Ngati Porou Niue Appeal

“uplifts” mana of Maori

In a marathon effort Radio Ngati Porou raised a relief fund of over $53,000 only two days after Cyclone Heta devastated the tiny Pacific Island of Niue.

The approach taken by Radio Ngati Porou’s manager Heni Tawhiwhirangi, to initiate the radiothon quickly and without hesitation, highlights the unique ability and flexibility of Iwi radio stations to mobilise a whole community in times of crisis.

Radio Ngati Porou held a 24-hour radiothon to raise relief funds for Niue. They also raised awareness far-and-wide of Niue’s plight, with pledges received from donors around the country and overseas, wishing to partake in the cause.

It was the act of kindness shown by Niue, many years ago, which was reciprocated by Ngati Porou generosity on this occasion, and also had many New Zealanders caught up in the Ngati Porou “wairua” of giving.

Shortly after the event half the money pledged was presented to the Niue Premier Young Vivian in what was described as an “extraordinarily moving ceremony”, in Auckland.

Mr Vivian had that week endured a double-tragedy, when following the devastating cyclone that devastated Niue to ruins, and then a couple of days later his ailing wife passed away.

Cyclone Heta hit Niue with its full force late in the afternoon and continued into the night, on January 6. Hurricane-force winds of up to 300 kmh raged across the tiny atoll damaging houses, destroying crops and cutting electricity supplies and telephone services.

“A patu pounamu named Te Rongomau was given to the Niuen Premier as a symbol of our regret at the great losses he had endured,” said Te Runanga o Ngati Porou ceo Amohaere Houkamau.

A few days later kaumatua Titiwhai Harawira spoke on Radio Ngati Porou of the immense pride she had felt when she attended the ceremony. “Congratulations, thank you Ngati Porou for uplifting the mana of Maori. This gesture shows the unique way of giving, and showing aroha, in Maori culture. I felt honoured to be part of the ceremony.”

Pledges were steady throughout the 24-hour radiothon, but eased up in the wee-small hours, with a last minute flurry to take the proceeds to the $53,000 mark.

“We were absolutely delighted with the effort. It was special for us but especially for the original staff at the radio station. They were the recipients of the donation from Niue in 1988,” said RNP Station manager Heni Tawhiwhirangi.

When Cyclone Bola devastated the East Coast in 1988, the Niue Government donated $50,000 to the NZ Government for relief. These funds were directed to Ngati Porou. It was decided that an iwi/community communications system was most important, so the funding went towards establishing the Radio Station.

“We had intended to reciprocate Niue’s generosity with a gift of $25,000 in May this year. However, Cyclone Heta brought forward our intentions,” said Radio NP chairman Selwyn Parata.

Niue has a population of around 1750 and a surface of 259 square kilometres. In 1974 it became internally self-governing in free association with New Zealand.
Dear Readers,

I trust you’ve had a great start to the new year. It’s good to be sharing this issue of Nati Link with you.

Reader Survey

In the last issue I mentioned that we are looking at ways of improving communication with whanau and will be asking for your ‘ideas’ on how you think this can be achieved.

You may notice some changes in the presentation and format of the last three issues (including this one). That’s because we’re looking at ways to make Nati Link an easier, more interesting and informative book to read. However, to develop a magazine (or any other form of communication) that meets your needs; we need your input.

Please take the time to share your thoughts, ideas, comments and suggestions with us by completing the enclosed Reader Survey. Then, fill in your details and go into the draw to win the book ‘100 Years of Waiapu’ shown opposite. (There’s also a stamped return envelope attached)

Subscription Renewal

All subscriptions from 2002-2003 expire with Issue 29. We trust you enjoy receiving Nati Link and thank you for your support over the past 6 to 12 issues. Please take this opportunity to renew your subscription on the renewal form enclosed and return with your Reader Survey in the prepaid envelope.

Advertising/Sponsorship

Advertising space is available - contact us for details. Thanks to Tairawhiti Polytechnic for advertising courses on the East Coast.

Sponsorship enquiries are also welcome. Thanks to the HB Williams Memorial Library in Gisborne for sponsoring the book below as a prize in our Reader Survey.

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... Next Issue ... 
Relay for Life
Taonga Tuku Iho research project
Maori Golf Tournament
And Much More ...
Report from the Chairperson

Apirana Mahuika

Tena tatau i nga ra o te tau hou. Ko te tumanako kia tutuki wetahi o a tatau Kaupapa nunui a whia nei e tatau.

Kei te tangi hoki ki o tatau aitua katoa kua riro atu nei ki nga pa tuwatawata o o tatau matua tipuna kei te po. E nga mate haere, otiia ko tatau te hunga ora tena tatau katoa.

This year has already started off with a “bang”. Dr Brash has, at least in my view, started the year with Maori “bashing” and with threats against Maori and those current mechanisms such as the Treaty and The Maori Seats which give us some from of protection at the very least in respect of our “tikanga, mana, rangatiratanga”. His views and threats does nothing, but to encourage a like response by our people as a means of protecting and preserving who and what we are as a race. The removal of the aforementioned institutions and the threatening language he uses, is a recipe for “racial tension”. As a people however, we must continue to resist violent responses to these threats and deal with them politically and in a rational and logical manner. It would be interesting to hear comments from Georgina Te Heuheu and other Maori National Officials views on Brash’s “bashing”.

Winston Peters is coming in for some flak at the moment. Some are saying that, having instigated the scampi investigation, he seemed to have had a change of heart by showing some sympathy towards Simonovitch & Co. Maybe having instigated the investigation and heard some of the outcomes he has the right to make some changes to his earlier views, and this right is an option available to all.

Anyone who knows Winston is aware of how astute the man is, and how the best in him can be brought out by these kinds of allegations and challenges. Kia Kaha Winston!

The Foreshore and Seabed is hotting up! Some claimants elected to go to the Waitangi Tribunal for their respective claims, whilst the majority of claimants have taken the option of direct negotiations with the Crown.

There are those of our people who are espousing erroneously the view that TRONP is seeking to be the owner of the Foreshore and Seabed. This is far from the truth! The Tribunal has made its ruling stating that the Crowns stance on the foreshore and seabed is a breach of the Treaty.

Runanga Trustees are Ngati Porou and like all others of the tribe, they too have whanau and hapu affiliations! TRONP has facilitated the process of direct negotiations with the Crown for whanau and hapu claimants. The negotiations belong to the claimants who also put in place their negotiating team. Today, we (claimants, of which I am one) have had positive negotiations with the Crown, but we still have a way to go. All we are asking of the Crown are:

1. The recognition of our pre Treaty ownership of the Foreshore and Seabed
2. Recognition of our 90% ownership
3. All we want is ownership of what we have always owned – nothing more and nothing less

A Judicial Conference in the Maori Land Court on the 8 – 9 March 2004, has wrongly received gross misrepresentation by the media, especially the New Zealand Herald which claims that J judge Caren Wickliffe is seeking to challenge the Crowns intention to legislate in terms of the Foreshore and Seabed. This is far from the truth. The Judge is obliged under existing law to hear the claimants, where applications have been before the Courts since August 2003.

The basis of our constitution separates the functions of the Executive and the Courts, in that the former creates laws and the latter executes the Law. J judge Wickliffe was merely carrying out her statutory role as an “Officer of the Law”. Further, there was no decision of finality made, as this has to rest when the substantive hearing at sometime in the future will be held.

The Ngati Porou inter-marae sports day was a resounding success and the event is growing stronger each year. This year there were an estimated 8000 Ngati Porou who participated and demonstrated openly their whanau and hapu pride and their pride in Ngati Porou. I met many positive “Nati’s”, young and old and I have been visiting them in their places of residence since the sports day. However, many more visits will have to be made by myself to meet their invitation to me.

Kia ora Hauliti, mo ta koutou whakahaire, a, manaaki hoki i a tatau i roto i tenei ra i muia ai tatau e Ngati Porou whanui tonu.

