

TE PŪTŌRINO O PĀHAUWERA



August, 2025 | Edition 22



Matariki 2025 at Waipapa-a-iwi Mohaka Marae

KŌRERO from the CEO

Mauri ora whanau, and congratulations to all the successes for Matariki 2025.

Matariki is a time of remembrance to reflect on the past, celebrate the present - assess the here and now while looking to the future. As we come to the end of the financial year for 2025 we highlight the stories of the last quarter of 2025.

Nā reira ka tuku mihi ki te whānuitanga a Matariki.

KEI ROTO

- Manaaki Grants
- Taiao Mahi
- Matariki Celebrations
- Bryde’s whale
- Mohaka Forest Pest Control
- Mai Paritu tae atu ki
- Turakirae Fisheries Forum

TE PŪTŌRINO O PĀHAUWERA



Aerial View of the new orchard

MAUTAU A ORCHARD

NPDT is investing in a modern 2D orchard that will require better water infrastructure, constructing a reservoir (for increased resilience) and careful planting and development.

NPDT has received final confirmation from Ministers that our application has been successful in attaining the Regional Infrastructure Fund support to invest in water resilience to enable our development. The aspirations are that this is the first of many horticulture investments in the rohe.

Our team started the development of the Olive Grove (Mautaua Orchard) in June. The development is to establish a modern pipfruit orchard replicating our Pākuratahi Orchard.

NP are planting early season high-colour royal gala varieties to make the most of the region’s conditions, which is recognised for producing early season fruit.

Local digger operators have been assisting in the clearing of the site. There will be many more opportunities for whānau to assist in the development. Our team is working with local members to develop 30 hectares this winter.

The Mauataua orchard will be a mix of apples, citrus, and olives and offer employment for enthusiastic local whānau as another long-term investment for the Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust group.



MOHAKA FOREST PEST CONTROL

OSPRI TB Free NZ and Ngati Pahauwera sign MOU for continuing pest control in the Mohaka Forest.

NPDT celebrated an 8-year milestone with the re-signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with CEO Sam McIvor of OSPRI TB Free NZ (OSPRI). The new MOU extends the current partnership to 30 June 2028, with the initial agreement marking the first iwi partnership with OSPRI.

The MOU allows for the continuation of ground-based operations within the Mohaka Forest, following Ngāti Pāhauwera's objection to aerial 1080.

The ground-based eradication programme has been led by James Lewis of Lewis Pest Control (LPC), who continues to meet the targets set—even in the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle's devastation.

CEO Sam McIvor from OSPRI signing the new MOU with NPDT CEO Robin Hape

The signing of the MOU was attended by NPDT Chair, Toro Waaka, staff from NPDT and OSPRI, and local MP Cushla Tangaere-Manuel, Member of Parliament for Ikaroa Rāwhiti.

As a result of the good work being done by LPC, we anticipate further reductions in pest vectors, which supports the protection of our forests/farms and the eradication of TB.



Hui at Kahungunu Marae discussing land development initiatives.

LAND DEVELOPMENT

Whānau interested in developing their land were invited to attend a hui at Kahungunu Marae to listen to NPDT Chairman Toro Waaka and other invited leaders.

Different options were presented for whanau to consider and whanau wanting to develop their blocks should contact the trust.

KŌRERO FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Checking whether we are doing the right things to meet the needs of our whānau is foremost in the minds of the Trustees. Given the rapid pace of change in all quarters, from AI to the antics of the present Government, we are challenged by Te Ao hurihuri, so settling on the right focus and goals to help our members progress is a task that needs regular reviewing.

We have also engaged an independent Reviewer to check that our organisational operation is as efficient as it can be to meeting your needs.

Māhia ngā mahi o Kahukura

Reviewing Strategic Plans and the Annual Plan has been a priority in the past few months. One focus that has not changed is the health and wellbeing of our people. Increasing the health and longevity of our members can be supported by our mission to grow opportunities that raise the income levels of whānau.

If you have the right level of capital, your whānau can live in a healthy home, eat healthy food and be able to afford to give your children an education to provide for their future. In that respect, the responsibility rests on the shoulders of all parents to ensure their children get the educational support needed to pursue a meaningful and supportive career or business path.

AI and mechanisation will require our people to focus on qualifications that can be part of the new economy, given many job roles that exist today will disappear. This may motivate the Manaaki Committee to target specific professions for support.

What will not change will be the demand for food given the growing world population. Ngāti Pāhauwera whānau can be important players in that market given ownership of our whānau and Development Trust lands.

