

December 2023

TE TĀWHARAU O NGĀTI PŪKENGĀ

Taku Manu Korihi Ata

KIA PŪKENGĀ TE TŪ

Te Tāwharau o
Ngāti Pūkenga

CHAIRMAN REPORT



Tēnā koutou, otirā tēnā
tātou katoa.

2023 marks a decade since the establishment of our post settlement governance entity, Te Tāwharau o Ngāti Pūkenga, established in 2013 to receive, hold and manage the redress and assets following the Ngāti Pūkenga Claims Settlement Bill into legislation in August 2017. The return of the Ōtūkōpiri and Te Kapua whenua blocks in Tauranga are examples of cultural and commercial redress, now both the subject of projects

committed to by Te Tāwharau. Interestingly Ōtūkōpiri is part of around 26,000 hectares of land across the nation provided a perpetual renewable peppercorn rental, meaning the rent due from the longtime residents since its return to Ngāti Pūkenga was \$18.00. The Te Kapua whenua block, as presented across the Hui ā Kāinga (Road Show Event) in July is now proudly the subject of a wetland restoration project and home to a newly completed 5.28-hectare organic gold kiwifruit orchard.



**Huia rā te kāhui wairua ki
tua o te tatau ki te pō,
huihuia tātou e te kaiao ki
te ao tūroa.
E mihi ana ki ngā kāinga, ki
ngā uri e whakahuāngatia
nei ko tātou ko Pūkenga
Tangata, ko Pūkenga
Whārōrō!**





Quickly reflecting on the decade and mahi since the culmination of the mahi led by Te Au Maaro o Ngāti Pūkenga (Te Au Maaro) and its negotiation group, Te Matakahi, it is positive to read what at the time Te Au Maaro felt the settlement would contribute to the people of Ngāti Pūkenga:

- Pay tribute to and celebrate the mana of our tūpuna
- Restore the mana and identity of Ngāti Pūkenga
- Telling the true story of Ngāti Pūkenga
- Provide a foundation for the ongoing development of Ngāti Pūkenga.

The long-term vision statement for Te Tāwharau nearly fully encapsulates much of those ideas thought of by Te Au Maaro back in 2013:

“Our uri are proud to affiliate as Ngāti Pūkenga, our uri are strong and flourishing, our uri have strong identities as Ngāti Pūkenga.”

To achieve our long-term vision, the kotahitanga of Ngāti Pūkenga and our four Kāinga has been placed at the center:

“It is through unity that Ngāti Pūkenga will flourish.”

NGĀ MAHI 2022-23

In 2023 kotahitanga has continued to guide our purpose, activities and cultural drive. This report outlines the mahi in line with the priorities Te Tāwharau set for 2022-2023:

- Ōtūkōpiri: Renegotiate terms of lease before 2023
- Organise the Ahurei 2023
- Ngāti Pūkenga Treaty Stories Project
- Hui ā Kāinga (Road Show Events at all 4 Kāinga)
- Complete Phase II of Te Kapua Wetlands Restoration Project
- Progress the research and submissions program for the Marine and Coastal Area Act
- Pūkenga Te Reo-Māori Coordination Strategy
- Review the Rangatahi Strategy.

ŌTŪKŌPIRI: RENEGOTIATE TERMS OF LEASE BEFORE 2023

Last year Te Tāwharau reported that it had delivered a proposed rental review to the Ōtūkōpiri resident, Tauranga District’s New Zealand Riding for Disabled (RFD) being one of fifty-four independent RDA groups across New Zealand.

By the close of 2022 Te Tāwharau were negotiating different valuations independently sought. By the close of January 2023 an agreement was made, and the first amount received, for which it was agreed a proportion of the funds would be set aside to seek legal advice regarding terminating the perpetual lease.





TE HUI AHUREI O NGĀTI PŪKENGA

After Covid in 2020 had resigned so many events across the country to be suspended or moved to online platforms, in March we welcomed the return of our signature tribal event, Te Hui Ahurei o Ngāti Pūkenga. This year hosted by our Ngāpeke Kāinga with Te Hauoratanga o te Whenua me te Tangata the overarching theme that pulled together what was a robust itinerary of cultural, sporting and wellbeing activities and events.

Highlights included the Ngāpeke Occupation Exhibition, exploring both the Ngāpeke Permaculture initiative and the first commercial enterprise invested into by Te Tāwharau.

Ngāpeke Permaculture was initiated back in 2018 and established in 2019 by the Trustees of the Ngāpeke 7 land-block to use regenerative design and permaculture strategies to restore the land after 15 years of growing maize. Design features include food, water, and energy security.