Several hui have been held with whanau/hapu within Ngati Porou on the Foreshore and Seabed, and these have been very successful hui where the whanau/hapu have made decisions to exercise their long standing mana in their respective regions. There are new bodies who are claiming foreshores and seabed’s as their property and in the process are intent on usurping the mana tuturu of whanau/hapu to their foreshore and seabed.

Finally, TRONP has been accused of taking control of health, fisheries, forestry etc. This is far from the truth. TRONP was a major player in the establishment of Radio Ngati Porou. Having set it up TRONP moved out allowing the Radio to run its own business. The same goes for Ngati Porou health, farming, fisheries, and forestry plus other initiatives operating in Ngati Porou. As a result of these initiatives Ngati Porou is the largest single employer of its people!

Many of the detractors of TRONP cannot point out their initiative – where, what it is/these are, etc. However, detractors have always been an element of the frailties of human nature, and, in understanding this, long may the positives and demonstrable continue to benefit for our people.

Kei te Atua te kaha mo tatau katoa.
Kia Ora

A T Mahuika

Attending Hemi Taumaunu’s Swearing-in Ceremony at Whangara are, Api Mahuika (left) with lawyers James Johnston and Te Rau Kupenga and Api’s mokopuna Renata Mahuika
The new year always brings with it a promise of good things to come and a reminder of tasks and challenges that we have yet to complete or resolve. 2004 is no different, except that it is a Leap year and we get an extra day so lets make the most of it.

The lead article in this issue of Nati Link is a ‘feel good’ story on three accounts;

- It highlights the fluidity and adaptability of the good ‘ole’ Iwi management style. Managers who through their work on the marae and in amongst their whanau and hapu know how to use their common sense, have compassion and empathy and do not shirk from making timely executive decisions. This was the approach taken by Ngati Porou Radio Station Manager, Heni Tawhiwhirangi when she activated the “call to phones” for the Niue radiothon.

- It was a story about the age-old practice of koha and whakaaro. The Niue people had given a koha of $50,000’s to Ngati Porou in our hour of need, the aftermath of Cyclone Bola, and 16 years later we were able to reciprocate without a moments hesitation, in their hour of need.

- The third angle in this winning trifecta, was that the specific beneficiary of the Niuean’s 1988 gift was Radio Ngati Porou. It was agreed that the whakaaro from Niue should be used for establishing an Iwi/community radio station, which in time became Radio Ngati Porou. Cyclone Bola demonstrated to us that in a crisis, natural disaster, open communications is absolutely critical to improve the chances of successful rescue operations and the effective and efficient co-ordination of the relief work effort. When Niue was struck by Cyclone Heta, it was Radio Ngati Porou coming live from the East Coast, that led the country in a united show of support and goodwill and thereby maintaining the lines of open communication.

Over the Christmas and New year break it was good to see the return of many relations and friends, some made it up the maunga to welcome in the new year and others descended on Uawa to participate in the 2004 Ngati Porou intermarae sports festival. This year’s inter-marae fixture was an absolute success, an intoxicating cocktail of sun, sweat, swimming, singing, hot competition and lots of fun and laughter. The 2005 Inter-marae fixture was an absolute success, an intoxicating cocktail of sun, sweat, swimming, singing, hot competition and lots of fun and laughter. The 2005 Inter-marae was a not to miss fixture, where we will probably top the 10,000 participants and supporters mark, if this years festival is anything to go by. A big mihia and thanks to our Te Aitanga a Hauiti whanaunga for all their singing, hot competition and lots of fun and laughter. The 2005 Inter-marae fixture was an absolute success, an intoxicating cocktail of sun, sweat, swimming, singing, hot competition and lots of fun and laughter. The 2005 Inter-marae was a not to miss fixture, where we will probably top the 10,000 participants and supporters mark, if this years festival is anything to go by. A big mihia and thanks to our Te Aitanga a Hauiti whanaunga for all their singing, hot competition and lots of fun and laughter.

No reira e nga Kaiikakate e nga Kaimahi o to tatou reo iriaringa, tena koutou katoa mo o koutou whakaaro rangatira ki o matou whanaunga o Niue o te Moana nui a Kiwa hoki.

2004 promises to be a challenging and exciting time full of trials and tribulations that are balanced out by the many highs and achievements that we are all capable of contributing to and benefiting from.

How do you do that? You ring in to the talkbacks, write letters to the editor and if you are able prepare feature articles to counteract the racist diatribe that dominates the press. You also ring your local MP and encourage them to be more proactive in countering the misinformation that so often misleads our young indigenous people.

Further, to that the Government also needs to lay on the table all the facts and considerations. The Government’s treaty right, the right of New Zealand citizenship was appropriately recognised, but more must be done. We need a policy to develop and support indigenous language and culture. The Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes. The Government’s treaty right, the right of New Zealand citizenship was appropriately recognised, but more must be done. We need a policy to develop and support indigenous language and culture. The Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes. The Government’s treaty right, the right of New Zealand citizenship was appropriately recognised, but more must be done. We need a policy to develop and support indigenous language and culture. The Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes. The Government’s treaty right, the right of New Zealand citizenship was appropriately recognised, but more must be done. We need a policy to develop and support indigenous language and culture. The Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes. The Government’s treaty right, the right of New Zealand citizenship was appropriately recognised, but more must be done. We need a policy to develop and support indigenous language and culture. The Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes.

The world has seen a resurgence of interest in Maori culture and language, but this is not enough. The reality is that the majority of people in this country need to work on understanding and communicating in the language.

The Government needs to continue the Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes. The Government’s treaty right, the right of New Zealand citizenship was appropriately recognised, but more must be done. We need a policy to develop and support indigenous language and culture. The Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes.

Tena Tatou nga uri o nga hapu o Ngati Porou mai i Potikirua ki te Toka a Taiatu,tena tatou i o tatou tini mate, te pukahau e hinga mai nei i nga marae o te kainga, e hinga atu ra i nga marae o te motu.Ratou kua wheturangitia, haere haere haere, tatou te hunga ora, kia ora tatou katoa.

Innovation and inspiration were key outcomes of the successful Pou o Te Moana radiothon which was initiated and hosted by Te Ahuru, based in Uawa. This exhibition exceeded all expectations in terms of its appeal, the energy and enthusiasm it generated and the unifying presence it had on the whanau and community within Uawa. Runanga staff spent a wonderful day in Uawa sampling the many treats that Toi Haunti had on offer, including a history hikoi, sumptuous cuisine, a guided tour of the arts exhibitions and an evening of song and classical guitar by some of our very talented young people.

These are some of the highs that have lifted us through a time that it is also rife with unrest and uncertainty. driven by a Government that is showing clear signs of bending over backwards to public pressure and over-reacting to the point of inciting public unrest on issues such as the Foreshore and Seabed issue and funding needs based programmes. The Government’s now ho approach prompted a set of avoidable interactions which resulted in emotive debate and confusion, people dreaming up their worse case scenarios, instead of having informed and rationale discussions which would have led to a win/win situation without all the drama.

Ngati Porou as you are probably aware from previous Nati Links, has taken a pragmatic and rationale approach, entering in to direct discussions with the Government to ensure that they appreciate our very unique position, (retention of 90% of our coastal lands and therefore our takutai moana), and that Government develops a policy that recognises and protects this position.

An equally alarming development has been the litany of ‘brashisms’ that have emerged in the past 8 weeks to the delight of the many overt and covert red necks that populate our country. Reading the press recently one would get the very strong impression that the ‘red neck population’ is a rapidly growing sector in our communities. We should not be worried about ‘reds under the beds’ (if we were ever worried); we should be more concerned about ‘red necks under the bed and in the closets and everywhere else’. Red necks are everywhere and when they are fed on a constant diet of pure unadulterated racist commentary, bigotry and deliberately misleading statements, to win a few political brownie points off the backs of the tangata whenua of this country, then we must stand up and be counted.

