



Kati Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki

Matariki Banner by Rongomai Parata-Taiapa

Matariki Hautapu



Two fires shed light and warmth to the enthusiastic gathering of tāne, wāhine and tamariki on a chilled frosty morning at Huriawa Peninsula on Friday 28th June for the Matariki hautapu. The pre-dawn ceremony marking the beginning of te ra aro ki Matariki—the Matariki public holiday. The cloud had gathered to obscure the nine stars of the Matariki cluster although some early birds had captured a glimpse.

Waiariki Parata-Taiapa led the events, which included a series of karakia to acknowledge the stars of Puaka and Matariki.

Following the dawn service a varied and nourishing breakfast was served at Puketeraki Marae where about a hundred people attended, many of them had stayed overnight at the marae.



Photo Jen Duff



Photo Jen Duff

The day progressed with workshops. A panel discussion and guest speakers for the construction of manu aute with the guidance of Ewan and Jennifer Duff with traditional stories, practices, harvesting techniques and the importance of manu aute during Matariki. Mahi Toi with Moewai Marsh on making paint with the whenua, using natural binders and kōkōwai gathered from Huriawa Pā and other uku sourced from this area. Mahi tuhituhi was presented by Robert Sullivan and Rauhina Scott – Fyfe.

Nā Jen Lucas



Photo Huia Pacey

Tohu Whenua Recognition at Huriawa Peninsula Nā Chris Wilson / Jen Lucas

On 16 May some of you attended when the Karitāne headland, Huriawa, became the first Māori heritage site in Ōtepoti to be recognised by Tohu Whenua for its stories and history of significance. We were joined by Tania Wati from TRONT, representatives from Heritage New Zealand, the Department of Conservation, and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, at the Huriawa Peninsula to unveil the new pou, marking the area as an official Tohu Whenua site.

One of the people responsible for compiling the application was Chris Wilson, far right in the front row above. Chris was until recently our Karitāne Māori Tours Manager, and has provided us with his story of the important occasion.

Tohu Whenua is an initiative to promote and connect people with sites of significant historical and cultural importance in Aotearoa; they are essentially creating a network of sites that will be like the Great Walks but for history. Jill Mitchell-Larrivee from Heritage New Zealand approached us in July of 2023; she had been on a waka and pā tour with Karitāne Māori Tours (KMT) and felt that Huriawa was a perfect fit for the Tohu Whenua programme and believed that its inclusion would bring significant benefit to KMT in the form of national recognition and promotion.

My perspective was that Huriawa is a unique window into our past; stunningly beautiful in its own right, it also serves as a perfect stage for



Suzi Flack, mana whenua, and Andrew Coleman, Heritage New Zealand Chief Executive, unveil the pou at Huriawa.

pūrākau, telling stories of the arrival of the first people to this part of the world and the many waves of newcomers since. Kōrero of the people of this place are unique and valuable to everyone who lives here and to those who visit, these kōrero live as long as they are told and shared.

From the perspective of KMT, our primary goal has been to build the business so that in the future we can offer meaningful and consistent work to members of the community, this is made significantly more achievable with the support and promotion that a programme like Tohu Whenua brings.

The application process itself was significant as a proposed site must be researched and shown to meet the specific criteria for inclusion. The vast majority of this work was carried out by Jill and her colleagues with me being of intermittent help liaising with Jill, Suzanne Ellison, Brendan and Suzie Flack, Kane Holmes,

and Rauhina Scott-Fyfe at the Hocken Library. It was also essential that Suzanne consider the potential balance of benefits and impacts that Tohu Whenua status might bring to the community and seek consensus from the Rūnaka.

Once all these things had been put together Jill lodged the application in late 2023 and in early 2024 we were informed that the application was successful. The day of the launch went well, and the weather was kind enough to reserve the rain for the time that we were inside the marae, we even got some sunshine for part of the hīkoi around Huriawa and then full sun for those who came out with us on Hauteruruku, the beautiful wooden waka lent to us by the waka club for the day.

Now that Huriawa has been included as a Tohu Whenua site it will provide a significant boost to the audience that KMT can reach and amplify the opportunity for us to tell the stories of this place from the perspective of Kāti Huirapa and the community that make this such a special part of Aotearoa/New Zealand.



Jill Mitchell-Larrivee from Heritage New Zealand, Chris Wilson and Matt Schmidt, Department of Conservation's archaeologist.



Matapura Ellison, Suzanne Ellison and Andrew Coleman, Heritage New Zealand Chief Executive.



Hīkoi participants listen as storyteller and former KMT Manager Chris Wilson shares stories of the past.

Warrington Whales Nā Victoria Ross

During recent maintenance work at the Warrington wastewater treatment plant, contractors came across some whale skeletons that appeared to be an adult female and baby. Work was halted and Mauraka Edwards from the Rūnaka was contacted and visited the site with Principal Archaeologist Victoria Ross of New Zealand Heritage Properties.



Mauraka Edwards with the skull of the animal.