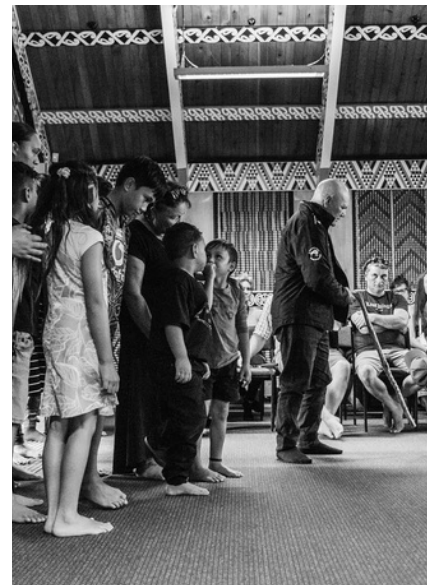
Another highlight of the Hui Ahurei was the launch of the Ngāti Pūkenga, Te Tai Whakaea Treaty Settlement Stories (Te Tai), a project coordinated by Ngāti Pūkenga’s own, Tahu Hollis.

Te Tai is a national project supported by the Manatū Taonga (Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage) for which the former Associate Minister Willow-Jean Prime was in attendance for the launch. Te Tai serves to collect, preserve, and share the broad and multi-faceted experience of settlement.

Minister Willow-Jean Prime noted speakers support of kaupapa as important to Ngāti Pūkenga, for the Crown and for future generations.

Next year’s Hui Ahurei is due to be hosted by Ngāti Pūkenga ki Pakikaikutu, Whangārei.

**E rere tonu ana ngā mihi ki
ō tatou huānga o Ngāpeke
Kāinga, tēnā rā koutou kei
ngā rahi, kei ngā toa o te
marae kore puehu i taea ai
te Hui Ahurei te kake te
taumata tika.**





HUI Ā-KĀINGA | ROAD SHOW EVENTS

Like our Hui Ahurei, the Kāinga Roadshow across the four Kāinga is another signature event that resumed to connect with the people and whenua to provide updates on activities.

Updates primarily focussed on the first commercial enterprise invested into by Te Tāwharau on behalf of its beneficiaries, then the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 applications (MACA applications).

The commercial arm of Te Tāwharau, Ngāti Pūkenga Investments Limited (NPI), following scoping of how the Te Kapua block returned in settlement could be utilised, set to work back in 2020 progressing the development of a kiwifruit orchard in partnership with the largest producer of kiwifruit in New Zealand and Australia, Seeka.

The development included the restoration of the wetlands on the land-block under the guidance and sweat of the Ngāpeke Kāinga based, Te Ohu Kaitiaki o Te Kapua.

Four years later the orchard development is now complete with the first crop of organic gold kiwifruit projected for 2025.

For the MACA applications, these are separate to Treaty of Waitangi claims, instead these applications are submitted to the High Court for recognition orders in the form of customary marine title (CMT) and/or protected customary rights (PCR).

While not property rights, CMT and/or PCRs ensure the agency and continued customary use by Ngāti Pūkenga over its marine and coastal areas.

PŪKENGĀ TE REO MĀORI COORDINATION STRATEGY & REVIEW THE RANGATAHI STRATEGY

Both the Pūkenga Te Reo Māori Coordination Strategy and a review of the Rangatahi Strategy remain ongoing work for Te Tāwharau as it considers how it can support our four Kāinga with Māori language development and succession initiatives for our rangatahi.

Ka wherawhera! Ka whitiwhiti!

PERSONNEL UPDATES

2023 ushered in personnel changes which began earlier in the year with the departure of our General Manager (GM) Hēmi Dawson of Kāi Tahu who was appointed to Te Tāwharau o Ngāti Pūkenga in early 2022. We sincerely thank Hēmi for all his mahi during his year with Te Tāwharau and wish him well in his future endeavours.



In May, Mereana Moko also stepped down as the Chair but remains with the Trust as a trustee. Mereana was appointed chairperson in November 2021 and carried the responsibility for nearly two years. We are thankful for the leadership Mereana provided to the tribal entity and our four kāinga. Following the resignation last August of Leonie Cairns as the Communications Coordinator, in December 2022, Tuihana Walker was appointed as the new Communications Manager. Tuihana brings a wealth of knowledge with over a decade of experience with strategic communication, marketing management and media.

With the departure of Hēmi, Te Tāwharau was fortunate to have our former GM, Kylie Smallman, kindly return as the Acting GM as a live recruitment process was facilitated to fill the vacant role. I wish to also make a special mention to our Administration Manager, Monique Edlinger, who beyond her immediate responsibilities provided some significant weight to carry operations as Te Tāwharau went through significant personnel changes earlier in the year.