The Niue people had given a koha of $50,000’s to Ngati Porou in our hour of need, the aftermath of Cyclone Bola, and 16 years later we were able to reciprocate without a moments hesitation, in their hour of need.

The Niuean’s 1988 gift was Radio Ngati Porou. It was agreed that the whakaaro from Niue should be used for establishing an Iwi/community radio station, which in time became Radio Ngati Porou. Cyclone Bola demonstrated to us that in a crisis, natural disaster, open communications is absolutely critical to improve the chances of successful rescue operations and the effective and efficient co-ordination of the relief work effort. When Niue was struck by Cyclone Heta, it was Radio Ngati Porou coming live from the East Coast, that led the country in a united show of support and goodwill and thereby maintaining the lines of open communication.

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This year around 150 Ngati Porou and 50 tourists greeted the first sunrise, on the first day of the New Year, at Te Takapau a Maui. They were held spellbound, as the sun's rays stretched slowly across the horizon. In perfect timing with the first glimmerings of the sunrise, the karanga of a kuia cut the still morning air, welcoming the new day. A karakia, then Maui's haka - Te Haka a Maui - which the men performed with gusto, were included in the programme.

Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Te Waiu students added a special touch to the ceremony by singing the waiata 'Te Takapau o Maui' composed by Kuini Moehau Tuhura, which told the story of each of the carvings. They sang the appropriate verse of the waiata at each whakairo, before the kaikorero Selwyn Parata told of the significance of each, in English.

It was a first time trip to the maunga for some Ngati's living away from home. Many commented that they had thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were glad they had made the effort to attend. And for two tourists – one an ex-pat Kiwi – it was the perfect setting for a marriage proposal.

The scrumptious barbecue breakfast at Pakihiroa Woolshed was a fitting end to the annual Ngati Porou experience.

Interest in forming a relationship with a “genuine” Iwi tourism organisation and the opportunity to enjoy a unique cultural experience, drew four principle members of New Zealand’s largest tourism operation to visit Ngati Porou.

Tourism Holdings Ltd (THL) approached Te Runanga O Ngati Porou at the TRENZD Expo, in Auckland last year, to determine how they could provide tangible support for Ngati Porou in the tourism industry. They were keen to discuss ways in which Ngati Porou could capitalise on the scenic beauty of the East Coast, as well as the historical and cultural significance of Ngati Porou to New Zealand.

Members of NZ's largest tourism operation Tourism Holdings Ltd at Te Takapau a Maui (from right) Group general manager-commercial Sean Murray, Rt Hon Jenny Shipley, Kiwi Experience operations manager Andrea Blair and managing director Dennis Pickup.

Above left: First-time visitors at the dawn ceremony
Below: Tamariki recite verses of the waiata ‘Te Takapau o Maui’ composed by Kuini Moehau Tuhura, at each whakairo

Above right: Waiting patiently for the sun's first rays
Centre: Men perform Te Haka a Maui

Above: Men perform Te Haka a Maui
Below: Waiting patiently for the sun's first rays

NZ Tourism ‘giants’ visit Ngati Porou

They were also very interested in visiting some of our cultural and historical sites including Maui Whakairo on Mount Hikurangi, St Mary's Church in Tikiti and Te Aio o Nukutaimemeha at Rangitukia. Tourism Holdings Ltd group general manager Sean Murray said they were disappointed they didn't see all the sites they wanted to, due to a lack of time, but added that he would definitely be returning at some stage to do so.

Ngati Porou Tourism is currently exploring the possibilities of forming a joint venture partnership with THL based around package tours to Hikurangi Maunga and the waka. “This development will have far reaching benefits for Tourism Ngati Porou, and operators on the East Coast in general,” said the Runanga’s Economic Development administrator Mike Ransley.

Strong opportunities for tourism development on the East Coast where international travelers can experience the true essence of Maori culture, was one of the reasons for THL’s interest in Ngati Porou, said Group general manager Sean Murray.

He believes that the stories of the indigenous people and culture are becoming strongly attractive to overseas tourists coming to New Zealand. With the abundance of historical and cultural stories Ngati Porou is a huge draw-card for the discerning travellers. “Learning the history of the people and the area really makes a tourist’s journey memorable. Ngati Porou would benefit greatly from having guides or speakers available, as tourists want to do more than just see things, they want people-to-people contact.”

THL reciprocated the Ngati Porou visit by sponsoring the Tourism Ngati Porou coordinator a trip to Fiji on their ‘Feejee Experience’ tour package, to gain first-hand experience of a cultural tourism venture. “Culturally, Fiji is THL’s most relevant tourism product that is similar to the East Coast,” said Mr Murray.

The only tourism package run by Tourism Holdings Ltd (THL) on the East Coast at the moment, is the Kiwi Experience ‘East As’ trip. The company also owns and operates a comprehensive range of visitor attractions and activities combined with an extensive transportation business, throughout New Zealand. These include Kelly Tarltons, the Waitomo Caves and Milford Sound cruises. Their transport rentals include Maui, Britz and Backpacker campervans.
TE TIRITI - Ngati Porou Signatories

Chiefs who Signed the Treaty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Signatures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turanga</td>
<td>5/12 May</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uawa (pa of Te Kani-a-Takirau)</td>
<td>16/17 May</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiapu (Whakawhitira pa)</td>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiapu (Rangitukia pa)</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tokoramu Bay</td>
<td>9 June</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total signatories</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On May 5-12, two chiefs from the East Coast signed the treaty while it was in Turanga. Henry Williams Jnr, William Williams and George Clarke witnessed these signings.

1. Signed As: Probable Name
   Tribe: Hapu
   Te Urimaitai: Te Urimaitai Ngati Porou Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti
   A e ra Te Eke: Rawiri Te Eke Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti Ngati Oneone

On May 16-17, two chiefs signed the treaty at Waia. As with the other East Coast signings these signatures were witnessed by William Williams and George Clarke Jnr.

2. Signed As: Probable Name
   Tribe: Hapu
   Rangiulua: [Nopera] Te Rangiulua Ngati Porou Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti
   Parekahika: [Horii] Parekahika Ngati Porou Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti

On May 22, Williams reached Whakawhitira in the Waiapu district. On May 25, he talked with Maori about the treaty and obtained the signatures of seven chiefs whom he termed the “chiefs of Whakawhitira”.

3. Signed As: Probable Name
   Tribe: Hapu
   Te Mimiopaopa: Te Mimi-o-Paoo Ngati Porou, Rongowhakakai

On 9 June, Williams stopped at Tokomaru Bay and obtained four more signatures to the treaty.

4. Signed As: Probable Name
   Tribe: Hapu
   Tutaepa: Tutaepa Ngati Porou
   Rangiwakataetae: Rangiwhakataetae Ngati Porou
   Rangiwhakataetae: Rangiwhakataetae Ngati Porou
   Rangiwai: Manihera Rangiwhakataetae Ngati Porou
   Takatua/Pakatua: Takatua/Pakatua Ngati Porou
   Te Kauruoterangi: Te Kauru-o-te-rangi Ngati Porou
   Kakatara: Kakatara Ngati Porou

On 27 May, Williams reached Rangitukia pa in Waiapu. At the treaty hui on 1 June, three chiefs signed.

5. Signed As: Probable Name
   Tribe: Hapu
   David Rangikatia: Rawiri Rangikatia Ngati Porou
   Koiauruterangi: Koiauruterangi Ngati Porou
   Awarau: Awarau Ngati Porou

On 9 June, Williams stopped at Tokomaru Bay and obtained four more signatures to the treaty.

