Horomia said he defends the government's proposals and as Maori minister will ensure we get a fair crack.

"I'm not here to apologise and I respect and understand Tariana's stance, but I can't trust my own whanau who are trying to sell our foreshore whenua, so I agree with the government's policy," he said.

As a renowned advocate for Maori aspirations Mrs Turia said she has maintained discipline when faced with conflicting government policies, but not this issue.

"We should never let government legislate over our tikanga," she said.

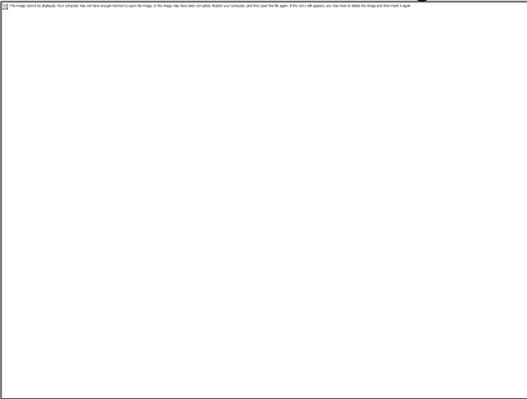
"This issue is about our whakapapa, our tikanaga, the essence of who we are, something we should never give lightly to anyone else."

TIRA HOE WAKA 2004

For the past 16 years the first two weeks of January have been set aside as a special time for Whanganui to **wananga** - to return to the River to recount our whakapapa, our korero, and our tikanga in the place and context it belongs - within the River, for the River.

For 120 paddlers, numerous 'roady' supporters and the 11 marae visited between Ngapuwaiwaha and Putiki, the 2004 Tira Hoe Waka was fourteen wonderful days and nights of work and play, of karakia and korero and of giving to a very special kaupapa.

The awesome crew's of Hinengakau



Every Tira is special, and more than a few tears were shed upon reaching Putiki - due perhaps this year to a combination of strong wairua, good people, open minds and receptive hearts.

A special mention must be made of te hunga ririki - our youth - whose example consistently reassured us that the future of Iwi is in very, very good hands.

Ka heke te tau 2005, manaakihia to tatau Tira Hoe Waka - tautokona! Hēoti nō, ngā mihi me ngā manaaki a te hunga wairua ki tātau katoa!

Taking some time out to listen to the korero.