She and a colleague confirmed that the skeletons appear to be false killer whales, which are actually dolphins, and found reference to a pod of 19 false killer whales stranding on the spit in 1962. Apparently attempts were made to tow most back into the sea, but they were unsuccessful, and the bodies were buried along the dunes. On further investigation, they discovered more of the



whale/dolphins following the original discovery. In total, they found 11 individuals. The bones within the trench were excavated, while the rest were left in situ. The remains have been reburied nearby, returned to the sand dune.

MOU Signing Between Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki and Orokonui Ecosanctuary Trust

Thursday 6 June, 2024

Nā Lyn Carter

The revised MOU between Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki and Orokonui Ecosanctuary Trust was signed in June. The MOU, drafted by Korako Edwards (mana whenua representative, Orokonui Ecosanctuary Trust), strengthened the Treaty partnership and intent of the first MOU, signed back in 2012. Kaumatua, Phyllis Smith signed on behalf of Kati Huirapa and the Chair of Orokonui Ecosanctuary Trust (OET), Allie Cunninghame, signed on behalf of the Trust. The MOU will form the basis for increased Runaka involvement with Te Korowai o Mihiwaka/Orokonui Ecosanctuary. Rūnaka members who attended the signing were Mauraka Edwards, Phyllis Smith, Lyn Carter (mana whenua representative, OET), and Sue Smith. Also in attendance were Taylor Davis-Colley and Madison Kelly representing Orokonui Ecosanctuary. As part of the celebration, Orokonui Conservation Manager, Elton Smith introduced us all to one of the tokoeka kiwi who resides in the Sanctuary, as part of the DoC and Makaawhio Rūnaka kiwi creche project.



Phyllis Smith, Allie Cunninghame and Lyn Carter.



Mauraka Edwards, Phyllis Smith, Jenny Smith and Lyn Carter at Orokonui.

Whare Opening at Te Awa Koiea (Brinns Point, Seacliff)

Nā Sue Smith



The descendants of Morere Wharu and John Rodden Thompson met at Te Awa Kioea on April 23 this year, to celebrate the re-build of the old whare, once owned by Mary Lloyd (nee Rodden Thompson) and William Henry Lloyd. The whare is on land that was part of a larger parcel granted in 1853 to John Rodden Thompson and Morere Wharu as compensation for confiscated land in Moeraki. That parcel was divided amongst the children of John and Morere initially.

Mary Lloyd died in 1919 and was the great grandmother of two of our current kaumatua, Phyllis Smith and George Meikle. The last person to live in the whare was Mary's daughter, Sarah Llyod (aka Aunty Teini) who died in 1940. The house was left to her sister, Violet Victoria Seigle (nee Lloyd) but was not lived in for many years after Sarah died. The house became derelict over time, had a squatter at one stage and farmers who leased the land had stock that used the house for shelter.



Phyllis Smith was the family member who rekindled whānau connection to the whenua at Te Awa Koiea (The stream of the small yellow foot pāua).

She spent many years investigating the whakapapa of her ancestors and listening to her older relatives who spoke about the whare and the land and how the whānau needed to get it back into the family. Over the years, Phyllis would take her family to the whare often and connections grew with the extended family, now many recognise the site as a place of historical significance for themselves and whānau.

The idea of rebuilding the whare started in 1995 with the establishment of the Roiti Trust. One of the trust's first actions was to repair headstones at the ūrupa and fence that site off from grazing stock.

Following that, the Lloyd whānau laid a memorial cairn at the ūrupa.

The actual rebuilding of the whare started in 2018 with funding from Pūtahitanga. The project to rebuild was managed by Jenny Smith with help from many whānau members. The project was finally completed in March 2024.

Around 50 people turned up to the whare to celebrate the opening and to unveil a tukutuku panel many local weavers had been involved in

creating over the past 3 years. The celebration was a time to thank the many people who contributed to the building, the panel and the care of the site.

The whare can be described as having the same footprint as the original building but internally the whare has a large central room, a small kitchen and toilet and bathroom. There is an upstairs mezzanine level for storage. The whare is off grid with a composting toilet and generator.

Whānau envisage the site as a place for people to meet, for whānau to visit and for organisations to run small hui or wānaka. Up to 10 people may stay overnight but the whare is not for long term living. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the whare and the possible use of it for a hui, please contact Jenny Smith at jennilou30@gmail.com.

Kia ora e te whānau - Mānawatia o Matariki! Nursery Update

Nā Angelina Young



Nursery Network Meet-up at Moeraki

I saw my first kōwhai putiputi two weeks ago on the old stands of rākau on North Road leading into Ōtepoti signalling to me that we are truly on the cusp of one year ending and another beginning. To me this time of the year is very beautiful and a welcome chance to slow down and reflect, take a pause and soak up the vibe of the odd calm sunny day before the real weather kicks in.

This is a chance for us to share a summary of the year's nursery mahi at Puketeraki. It also gives whānau an idea of what the nursery gets up to in the growing year.

Last planting season began in April, a full two months before Matariki, and continued into early Raumati! A long season reflecting the diverse regions and environments that our plants end up in, we supplied plants to several organisations and projects, koha to guests and hosts, and various plants that became koha from members at local events.