6. Signed As: Probable Name
   Tribe: Hapu
   Tamiwaiwhankeyhu: Tamaiwhankeyhu Ngati Porou Te Whanau-a-rangi a Whakatuna
   Te Potae: [Enoka] Te Potae-a-te-rangi Ngati Porou Te Whanau-a-rangi a Whakatuna
   Tamitere: Te Te Potae-a-te-rangi Ngati Porou Te Whanau-a-rangi a Whakatuna
   Te Mokopuorongo: [Paratene?] Te Mokopuorongo Ngati Porou Te Whanau-a-rangi a Whakatuna

The table above was taken from Claudia Orange’s book on the Treaty. In her book she tells us that many names on the Treaty sheets - chiefs, iwi and/or hapu - were able to be deciphered with confidence; others were not. Some tribal and hapu names were found on the relevant Treaty copy, presumably given by the chiefs who signed. Sometimes information given from tribal sources identified a name, or corrected a spelling; but in many instances identification was made through research in documentary sources such as reports, letters, diaries and land court records.

Few subjects in recent years have created as much debate as the treaty of Waitangi, yet its history remains largely unknown to many New Zealanders.

Many copies of the Maori version of the treaty were printed and were either sent to missionaries, who were asked to call treaty meetings and obtain the agreement and signatures of chiefs; or taken on lengthy journeys by people such as Rev Henry Williams.

The copy bearing the names and signatures of the Ngati Porou chiefs is referred to as Te Whariringi Tauwhitu (The Seventh Treaty Page).

On 8 April 1840, Henry Williams delivered this Draft of the Treaty to William Williams (his brother) who was based at Whakato, a CMS (Church Missionary Society) mission station, in Turanga. Williams was asked to hold hui to discuss the treaty and obtain the agreement and signatures of chiefs from East Cape to Ahuriri (Hawkes Bay).

On return each signature would receive a blanket.

On 13 May 1840, Williams set out on his journey to the East Cape, on foot. George Clarke Jnr who acted as the second witness to the East Coast signings, accompanied him. As a missionary Williams was primarily focussed on his missionary duties at each site they visited. However, he also held hui to discuss the treaty and record signatures of chiefs in each area.

Treaty Hui

Two of the twenty-four chiefs who attended Treaty hui in Turanga and consequently signed, were from Ngati Porou.

It is not known exactly how many treaty hui were held throughout the East Coast during Williams journey to the East Cape and back.

However, what is known is that on the third day of their trip up the coast Williams party reached Uawa where, for two days, they were guests of the great chief Te Kani-a-Takirau. Two chiefs signed the treaty on this occasion. However, it is interesting to note that Te Kani-a-Takirau was not one of them.

The majority of signatures were obtained from two large hui in the Waiapu area, on 25 May and 1 June. These sites were referred to by Williams as Whakawhitira Pa and Rangitukia Pa. Williams noted that numbers attending the church services held in these two locations were between 600-1000 people each time.

According to his diary, Whakawhitira Pa was one site where he talked with local Maori about the treaty.

He obtained seven signatures at this hui, from Maori whom he termed were the “chiefs of Whakawhitira.”

On 1 June, Williams reached Horoera, a small pa to the west of the East Cape. He remained in that area for a few days and his journal states that on 4 June, he visited with the well-known chief Houkamau before he began his return journey to Turanga, leaving Horoera on 6 June. Again, it is interesting to note that although Williams had an audience with Te Iharaira Houkamau, the great chief did not sign the treaty. Consequently, he left the area with no signatures obtained from the chiefs of the East Cape.

On 12 June, one month after first setting out, Williams and Clarke returned to Whakato; having obtained 16 signatures from four hui on the East Coast.

By signing the Treaty in 1840, our forebears spoke not only for themselves but also for their descendants, who continue to enact the spirit of the treaty. Over and over again the Articles of the Treaty are discussed, but little is said about the rangatira who signed it. It is our responsibility to record for the future, our individual knowledge of the past. For generations yet to be born will benefit more by understanding more but, this can only happen if the history of their tipuna is intact.

Hui at Pakirikiri, February 1887
Photo courtesy of Tairawhiti Museum

Information, corrections or views of the treaty are welcome.
Article sources: 1- The Turanga Journals edited by Frances Porter
2- An Illustrated History of the Treaty of Waitangi by Claudia Orange
By Matanuku Mahuika

“Rather than being a land grab, much of the debate by Ngati Porou and Te Whanau a Apanui has as its objective, the preservation of a particular way of life and the rights that they currently use and enjoy.”

Maori ownership of the land below the high water mark first became an issue at the time when the then Native Land Court began to hear and determine issues of Maori land ownership in the latter part of the 1800s.

It then became an issue again in the ultimately unsuccessful litigation that went to the Court of Appeal in the early 1960s over the ownership of Ninety Mile Beach. In giving its decision the court found that, by virtue of a provision in the then Harbours Act, the Maori Land Court did not have jurisdiction to grant title over the foreshore and seabed.

It also found that no customary title could exist where the Maori Land Court had already investigated and awarded title to the adjoining dry land.

Despite Maori disquiet over this result, the decision in the Ninety Mile Beach case represented the accepted legal position for the better part of the next 40 years.

The catalyst for the latest round of debate over ownership of the foreshore and seabed was the rapid growth in the marine farming sector in the early 1990s and the resulting demand for space in areas like the Marlborough Sounds, Coromandel and some of the northern harbors like Kaipara.

Historically the whanau and hapu of Ngati Porou exercised control over the foreshore and seabed adjacent to their respective territories.

No distinction was made between what might be described as dry land (ie the land above the mean high water mark) and the adjacent foreshore and seabed.

The entire area was simply regarded as forming part of the tribal territory and was therefore subject to the mana of the whanau or hapu.

Control over the foreshore and seabed occurred through the observation of a range of customary rules and practices that were enforced by the whanau or hapu.

One of the best known practices was a rahui (or customary prohibition), which might be put in place following a death at sea or to conserve the fishery in a particular area.

However, this was only one of a large number of rules imposed by the whanau and hapu of Ngati Porou to regulate access to the sea and its resources.

In some areas, for example, fishing would only occur at a particular time of year or would be limited to the descendants of a certain ancestor.

There were also rules that governed how a person behaved at sea, so you could not fish while either sick or carrying an injury and shouting or arguing was prohibited.

These sorts of practices would not have been unique to Ngati Porou, but would have been observed by Maori generally.

Today, the whanau and hapu of Ngati Porou continue to observe and enforce many of their customary rules regarding the foreshore and seabed.

The first come-first served approach to granting water space, high costs, and often unsympathetic local authorities, increasingly marginalized local Maori and there was increasing concern that access to traditional food-gathering areas was being compromised.

Having been unable to either secure water space in their own areas or convince the Crown and local authorities to act to protect their interests, Maori in the top of the South Island made application to the Maori Land Court for title over the foreshore and seabed.

It was believed that the repeal of the Harbours Act and subsequent changes in judicial attitudes might mean the courts would look differently upon the issue of Maori ownership than was the case when the Ninety Mile Beach case was decided.

At first instance, the Maori Land Court found it had jurisdiction to determine title to the foreshore and seabed and that there had been no blanket extinguishment of customary title by the Crown.

This finding was appealed to the Maori Appellate Court. However, the Maori Appellate Court agreed to state a case to the High Court and the matter was heard before Justice Ellis in June 2001.

Justice Ellis found that Maori customary title to the foreshore could only exist where the adjoining dry land was also customary land (effectively following the Ninety Mile Beach line) and that there could be no customary title to the seabed.

The decision by Justice Ellis was appealed to the Court of Appeal. A full bench of five judges sat to hear the appeal in July 2002 and, in effect, endorsed the earlier finding of the Maori Land Court and overturned the High Court decision.

This meant that Maori were free to pursue customary title in applications to the foreshore and seabed. However, it did not amount to an award of title and the Court of Appeal itself felt that Maori would probably be able to obtain title in only a limited number of cases.

There has been a great deal of uninformed debate about the implications of the Court of Appeal decision, a lot of it driven by political agendas rather than careful consideration of the circumstances as they exist in areas like the East Coast and Eastern Bay of Plenty.