We received a good number of candidates for the vacant GM role. At the AGM held Sunday 24 September we announced the appointment of Tauranga born and bred, Andrew Te Whaiti, of Ngāti Kahungunu and Kāi Tahu to the GM role. Andrew was the former CE of the Rotorua based New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts institute before its rebranding to Te Puia and the former Tauranga Regional Manager for Te Puni Kōkiri.

Kei ngā pokowhiwhi roa kua wehe, hoatu rā me ō koutou pūkenga nui, kua nama a Ngāti Pūkenga. Kei ngā pūkenga tauhou, Leonie, Andrew, nau piki mai me ō ketē pūrena.



HE KUPU WHAKAMIHA

With a decade of experience now with asset management, Te Tāwharau and Ngāti Pūkenga should be proud with its achievements progressed via both its tribal development and commercial arms with what is a modest working capital secured through our settlement.

We mihi our Directors of Ngāti Pūkenga Investments Limited, Tony Gray, Ross Stanway and Jocelyn Mikaere.

We mihi also our business and relationship partners, among them Seeka. Finally, a big thank you to our two former chairwomen, all our trustees past and present who have contributed to the mahi progressed for Ngāti Pūkenga, and consequently all our four kāinga of Ngāti Pūkenga.

Tai paringa moana, tai timunga tāngata, te purapura e ruia ai, te reanga tāngata e puta ai, puta ki te whai ao ki te ao mārama, ka tihewa mauriora.



GENERAL MANAGER REPORT



I am thrilled to be given the opportunity to work with Ngati Pukenga. I would like to thank Kylie, Monique and the Team for their thorough induction and welcome.

Having just recently attended my first NPI and Trust board meetings, I am excited about working such a quality calibre group of people.

The wonderful work done by the previous teams has set a solid foundation for growth and enrichment in the cultural, commercial, environmental and social space.

I look forward to developing in these areas and as time goes on.

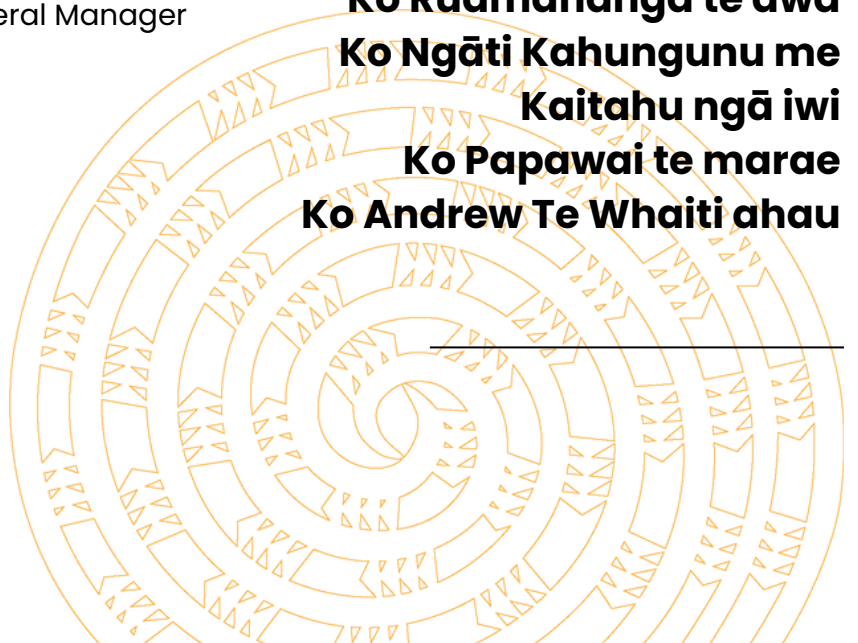
In the meantime, on behalf of the Team here, we would like to wish you and your whanau a safe and enriching Christmas holiday period.

If you have any questions or want to reach out to me, please do.

Nā,

Andrew Te Whaiti
General Manager

**Ko Takitimu te waka
Ko Tararua te maunga
Ko Ruamahanga te awa
Ko Ngāti Kahungunu me
Kaitahu ngā iwi
Ko Papawai te marae
Ko Andrew Te Whaiti ahau**



»» Kāinga Highlights ««



NGĀPEKE KAINGA



Rūnanga Update

In December 2023, an entirely new board was elected into office. The new board members are Kylie Smallman (co-chair), Samuel Mikaere (co-chair), Watson Ohia, Eruera Tuhakaraina, Hazel Hape & Rotiki Williams. Rotiki has since resigned due to personal reasons. Ben Matthews has come onboard as Rotiki's replacement.

We met with our people in July to receive their feedback on the draft strategic plan. We aim to present the final plan back to our people in the next couple of months.

We wish to extend our gratitude & aroha to the previous trustees for their many years served on the board.

We acknowledge the challenges that they faced

on our behalf and thank them for their aroha and commitment to serve our people.