The first challenge will be getting Trustees appointed to our undeveloped lands. The second challenge will be to grow whānau capability and capacity to support the new agribusiness possibilities and enhance our competitive ability.

One mechanism we could use is the Co-operative model, as it is based on the principle of collective contribution and support—as is our concept of Tātou Tātou. Collectively owned machinery, shared labour, shared branding and shared administration, management and product marketing.

Currently, Cooperatives contribute 20% of the GDP of Aotearoa, which is proof of concept in itself. The game changer for our whānau will be they can share administration, equipment, labour, thinking and markets. This is an initiative the Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust will be working on.

Our land development hui at Kahungunu marae showed there was a high interest in better utilisation of whānau lands.

Another opportunity for whānau to raise their income levels is to start a business—either as a side hustle or a full-time operation.

To this end, the Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust is assisting with the holding of a Wairoa Business Symposium focused on encouraging and providing support systems and mentoring for business owners. If you have a business interest, see you there. It will be at the Wairoa Community Centre on the 28th and 29th of August. Ngāti Pāhauwera leaders—Ian Taylor, Willie Te Aho, and Ratahi Cross—will deliver keynote addresses.

One of the Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust's Strategic Goals is to be Wealth Creators and innovators on a local, national and global stage. Focusing on our own goals will yield greater gains than reacting to all of the national and international distractions that surround us.

The Government's pace of legislative change is proving to be a distraction from our own focus. We are fortunate the Iwi Chairs Forum has technicians who share templates and information we can use for our own engagements.

The recent announcement by Shane Jones about getting rid of the HBRC is an idea I support. We have too many Councils that take the money of our members and deliver little or no value in return.

The HBRC is also riddled with conflicts of interest and challenged with resource management responsibilities and progressing economic development, and some of the HBRC responsibilities should be taken over by District Councils. The resource management issues could then be managed by an independent board of Commissioners who form the Crown's half of the RPC.

I note the Wairoa Mayor on TV expressed his view that the HBRC be devolved and he also supports the idea that the Wairoa District Council area be extended to include the traditional rohe of Ngāti Pāhauwera which extended into the old river mouth of the Esk River.

Toro Waaka Chairperson.

Kia mau ki te mārō o te
kawau



MAI PARITU TAE ATU KI TURAKIRAE FORUMHUI

The Mai Paritu tae atu ki Turakirae Fisheries Forum met at Tuahuru Marae in Māhia to discuss the forum's work plan, kaitiaki / compliance issues, and the MPI Fisheries NZ sustainability round for October 2025.

The following table is part of the October 2025 round for reviewing current allocations, and anyone interested should visit the MPI website.



Meeting attendees in Mahia

Flatfish – FLA 2 (plenary)	East Cape, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki & Wellington
Red cod – RCO 2	East Cape, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki & Wellington
Paua – PAU 2 (plenary, review of MPs/CPUE)	East Cape, Hawke's Bay, Taranaki & Wellington
Snapper – SNA 2 (CPUE update)	East Cape, Hawke's Bay, East Coast of Wellington

New General Manager (GM) for Ngāti Pāhauwera Commercial Development Ltd (NPCDL)

Aidan Collin is the newly appointed GM for NPCDL. Aidan has whakapapa to Ngāi Tūhoe and brings a strong background in horticulture, housing, accounting, public policy, and business. His kuia Wairata Wilson grew stone fruit on Wilson Road in Flaxmere, and for many years after, his parents grew apples in Heretaunga, where his horticultural learning began. Aidan has formal qualifications in business as a Chartered Accountant and a master's degree in architecture, which will serve him well as he develops NPCDL over the next three years.

Aidan joined NPCDL from Te Puni Kōkiri, where he worked on a wide range of kaupapa including Māori Housing, Progressive Procurement, and Māori Business.

Aidan's experience and qualifications support the strategic focus assigned to Aidan from the NPCDL directors, which includes continuing to grow and develop our Ngāti Pāhauwera assets. A priority is to review our permanent staff and develop them for higher roles, reviewing and resetting the wage structure for all staff, and encouraging staff to set learning and development goals.

People are a major investment for future asset growth along with our whenua, which Aidan is also charged with developing. Thanks to his quick thinking, skills, and experience, work has started on the Mauataua orchard in Raupunga as the next horticultural development following Pakuratahi.



Aidan Collin

We also welcome newly appointed Pauly Douglas as the new Orchard Manager and Roimata King as the Orchard Assistant Manager.



Pauly Douglas



Stormy & Roimata King

TE MATAWHA O

PIPIRI

TE MATAWHA O PIPIRI

Day One - Friday 21 June
2025

The whānau and hapū of Ngāti Kurahikakawa gathered at Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae for a three-day celebration dedicated to remembrance, renewal, and unity.