In these areas large tracts of coastal land remain in Maori ownership and local Maori continue to exercise the same controls and observe the customary practices they have exercised and observed for generations.

Ngati Porou Stance for Retention of whanau and hapu rights

Lawyers Matanuku Mahuika (right) and Te Rau Kupenga (left) with kaumatua Noel Razione (centre right) and Tane Pohairangi at the Foreshore and Seabed hui at Pakirikiri Maree, Tokomaru Bay in January

Ngati Porou has as its objective, the preservation of a particular way of life and the rights that they currently use and enjoy.

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In these areas large tracts of coastal land remain in Maori ownership and local Maori continue to exercise the same controls and observe the customary practices they have exercised and observed for generations.

As at the end of 2003 there were rahui in operation at Hicks Bay, Horoera, Whareponga and Waipiro Bay.

Members of the different hapu continue to police the behaviour of those accessing the sea in their areas and, while access itself is rarely if ever denied, it is potentially an issue in a number of places because there are no public roads and the adjoining land remains in the ownership of the whanau and hapu.

Indeed Ngati Porou and its neighbour to the west, Te Whanau-a-Apanui, are in a rather unique position in that they have retained the ownership of the vast majority of their coastal lands.

This sets Ngati Porou and Te Whanau-a-Apanui aside from the vast majority of other iwi and has served to strengthen the ability of Ngati Porou and Te Whanau-a-Apanui to maintain and enforce their mana insofar as access to the sea and its resources is concerned.

Lawyers Matanuku Mahuika (right) and Te Rau Kupenga (left) with kaumatua Noel Razione (centre right) and Tane Pohairangi at the Foreshore and Seabed hui at Pakirikiri Maree, Tokomaru Bay in January

Ngati Porou, the fact that there is any debate at all over the ownership of the foreshore and seabed has come as something of a surprise.

Up until the issue surfaced on a national scale following the Court of Appeal decision in the Ngati Apa case, it had simply been assumed that the whanau and hapu of Ngati Porou remained the owners of their beaches.

The suggestion that this might not be the case and that ownership should be vested in the “people of New Zealand” has therefore, not surprisingly, caused considerable anger and consternation.

As the debate about ownership of the foreshore and seabed continues, Ngati Porou continues to argue to retain for its whanau and hapu the rights that they currently enjoy, and have enjoyed, for generations.

The debate has not been about limiting access. Access has tended to occur even where the adjoining coastal land is privately owned and access could legitimately be prohibited.

Unlike others, Ngati Porou have not been arguing for the creation of commercial opportunities.

The debate has been about the retention of rights that the hapu of Ngati Porou have exercised for centuries and continue to exercise today.

Given the apparent lurch to the right that has accompanied the recent speech by Don Brash at Orewa, this debate seems to be far from over.

Kalaura Beach, Tolaga Bay - at low tide
The Ngati Porou Intermarae Sports Festival 2004 was a massive success drawing around 8,000 Ngati Porou - 3,000 above the record attendance of 2003.

The Ngati Porou sports festival is an annual, non-profit event where the emphasis is on participation, healthy lifestyle, whanaungatanga and engaging as many Ngati Porou marae whanau-members as possible, wherever they live. The saying “whanau that play together, stay together” rings true, based on the numbers of participants and supporters that have gathered over the years.

Entries in most of the events were up noticeably from last year, with a total of 22 marae participating in the 32 events held throughout the day.

First up and the largest event was the Team Parade with 17 marae taking part. A total of 1242 participants took to the field for this item, Hauiti receiving first place, Whangara second and Kaiwaka Marae coming in third.

The other big event was the 5KM Fun Walk in which there were 975 men, women and children with Tuatini taking first place, Hauiti in second and Te Rawhero in third.

Numbers in the Line Dancing and Senior Touch Rugby exceeded 200 participants for each event.

Five Fair Play Awards were given to Te Horo, Tuatini, Kaiwaka, Te Poho o Rawiri and Mangarua Marae.

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Grants of $9500 were received to assist with running costs. These included a $5000 Ngati Poroutanga grant from Te Runanga o Ngati Porou, $3500 from the Lion Foundation and $1000 from Te Puni Kokiri.

Twenty-six businesses provided event sponsorship for the 32 events; where each event required $250 sponsorship, and place-getters were awarded: 1st Prize of $120, 2nd Prize of $80 and 3rd prize of $50. Fair Play Awards were awarded to five marae of $50 each. In addition, numerous spot prizes were donated by ACC, Country Garden Flowers, Deloitte, Te Runanga O Ngati Porou Injury Prevention Team and REAP.
Te Runanga O Ngati Porou wishes to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for making the Ngati Porou Inter Marae Sports Festival on January 3, 2004 an enjoyable and successful day.


And the following groups for their support:
Te Aitanga a Hauiti, Tolaga Bay Area School, Tolaga Bay Golf Club, Reynolds Hall and the Sun Fun Co.

Finally, to all participating Marae: “Tena tatou nga mihi nui ki a koutou.”

Participating Marae

Hinemaurea ki Wharekahika Marae
Awatere Marae
Kaiwaka Marae
Ohinematea Marae
Te Horo Marae
Pokai Marae
Mangarua Marae
Kariaka Marae
Whareponga Marae
Te Aowera Marae
Hiruharama Marae
Rongohaere Marae
Tuatini Marae
Iritekura Marae
Hinemaurea ki Mangatuna Marae
Puketawai Marae
Te Rawheoro Marae
Hauiti Marae
Puatai Marae
Whangara Marae

Au photos on page 9 courtesy of the Gisborne Herald
It was a proud day for the whanau of Hemi Taumaunu, as they and his many friends and colleagues gathered at Whangara Marae to witness his “swearing-in” as a judge.

It was also a memorable, historical event for Ngati Konohi, Ngati Porou and Maoridom.

In his opening address Chief District Court Judge David Carruthers spoke about the uniqueness of the occasion to an audience of around 300 people both in-and-outside Whakareia wharenui.

He pointed out that Mr Taumaunu would be the first new judge in New Zealand’s District Court history, to swear the Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office in the two Treaty partnership languages, first in Te Reo Maori and then in English.

According to Judge Carruthers it was a “marriage of tikanga and law” because Mr Taumaunu was a Maori, on his marae, surrounded by his whanau and supported by his ancestors, in a setting that was comfortable and suitable for him; while being accepted into the country’s legal fraternity.

Hemi Taumaunu is a descendant of Ngati Porou, Ngati Rangi and Te Aitanga a Hauiti; hapu Ngati Konohi. His Te Waipounamu connections, through his mother, are Waitaha, Ngati Mamoe and Huirapa. His parents Hone and Maire Taumaunu said they were proud of their son’s achievements.

Mr Taumaunu studied law at Victoria University and was admitted to the bar in Wellington in 1993. He returned to Gisborne shortly after and worked for Wilson and Barber for five years. After a few years in sole practice, he joined in partnership, and ended his career as a lawyer - with Ray Howell.

From January 16 he will commence his new duties as District Court Judge Taumaunu stationed in Whangarei. “I am looking forward to the new challenge and am excited about starting work in Whangarei,” said Mr Taumaunu.

His wife Ingrid, and sons Mana (14), Meihana (10) and Piripi (8) will also accompany him to Whangarei. Members of Mr Taumaunu’s family gained wide recognition for their involvement in the award-winning film Whale Rider. His father Hone was the cultural advisor and his son Mana was an award-winning actor.

At Oxford University he’ll be studying towards a Masters of Philosophy (MPhil) in Economics, a two-year course with the possibility of extending it to a Doctorate, taking an extra year or two.

Glenn recently completed a double degree, Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics; at Otago University and graduates in May. Currently, he is working at the New Zealand Treasury as a policy analyst. In September Glenn will travel to England to commence study at Oxford.

His CV resonates of academic and sporting achievements and awards; and words like - Prize, ’A’-marks, Top Student, Scholarship and Best Overall - abound each section.