MANAIA KAINGA

Tērā a Matariki e kanapanapa mai. Kei tōna taha a Taramainuku e haohaoa te hunga mate ki tōna kupenga roa ki tōna kupenga e kore te hunga e pahiko. Kei ngā uri o Aitua, haere atu rā, e moe! Ka hoki ki a tātou e noho mokemoke nei, tēnā koutou katoa.

Matariki Ahunga Nui. Matariki was a wonderful time in our community with many events taking place including whānau events alongside the annual event held at Te Wharekura o Manaia. Our Wharekura has been celebrating Matariki for a number of years and it is wonderful to see this auspicious event being practiced more broadly within our kāinga, hāpori and right across Aotearoa.

Our Manaia community has experienced extreme weather conditions including heavy rain falls, extreme wind pressure and large tides creating several major floods, which at times have closed down state highway 25 for several days. This has made it very difficult for the people needing to access all forms of assistance and kai within our community of Manaia. Now that we are through the worst of the winter weather we are looking forward to a calmer spring and hopefully a warm and sunny summer.

On the 10th of June, Te Kou-o-Rehua hosted manuwhiri from the motu whānui who came to tautoko the swearing in of our whanaunga Tania Williams

**Ko Te Kou o Rehua te
wharenuī,
Ko Ngairihanga te
wharekai,
Ko Manaia te marae,
Ko Manaia te awa e rere
ana ki Tikapa Moana,
Ko Ngāti Pūkenga te iwi,
Tihei mauri ora!**

as a judge of the family court. What an awesome day it was and we were blessed by the presence of many dignitaries and fortunately some great weather. Tania has taken up a position in Whangārei so I'm sure our Pakikaikutu whānau will look after her up there. Kei te Tuāhine ko koe i whakatinana ai te pepeha "Kia Pūkenga te tū!". Kei runga noa atu koe!



MAKETŪ KAINGA



In April 2023, Mereana & Weina Moko and whānau led a wetlands environmental weekend Wānanga for all owners, shareholders and beneficiaries of the Waewaetutuki 8A, 71B1 and 7B2A blocks.

People who whakapapa to these blocks are Ngāti Pūkenga ki Maketū.

There are other Ngāti Pūkenga blocks in Maketū but these three in particular contain the repo (wetlands).

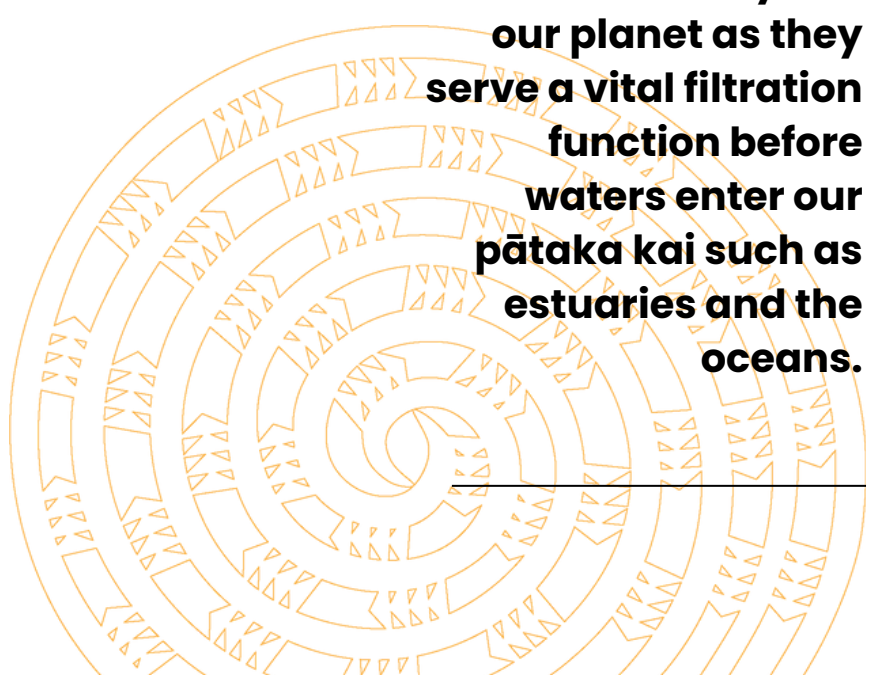
Wetlands are known as the 'kidneys' of our planet as they serve a vital filtration function before waters enter our pātaka kai such as estuaries and the oceans.

Our Waewaetutuki wetlands and our Kaikokopu Awa are in desperate need of aroha, manaakitanga and whakaora.

This Wānanga was the starting point to generate and to further whānau understanding and involvement in long overdue revitalisation plans.



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Te Tāwharau o
Ngāti Pūkenga