The weekend brought together whānau of all ages to honour those who had passed, acknowledge the challenges of the past year, and look ahead with hope and intention.

The whānau of Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae, Mohaka, have renamed this Matariki mā Pūanga event "Te Matawha o Pipiri."

Matariki Celebrations at Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae

Ngā mihi o te tau hou Māori – Honouring Matariki mā Pūanga. There is strong interest in developing this celebration into an annual iwi-led event, with planning underway to:

- Seek support for this as an annual fixture
- Expand workshops and cultural experiences
- Create resources that can be shared with other hapori

Kawe Mate to Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae, Mohaka

The Matariki gathering was solemnly opened with a Kawe Mate Ceremony to honour and uplift the memory of all our whānau who had passed in the previous year.



Kaikōrero
Arthur Gemmell

This sacred rite brought together the collective grief, aroha, and reverence of our hapū as we welcomed the spiritual presence of our departed loved ones onto Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae, reconnecting them to their whenua and their people.

The Kawe Mate is more than a remembrance; it is an act of spiritual restoration—te whakahoki i te wairua ki te kāinga, returning the spirit to the ancestral home, acknowledging their journey beyond the veil, and upholding their mana through the presence of whānau, karakia, waiata tangi, and shared stories.

As each name was spoken and each life recalled, a powerful sense of whakapapa and continuation was felt throughout the wharenuī. This was a time for expressing deep aroha, shedding tears of healing, and releasing the weight of mourning into the embrace of the Matariki season.

The ceremony also set the spiritual tone for the rest of the weekend: one of reflection, renewal, and unity. It reminded us that our loved ones live on through our actions, our tamariki, and our collective memory. In bringing them home through the Kawe Mate, we ensured that their legacy would journey with us into the new year—ka mua, ka muri—walking backwards into the future with the strength of those who came before.

Whakapapa Journey to Waihua Marae – Kurahikakawa ki Waihua

As part of reaffirming our collective identity and whakapapa as Ngāti Kurahikakawa, a significant pilgrimage was made to Waihua Marae—the original marae of our tipuna known as Kurahikakawa. This sacred visit served not only as a symbolic homecoming but as a deliberate act of whakapapa restoration, reconnecting us to the whenua, the ancestral lines, and the cultural heartbeat of our people.

Central to this journey was the Kawe Mate ceremony, where we carried the memory and spiritual presence of whānau who had passed within the last year. Their names, their stories, and their legacy were brought to the marae of our ancestors to be honoured and to reconnect their wairua with the roots of their tūrangawaewae.



In doing so, we acknowledged the unbroken thread of whakapapa that binds generations across time and space.

The ceremony was deeply emotional, reminding all present of the sacred obligation to uphold and strengthen our genealogical ties to Kurahikakawa. Through karakia, whaikōrero, and waiata, both the living and the departed were brought together in a space of aroha, reflection, and renewal. It was a profound moment of unity—te kanohi kitea, te wairua rangona—where presence was felt not just in body, but in spirit.

This act of returning to Waihua was also a reclaiming of our history and a reawakening of ancestral memory. It reaffirmed the identity of Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae as an extension of that whakapapa line, carrying the mauri of Kurahikakawa into the present and future. This visit was not only ceremonial—it was transformational.

In re-establishing these whakapapa links, we declared as a people that our connections are alive, our lineage is active, and our identity is grounded in the whenua and the sacred places of our ancestors. It is here, at Kurahikakawa ki Waihua, that our whānau began to stitch together once more the korowai of whakapapa that wraps around us all.

Te Aho Urutau Ceremony

Upon returning to Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae, as the sun set and the stars arrived we began our Te Aho Urutau Ceremony. This was a spiritual and symbolic ritual to release the burdens, grief, and hardships of the past year to the heavens.

It was aligned with the spiritual significance of Matariki as a time for cleansing, letting go, and setting intentions for renewal.



The ceremony included karakia, waiata, and collective reflection, allowing whānau to begin the Matariki season in peace and unity.

Day Two – Saturday 22 June 2025

Saturday focused on creativity, learning, and intergenerational connection. The day was filled with meaningful activities designed to strengthen cultural identity and collective purpose.

The morning began with a series of interactive workshops, including:

- Understanding the Māori lunar calendar (Maramataka), and the significance of the stars of Matariki and Puanga
- Raranga (traditional flax weaving)
- Crafting gifts and decorations in preparation for the Matariki hākari
- Preparing and cooking traditional kai using fire and outdoor methods, fostering whānau collaboration

At 2:00pm, whānau journeyed to Maunga Tawhirirangi, our ancestral maunga, to pay respects to Hiwa-i-te-Rangi—the wishing star of Matariki. There, wishes and karakia were offered for the prosperity and well-being of the year ahead.