Glenn’s father is Peter Goldsmith, his grandfather is Charles Goldsmith of Te Araroa and his hapu is Te Whanau-a-Hinerupe. His mother, Carol Goldsmith née Hull is from Tuakau.

“Many of my parents warrant a special mention because they taught me the value of hard work, inspired me to want to be the best I possibly could be, and yet did it all without putting any pressure on me to do anything that I didn’t want to.”

Since he was a toddler his parents knew their son was headed for great academic heights.

“Glenn was a gifted child, when he was five years old he had an IQ of 155-plus. He was always ahead of himself, completing standard one and two in one year, school certificate in the fourth form and three Bursary papers in the sixth form. He also excelled at sports, becoming a National Champion and second Dan black belt in Taekwondo, and representing his school in the 2nd IV Rugby squad. He loves intellectual challenge and stimulation,” said Glenn’s father Peter Goldsmith.

Rhodes Scholarships were created under the Will of the late Cecil John Rhodes, the British colonial pioneer and statesman, who died in 1902. He left the greater part of his fortune to establish the scholarships.

Rhodes hoped that those who gained these benefits from Oxford and scholarships would go on to improve the lot of humanity, and work towards maintaining peace between nations.

The first New Zealand Rhodes Scholars took up residence in Oxford in 1904, and since that time 184 have been selected. Normally three Rhodes Scholarships a year are allocated to New Zealand.
Winning selection to star in a do-it-yourself Māori television series - Mitre 10 Marae DIY and have the project materials pre-paid; was a “windfall” for Te Ariuru Marae at Waima, in Tokomaru Bay.

For four days the descendants of Te Ariuru Marae worked tirelessly to restore and renovate their marae while five of their kuia were taken away from the worksite and also given a little TLC (tender loving care), by members of the film production team.

Each day 80 to 100 workers were on the spot, ready and willing to lend their hands to all manner of tasks, from the heavy lifting and shifting of building and paving materials to painting. Towards the end of the project everyone was pitching in, including children from around the area carrying cobblestones and collecting driftwood.

On the last day the kuia were welcomed with a powhiri. The celebrations of the day included a blessing, hakari and waiata.

“It was a whole whanau effort and something I’m proud to have been a part of. There’s a 100% improvement in the appearance of the marae and the feeling of the whanau towards the marae. We take pride in our marae now, it’s lovely,” said Marae Committee chairman Daryl Goldsmith.

A restoration that wasn’t planned was painting the inside of the dining room. “But the whanau were so excited with the look of the rest of the place they decided that the dining room needed a new coat of paint,” he said.

The Mitre 10 Marae DIY television series involved Dulux/Mitre 10 donating all of the building and painting materials and some expertise and Firth supplying the pavers, while the marae supplied the renovation plans and the workforce. Gisborne-based trades also pitched in by donating use of machinery, materials and labour.

A spokesperson from the television production crew, Hula Haka Productions in Rotorua said the Te Ariuru Marae make-over would premiere at the marae, for whanau to view, before being shown on national television early this year.

In support of the Te Ariuru Marae DIY project, Te Runanga o Ngati Porou sponsored food, for marae volunteers.

Te Pou o Te Kani was a celebration of Arts that far exceeded its creators hopes and dreams and attracted thousands of visitors to Uawa between October 2003 and January 2004.

“The kaupapa of Te Pou o Te Kani was to celebrate achievement, promote our people and our place, through the medium of ‘Toi,’” said project coordinator Ngahuia Ngata.

The exhibition was facilitated and managed through Toi Hauiti, a group of artists, with an idea inspired around four years ago by Mark Kopua and Hera Ngata-Gibson; to celebrate the arts and in doing so support the revival and stimulation of the local economy.

“Through Te Pou o Te Kani we wanted to raise awareness and remind ourselves that we have got a rich heritage. The degree of engagement of Whanau, Hapu, and Iwi; and positive feedback, has been phenomenal. It far exceeded our expectations and a whole number of ideas and issues came out of it,” said Ms Ngata.

Te Pou o Te Kani included exhibitions of traditional and contemporary art, workshops and guided tours of significant landmarks and cultural icons, important to the area.

The activities included harakeke weaving, silver jewellery making, ta moko, carving and hair fashion workshops. The guided hikoi and bus tours proved popular amongst local, national and international visitors.

A series of wananga were held in the six months leading up to the exhibition which were designed to build the capacity of kaimahi in preparation, planning and hosting capabilities.

“Our short to medium term goal is to develop and manage an iwi arts strategy that will build iwi capacity to drive positive social and economic change. We aim to raise awareness of our Arts heritage, strengthen the relationships with key stakeholders, and rekindle creativity through wananga. “Our long term goal is to re-establish ‘te kaupapa o Hingangaroa’ and the potential of Te Rawheoro in Uawa (in the form of an Arts, Culture and Educational Centre) as a foundation for economic development,” said Ms Ngata.
Consider the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hauiti</td>
<td>Pirau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahukuranui</td>
<td>Puaiwhanake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapihoromaunga</td>
<td>Rakamatahi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakapawhero</td>
<td>Hinemauera</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One explanation may be the early mating among the Maori people. A more probable one is that the reference to Hauiti as employing Ngai Tuere to make a net for him was to a successor of Hauiti in the leadership of the tribes at Uawa. There are many instances in Maori tradition of stories crystallising round some famous figure, though it may have passed off the mortal stage.

Rangitarewa, the lover of Materoa and father of her child Tamaihu, who deceitfully caused the death of Raramatai. He is shown on our table pagd 5 as the son of Rongomaipapango and nephew of Poroumata. If our cross section is reasonable the migration northwards of Ngai Tuere took place after two other great events in NgatiPorou history, namely the murder of Poroumata and Hauiti’s defeat of his elder brothers;

Tamawairangi and Hiakaitaria, who led Te Wahineiti in the Takatakahanga fight. We have no genealogy of Tamawairangi, but Hiakaitaria was the most notable with the exception of Rakateamania of the children of Te Aohore, son of Mahaki, the older brother of Hauiti. Hinerongorua, wife of Tamakoro, was his aunt and Kahupakari, who joined Ngai Tuere at Uawa, was his uncle; a younger brother of Mahaki-ewe-Karoro were raising to leadership of Te Wahineiti;

Tamaraumoa, Taraiamokomoko; we were told in the last lecture, that Pungawerewere took the Kopuaroa valley route and purposed going up the Tapuaroa valley for the reason among others that his grandchild Taraiamokomoko was living in the latter locality with Tamaraumoa, son of Rakaumanawaehe by her first husband Te Ahunoke. Here again the contemporaneity of the persons mentioned is reasonable. A raiding party of Hauiti’s people had slain Te Ahunoke and later Hauiti had taken the widow, Rakaumanawaehe as his slave wife. She was chieftainess of Ngati Uepohatu after her mother Uepohatu;

Ngati Uepohatu owned the lands on both sides of the Tapuaroa valley. Manuka son Pungawerewere, is mentioned in respect of lands at the head of the Karakatuwhero valley near Te Kawakawa;

Rakimatapu and Rakaimatana, brothers of Tamateaupoko, who were according to Popata Parihe accompanied their sister to Whangara after the killing of their father. We are left to deduce from Popata’s account, that these men on their return from Nukutaharua joined the Ngai Tuere migration to the north.

Taking the average of generations from the present day back to Tuhukairora as twelve, the equivalent of three centuries we may assign the Ngai Tuere migration to the commencement of the seventeenth century. Tahania, Tamakoro and Uetaha were of the generation preceding Tuhukairora’s appearance at Wharekahika, and in fact prepared the stage for the exploits of the latter.

This koreo continues:

In NATI LINK Issue 28 we continue with the great migration of Ngai Tuere from Whangara to Te Kawakawa.
The relationship between Housing New Zealand and Te Runanga O Ngati Porou took a major step forward when HNZC Board chair Roger Bonifant and Board member Paul White visited recently.