We encourage rangatahi to get their hands dirty and a big shout out to Macy and Rani Crossan, and Ethan Te Raki (back for more punishment), Roimata Shelford, and Kijana Holmes. Kā mihi nui to you all. Joining us this year in some capacity or another, Tomo and Becky Kerr, and Eilis Doyle. Haere mai, looking forward to seeing more of you.

A big part of this year's nursery mahi is seed collection, everyone's favourite activity by far.

Our seed collection sites become more numerous as we develop relationships with more people around the rohe. We gathered SO much Mikimiki (*Coprosma propinqua*) seed last year that we don't need any more!

Dhana Pillai has also generously offered to give us seed from her collection of rare dryland *Olearia*

species, which she has done previously.

A huge mihi to Greg Kerr, our seed collector at large, who supplies us with many and varied seeds, both from his own place up in Merton, and further afield.



Seed gathering.



Nik, Angelina, and Shaunae keeping good records.

It is no exaggeration to say that we would struggle to grow as much as we do without the generosity of both Greg and Dhana, and others like them.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini.

Our success is not ours alone, it is the success of the collective.

Hinemoana's Welcome to Karitāne



Greg Kerr welcoming with the Tino Rangatiratanga flag.



Miriam Ranui Parata-Noema welcoming with the pūtātara.



A small fleet of waka went out to meet Hinemoana and accompany her into the awa.

Sailing on Hinemoana

Nā Georgia-Rae Flack

How lucky are we to have whānau and friends to take care of life on land while we voyage. Last month Hinemoana, a waka hourua based in Auckland/Kaawhia sailed along the Āraiteuru coast, into Waikouaiti awa with several Puketeraki whānau on board as kaumoana. She was welcomed by over 300 locals and spent a week in our awa before sailing over to Ōtākou and then into Otepoti. Different groups spent time on Hinemoana throughout her stay in the harbour before a crew change to sail south, down to Waikawa. I, along with several of our Puketeraki, Ōtākou and Waikawa whānau sailed her down to the bottom of the South Island. We made our way up the Otago harbour with the southerly behind us. As we passed Taiaroa head we were faced with some big east swell and of course, greeted by Tōroa. We sailed out, far off the coast, waiting for the wind to change so we could tack back in and sail closer to the coast. It soon got dark, and we wouldn't see daylight again until we were in Foveaux Strait. I will say, this was the toughest sail of my life and I felt for the crew who were on their first ever voyage. It's not all smooth sailing, especially in the Southern Ocean in the middle of winter. The winds picked up overnight and one by one we dropped sails until we were sailing with the head sail only. We were working together with the hoe to keep her on course. We glimpsed pockets of stars through the clouds and listened to our crew mates sing waiata. Our six layers of clothing combined with 4m swell on the beam made going to the wharepaku interesting. While I was out there, I was thinking this voyage might put me off for a while but once daylight hits, you've had a nap, and your puku is full after the beautiful welcome from the haukāinga, you seem to forget the struggles and now have an unforgettable experience shared with your fellow kaumoana.

Meet the Rūnaka Team



The team at the Christmas lunch in December 2023 at Puketeraki Marae

Back row: Shaunae Coombes nursery worker, Rua McCallum Kaitoko (moe mai ra e te tuahine), Mauraka Edwards Kaihāpai.

Middle row: Rob Raill grounds and maintenance, Chad Steiner-Mitchell Whanauora, Nic Holmes māra, Suzanne Ellison Rūnaka Manager, Tania Bambury hygiene technician, Angelina Young Nursery Manager, Jo Silich accounts, Georgina George administrator, Elizabeth Van der Burg nursery and Waka Club.

Front row: Jen Lucas administrator / communications, Matt Dale Kaiwhakahaere Whakakaupapa Taiao, Bernie Mullane grounds and maintenance, Alice Raffills nursery, Aroha Ellison Marae Management and chef, Ngahui Wood administrator now left, and Nikki Crossan Kaitoko.

Health and Safety

Kia ora whanau

I am Emily Valli (nee Parata) and the company I work for LM Safety, has been engaged to help assist the Rūnaka in managing its health and safety obligations under the HSWA2015. I grew up in Karitāne, so it is nice to reconnect with the Rūnaka through this mahi.

As you will be aware the Rūnaka undertakes varied works and has a permanent workforce of around 18 workers and many casual workers. All our workers need to be able to undertake their work in a safe and healthy way. As a Rūnaka member it has been great to meet these people and see their passion and dedication to the work they are undertaking,

whether it be in the native nursery or the upkeep of the grounds.

During my visit in May, I led a walk around the maintenance area, Marae and Nursery with members of the Executive and Operations Committees which was an opportunity for them to see the work being undertaken on the ground and ask any questions about our health and safety systems.

There is ongoing work to be undertaken but the first and usually the hardest step of getting workers on board with health and safety in the workplace has been achieved.



If your email, address or phone number has changed send us an update: admin@puketeraki.nz or 03 465 7300