One highlight of this event was its name: “Te Matawha o Pipiri” – “The Magic of June”, “Mātawha” being a kupu given to us by Te Amorangi Canon Wi TeTau Huata in reference to the show of Kahurangi – “The Magic of Kahurangi”.

In this case, one of our mokopuna of Kurahikakawa and Ngāti Pāhauwera, ara, June Nicklin, on top of Maunga Tawhirirangi, proposed to her tāne Joshy Campbell, which gave this occasion the origin of the “Te Matawha o Pipiri” and a worthy name to bestow on our unique Ngāti Pāhauwera Matariki mā Pūanga celebrations.

Upon returning to Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae, a Wānanga on Marae Aspirations was held, where whānau shared ideas, hopes, and visions for the future of the marae, grounded in whakapapa, unity, and cultural revitalisation.

The evening concluded with a communal feast under the stars, followed by a celebration of our mokopuna—our future leaders. Through waiata, kapa haka, and storytelling around the fire, our elders and kaumātua shared pūrākau (ancestral stories), reminding all present of the rich legacy and future promise carried by the younger generation.

Day Three - Sunday 23 June 2025

The final day was reserved for closure and reflection. A morning karakia was held to give thanks and to spiritually clear the space. The children were acknowledged for their participation and presented with small taonga to remember the occasion. The gathering concluded with a whānau kōrero planning toward future events, with agreement to make Matariki at Waipapa-ā-Iwi Marae an annual celebration.



Roopu at Kurahikakawa Marae Waihua

The event achieved the following outcomes:

- Strengthened connections to whakapapa and whenua
- Honoured and acknowledged the memory of loved ones
- Provided learning experiences for tamariki in Māori knowledge and values
- Strengthened whānau bonds and intergenerational relationships

Sincere thanks are extended to the Rōpū Kaihautu, and all whānau who came together in aroha, manaakitanga, and collective purpose to make this gathering a meaningful and uplifting success.

Prepared in recognition of all who attended, contributed, and gave their hearts to the kaupapa.





Lillian Ward (Gisborne District Council)

CIVIL DEFENSE



Wānanga in progress

Emergency Preparedness Wānanga

I attended an Emergency Preparedness Wānanga at the Wairoa Taiwhenua. Lillian Ward (Gisborne District Council – Kaiwhakahaere Takawaenga Taiwhenua and Rural Area Manager) and the Tokomaru Bay Civil Defense team met with us on Sunday the 8th June 2025.

Lillian and her partner played a pivotal role during the cyclone and came to share their lived experiences with whānau. This was one of two wānanga she held in Te Wairoa. Lillian can support our communities to develop Community Resilience Plans as well as Whānau Evacuation Plans.

We have also invited Lillian to kōrero with our Ngāti Pāhauwera hapori, so that we are all better prepared if there is ever another weather event. I highly recommend that whānau come along and have a listen to what Lillian has to share.

Michelle Thompson



Emergency supplies

STAYING UP TO DATE

We are updating membership details with the Trust.

There are a variety of reasons for this: date of birth, address, phone number, email address, if you have moved or married recently, if you have added to the whānau, or if you have lost a loved one.

If you have not received AGM details or Voting Packs, either you are not registered or we do not have the correct details.

Please go to our website: <http://ngatipahauwera.co.nz/rehitatanga/> This mahi is ongoing. We ask all registered members to update their details with us. This information would be very much appreciated.

Please email your updated form to: admin@npdt.co.nz or drop it into one of our offices.

TE PŪTŌRINO O PĀHAUWERA

The Ngāti Pāhauwera Te Putorino Pānui comes out bi-monthly. We'd love to hear what you have going on this year that we might include in the pānui.

Any good things happening in our community, with our marae, schools, or within the whānau or among students—maybe a nanny or koro is celebrating a milestone, anything that you think might be a good read—send it in.

All we'll need is photos with permission to use, and a paragraph or two about what's happening. So if you can get in touch with me, that will be great.

Contact: El Maadi Email: elmaadi.teaho@npdt.co.nz Phone: (06) 838 686

TE KORU

Highly regarded and lauded Raupunga artist Sandy Adsett was thinking of Wairoa with his selection of artworks spanning 50 years, from 1977 to 2023. His exhibition Te Koru opened on Friday, the 2nd of May, for whanaunga and friends, and continued through to the 2nd of August. The museum is open from 10am to 2pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

Te Koru was a special selection made for Wairoa by the Raupunga-born artist from half a century of art.