The purpose of their visit was to receive a first hand update on housing developments and identify blocks to progressing the Pinehill project, Special Housing Action Zones (SHAZ) initiative and Northland East Coast Bay of Plenty (NECBOP) project.

The Runanga housing team has been working with HNZC for the past two and a half years on these developments and had raised a number of concerns about delays in progressing the three initiatives.

Agreement was reached at the joint Runanga and HNZC hui to develop a high level governance partnership agreement that would facilitate a more cooperative and collaborative approach to addressing critical housing issues on the East Coast.

Mr Bonifant stated he had come in direct response to correspondence sent by the Runanga highlighting some of their concerns about the lack of progress, so he could do his own site analysis; talk to families affected and/or supported by these initiatives, and assess interventions and improvements HNZC could implement.

Runanga ceo Amohaere Houkamau said “Mr Bonifant has a very simple “can do” attitude and once appraising himself of the facts and situation, he would be able to direct HNZC to expedite the matters that they were responsible for.”

He was very keen to talk with the whanau involved, to hear directly from them of their concerns and/or any suggestions for improving HNZC’s services, said Ms Houkamau.

The delegation of 18 HNZC staff, including two Board members, were keen to learn more about the Ngati Porou housing situation and to identify and address specific problems and difficulties faced by whanau.

A presentation by TRONP ceo Amohaere Houkamau was well-received with HNZC representatives particularly interested in the level of funding that has been accessed by over 280 whanau to purchase, build, relocate or renovate homes within the Ngati Porou rohe.

During the field trip the group visited homes on the SHAZ and NECBOP lists, an Emergency Home and a home that had been relocated to Ruatoria as part of the Pinehill Project.

They also took the opportunity to talk with the respective homeowners. “Going to the different sites has been worthwhile because we didn’t just hear people talk about the issues, we actually saw things on the ground,” said Board chairperson Roger Bonifant.

Both Mr Bonifant and Board member Paul White spoke of HNZC’s commitment to improving the housing situation in Ngati Porou and desire to return in the near future.

Ruatoria’s new $770,000 Hearing Centre was officially opened in December 2003, nearly a year after it’s first court sitting, by Courts and Associate Social Development and Employment Minister Rick Barker.

Around 50 officials were welcomed to the centre including speakers Judge James Rota on behalf of the Chief District Court Judge, the Hon Parekura Horomia Minister of Maori Affairs, Hemi Taumaunu for the Gisborne District Law Society, as well as justices of the Peace and members of the legal profession.

The ceremonial procedures included the planting of a tree by the Hon Parekura Horomia and the unveiling of a plaque by the Hon Rick Barker.

In his speech Mr Barker said the building represented the most innovative approach in New Zealand to providing court hearings to a rural community, it also provides one-stop-shop access to many agencies under Heartland Services,” he said.

As well as the monthly court hearings, around twenty-four Government and social services related agencies; and many community groups and local organisations utilise the centres facilities.

In addition to being a court room the large room is also used for community workshops and activities, such as line-dancing by the Hikurangi Kaumatua Group. Three small meeting/interview rooms are also available for agency and public use during opening hours.

The marae-based design and features such as retractable furniture in the courthouse recently saw the Hearing Centre win a New Zealand Institute of Architects/Resene Design Award for community/cultural sector developments.

The competition judges were particularly taken with the way the building could easily be transformed from what could be a “serious and intimidating courtroom” to a simple and lively community space, with style and comfort, said Mr Barker.

The purpose of their visit was to receive a first hand update on housing developments and identify blocks to progressing the Pinehill project, Special Housing Action Zones (SHAZ) initiative and Northland East Coast Bay of Plenty (NECBOP) project.

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The ceremony was attended by nearly 50 officials including speakers Judge James Rota on behalf of the Chief District Court Judge, the Hon Parekura Horomia Minister of Maori Affairs, Hemi Taumaunu for the Gisborne District Law Society, as well as justices of the Peace and members of the legal profession.

The ceremonial procedures included the planting of a tree by the Hon Parekura Horomia and the unveiling of a plaque by the Hon Rick Barker.

In his speech Mr Barker said the building represented the most innovative approach in New Zealand to providing court hearings to a rural community, it also provides one-stop-shop access to many agencies under Heartland Services,” he said.
Boxing - a catalyst for self-development

With around 34 participants ranging in age from 5 to 18 years, Hicks Bay Boxing Club’s numbers have been growing and more programmes have been incorporated since it was first established as a sporting body in 1999, changing to a Charitable Trust in 2001.

“Because of increasing membership, the positive impact on tamariki and rangatahi and growing whanau support, we decided to take a more holistic approach to the self-development of our tamariki and their whanau by also running programmes and projects,” said Hicks Bay Boxing Club coach/trustee Moki Raroa.

The Boxing Club aims to contribute to the well-being of tamariki and their whanau through the provision of sporting, recreational, cultural and educational activities that enhance whanaungatanga, motivation, self-discipline, and self-confidence while promoting fitness and healthier lifestyles.

The range of club activities to achieve these aims includes a regular fitness regime four evenings per week, programmes in building self-esteem, maintaining marae grounds and a Community garden, as well as hosting and participating in boxing exhibitions.

In November last year the Hicks Bay Club hosted the first boxing exhibition between the East Coast boxing clubs and Kawerau Boxing Club, at Hinemaurea Marae.

Because of its success and the overwhelming positive feedback this is to become an annual event.

Mr Raroa said the exhibition was to give tamariki who don’t want to compete in competitions the opportunity to experience the atmosphere of competitive boxing - “the thrill of the crowd and being in the spotlight.”

And in the spirit of good sportsmanship all participants receive medals.

It was also a chance for whanau to see tamariki and mopopuna display their skills. “Because our club travels extensively and fights outside of Ngati Porou, whanau at home have only heard about their deeds but have never seen them in action,” he said.

Boxing exhibitions are run under the same rules and regulations of competitive boxing. However, referees control the sparring rigorously to ensure punches are not too hard and that sparring is done with a non-aggressive attitude.

In total there were 30 bouts with each bout consisting of three 90-minute rounds. Highlights of the evening were watching the old fighters (aged 40 plus) put on their gloves and the East Coast females aged nine to teens sparring and holding their own against older girls and women from Kawerau.

Other East Coast coaches and boxing clubs are Rick Haerewa coaching the Tikiti Boxing Club and Neville McClutchie with Nga Uri o Nga Tamatoa Boxing Club from Te Aowera Marae, Ruatoria.

The East Coast Clubs from Hicks Bay to Gisborne have decided to form their own Boxing Association. They intend to train hard this year with the goal of representing the East Coast in the New Zealand Championships, to be held in Invercargill, in September this year, said Mr Raroa.

Tourism Ngati Porou will soon be delivering seminars specifically targeted at the tourism industry, through the Enterprise Training Programme.

Discussions are being held with Whanau/Hapu groups to identify the appropriate training needs and design a training programme. From these a seminar schedule will be produced, to facilitate entry of new operators into the industry.

“The Board of Tourism Ngati Porou is aware that new businesses face many barriers to longevity following start up, due to inexperience in administration, stock control, planning and marketing. Access to training regimes to address these issues is seen as a positive way to help our operators ensure they have the necessary skills to face the world of business,” said TRONP Economic Development administrator Mike Ransley.

Further notice of the dates and venues of available workshops will be provided as soon as these are available.

Summer increase in visitors to Beaches and Maunga

Tourism Ngati Porou coordinator Kerry Johnston tells us why she was busy over the summer break and shares important information for those about to take a trip up Hikurangi maunga ...

“The region felt an increase in visitor numbers this summer season, particularly in the ‘freedom camper’ or ‘FIT traveller’ (free independent traveller), around our beaches and day-hikers on the maunga.

Most of the visitors were respectful of our beaches. However, concerns were raised by whanau about having access to their favourite spot and the amount of rubbish being left behind.

On January 2, there were around 80 people on Hikurangi maunga, most of whom were ill-equipped to be on a mountain. And, between January 3 and 4, around 70 day-hikers visited Maui Whakairo.”

Kerry says, now the mountain is more accessible for all to enjoy, those intending to visit should be mindful of safety issues that can, and do, arise.

Visitors to the mountain please note:

- Designated vehicles are provided for all 4WD Tours to Hikurangi and the Maui Whakairo. For enquiries please contact Kerry Johnston (7 days a week) on mobile telephone 027 6765183.
- Hut Accommodation:
  - The nightly rate for use of the hut is now $15.00 per night. Permission must be obtained prior by contacting Kerry Johnston, as above.
  - Estimated track times:
    - The walk from Hikurangi Station parking area to Maui Whakairo covers 9km and takes around 4-6 hours, one-way.
    - From the hut to the summit it takes between 1½-2 hours, one-way.

Safety note when venturing past the hut: This is the most dangerous part of the mountain and extreme care is required. Please stay on the marked track. The weather can be unpredictable.

Also, please wear and carry the appropriate clothing and equipment required for travelling in remote mountainous areas. Enjoy your stay and please take your rubbish with you when you depart from the mountain.

Tourism seminars coming
GETTING THE BEST FROM YOUR MORTGAGE

A mortgage is usually by far the largest financial obligation you will ever have. Big savings can be made by negotiating and managing your borrowing effectively.

Here are some tips.

1. **Borrow as little as possible.**
   The more you borrow the more it costs, so don't be tempted by the Bank offering you more than you actually need.

2. **Repay the loan as quickly as possible.**
   Total interest on a 25 year table mortgage of $100,000.00 at 7% is $112,034.00. For the same loan for 15 years it is $61,789.00. You save $50,245.00.
   - **Increase the amounts of your mortgage payments as your income increases.**
     This will shorten the term and result in more big savings.
   - **Pay weekly or fortnightly rather than monthly.**
     Payments of $1,000.00 per month mean total payments of $12,000.00 per annum. Payments of $500.00 per fortnight make total payments of $13,000.00 per annum. You therefore pay off the loan more quickly and save interest.

3. **Shop around and negotiate.**
   The home loan market is very competitive because mortgages are safe lending for Banks.
   - Always negotiate the interest rate. The total interest of $61,789.00 in the above example reduces to $59,284.00 if the interest rate is 6.75%, another $2,505.00 saved.
   - Fixed rate loans are usually at a lower interest rate than floating.
   - Negotiate fees. Usually the Bank will reduce or waive its establishment fee, but not if you don’t ask.
   - Legal fees. Many Banks will make a contribution to your legal fees in return for your taking a loan so always ask for this. It can only save you more money.
   - Valuation fees. If your property has a recent Government Valuation that supports the amount you wish to borrow, ask the Bank not to require a registered valuer’s report. This could save you a valuer’s fee of around $400.00 or more.

4. **Review your mortgage regularly, particularly if:-**
   - There is a change in market interest rates.
   - A fixed rate period ends.
   - You receive a salary increase or lump sum payment e.g. a bonus or legacy.

5. **Talk to us.** Our property team deals with large numbers of mortgages all the time so we can give you up to the minute information and help.
   Call toll free on 0800 RCW LAW

James Johnston
Partner
Rainey Collins – Lawyers
PO Box 689 – Wellington

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0800 729529

Fax: (04) 473 9304
Email: jjohnston@rcw.co.nz

More information and other tips are on our website www.rcw.co.nz
were down slightly from last year, the quality of racing was good with “The beach races were held later than usual and although horse numbers or to take a dip in the sea between races.

The day’s programme consisted of seven horse races held at half-

The Grace whanau of Tuparoa, Ruatoria have been involved in Tae Kwon Do for many years. Mr Grace and his two sons Matiu (16) and Shane (14) are black belts and qualified instructors. “Taekwondo is an amazing sport. It builds self-esteem and confidence, as well as being a basic form of self defence. It’s definitely easier to care for kids who have an interest in something. The kids at the club are right into Tae Kwon Do and they are not trouble makers. Actually, once they understand Tae Kwon Do they stay away from trouble,” said Mr Grace.

In 1986 the club was set up by Master Amster Reedy and was officially affiliated to the NZ TKD Federation a year later. When Mr Reedy left the area, Mr Grace - who had not long set a NZ record by rising in ranks from a beginner-white to black belt in just 14 months - had become a qualified instructor, so took over the club.

Today there are around 60 members, ranging in age from six to 46 years. This wide range of ages allows the club to cover many classes in competitions. “At the Nationals in Auckland last year the 21 club members who competed came home with 21 medals, the majority being gold medals. That was an amazing feat for any small rural club.”

Mr Grace’s two sons entered the Olympic trials held late last year, with the aim of gaining valuable experience. Matiu fought a master who was much older and more experienced. However, he impressed the judges and the crowd, narrowly losing the match by one point. While Shane, who had just turned 14, was outclassed when he fought a NZ-born American using his Kiwi birth-right to qualify for a place at the Games.

Last year Matiu won a bronze medal at the Korean Games, which is pretty impressive because in Korea Tae Kwon Do is a national sport and a compulsory school subject. Mr Grace said that Matiu’s participation at the Korean Games has made Ruatoria more well-known in Korea, than it is in NZ.

In November 2003 they hosted the Regional TKD Championships at Ngata Memorial College in Ruatoria. It was a huge one day event, with around 200 competitors entered the schedule was very tight, comprising 126 back-to-back fights. Over 1,000 supporters were present to cheer on their respective teams. The Team Trophy placings at the end of the day were; first place to Ruatoria with 44 wins, second was Te Puke taking 20 wins and Gisborne was third with 16 wins.

A strong public interest in the sport and a high demand for TKD training venues in other towns on the East Coast has led Mr Grace, with the assistance of his sons, to extend the club to Tokomaru Bay and Tikitiki.

Training sessions have started in Tokomaru Bay on Tuesdays and Thursdays from February 10. While a venue for Tikitiki is yet to be confirmed and training days will also be Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Horse Races benefit local community

For over 30 years the excitement of horses thundering along the foreshore at low tide has drawn holiday makers, horse lovers and locals to Kaiaua Beach for the annual Tolaga Bay Charity Horse Races.

The event is run by locals with the proceeds going back to the community. Last year the races raised around $3500. The charities to benefit were mainly on the East Coast and in Gisborne. They included the Tolaga Bay Skate Board Park, Tolaga Bay Save the Wharf, local children’s sports teams and schools, the Stewart Brain Trust and Riding for the Disabled.

The day’s programme consisted of seven horse races held at half-hourly intervals, a bikini race and a hat competition. And, there was also the chance to have a flurry, with $1 equalisator betting on all races, or to take a dip in the sea between races.

“The beach races were held later than usual and although horse numbers were down slightly from last year, the quality of racing was good with

Tolaga Bay horseman and winner of the Boy Atkins Memorial race Dave Waru (right) and nephew Alan Taare on their way to Kaiaua Beach, with horses for the beach races

many of the races having close, exciting finishes,” said Committee secretary Seanne Williams.

A horse and rider from Opotiki took out Race 2, while riders and horses from Gisborne, Te Karaka and the coast took out the other races.

Locals; Willie Tamatea won the overall point’s prize, and Dave Waru won the Boy Atkins Memorial. A special moment and the highlight of the day was when another local rider, Al Lewis won the Open race on Boydie Donald’s horse, named China. “China’s regular rider Raymond Donald is currently serving with the New Zealand Army in Afghanistan,” said Ms Williams.

Six of the races covered 600m and were handicapped (the slower horses being given a head start) so everyone had a chance of winning. While the feature race was the 900m Open Race, with all horses starting together.

Groups can apply to the Club for funding around June/July, with the successful charities decided at the Club’s AGM.