BRYDE'S WHALE STRANDING AT WAIHUA BEACH

A Bryde's whale was discovered lying stranded on Waihua Beach on Wednesday morning at sunrise. She was found and named Te Hihi by Clare Butler

I was informed at approximately 8:30 a.m., and a discussion was held with the whānau regarding the harvesting of the koiwi. It was mentioned that it had been 25 years since the last stranding of a whale at Waihua—an occasion rare for the hapū—and very unusual for a Bryde's whale to be this far down along this coastline, as they are mainly found in the Hauraki Gulf.

The appropriate whānau were contacted, and they were subsequently informed of the whānau hapū's intentions to harvest the koiwi. We then met DOC – David Mathis in Waihua.

A karakia was done by Kuki Green, and DOC proceeded to gather measurements and collect samples.

We engaged in discussions regarding Te Hihi, including the potential consequences and the significance of the lesions and her stranding. Additionally, we considered the possibility of relocating Te Hihi to a secure location beyond the high tide mark.

Whānau hapū made numerous phone calls that morning, arranging for a digger to move Te Hihi, as well as talks with Karen Stockin of Massey University, where our samples had been delivered; Senitra Nathan-Marsh and Levi Walford from Ahuriri; and Grace Ormond from Rongomai Wahine of Māhia, who were all on board to support our hapū.

We were successful in getting QRS on the project to relocate Te Hihi to a safer part of the beach, and they later returned the next day to bury what remained.

Elmaadi Te Aho



Clare Butler



Clare Butler with Te Hihi



PPE Gear provided



Te Hihi pre-harvest



Te Hihi



Senitra at the harvest



Inspection

The following day, whānau assembled. We started with a karakia and then changed into our PPE gear, provided by DOC and Senitra. With the help of Senitra and her colleagues, we were able to process Te Hihi's cultural harvest. .

Future wānanga will take place.





WAIROA MUSEUM

ROOTS, ROCK, REGGAE

The Wairoa Museum has been filled with exciting and amazing exhibitions over the last few months, with the Bob Marley exhibition Roots, Rock, Reggae, which opened in Wairoa in February, generously on loan from the Tairāwhiti Museum.

It consists of a large collection of photographs selected by British photographer Adrian Boot from works in the collection of the Bob Marley Museum in Jamaica.

In addition, we were also fortunate to source two images of Bob Marley with whānau members who have connections to Wairoa. Pereri King, Jah Glory, and guest guitarist Kiri Gilbert joined us as live entertainment in the main gallery of the Wairoa Museum. The Bob Marley Exhibition ran from 1 February to Saturday 12 April 2025.

At the Wairoa Museum we honour Waitangi Day, a time to reflect on Te Tiriti o Waitangi, our founding covenant. It is a day to acknowledge our shared history and continue the journey toward true tino rangatiratanga – self-determination and justice for all.



Robert Neilson, Katarina Kawana



“In this great future,
you can't forget
your past.” – Bob
Marley



Tania Haumaha, Hanham Lambert



Kui Pani Henare Waru, Vilma Hape, Seenie Kahukura, Diane Butler

His words echo the kaupapa of Waitangi:

“Emancipate yourselves from mental slavery, none but ourselves can free our minds.” – Bob Marley

Over 30 kaumātua, with Vilma Hape and lots of helpers, gathered at the Wairoa Museum after morning tea to check out the exhibition Roots, Rock, and Reggae before heading into the education room for some T-shirt embellishments with a Bob Marley stencil.

It was also the birthday of Bob Marley, a man whose music became a global anthem for freedom, unity, and resistance against oppression.

As we commemorate this day in the future, let us stand together, honouring the promises of the past while building a future of kotahitanga, mana, and aroha.

Wairoa celebrated the spirit of mana motuhake and justice.

Rasta colours made Tuesday's Kaumātua Day a beautiful celebration of Bob Marley and his music.



Winter Wellness Wednesdays

Matariki Rongoā

The event filled the museum's learning space with information about infusions, tinctures, teas, and balms given by Richard Allen.

About 25 people returned for the second session in the rongoā wānanga, as Allen described the botanical habits and active ingredients of plants that can soothe and relieve many winter ailments.

Kūmarahou featured prominently, and he recommended starting with a single rongoā plant to build familiarity.

Kānuka was highlighted as highly anti-inflammatory, and several other plants were noted for their pain-relieving qualities in balm form.

He showed dried corn silk, which he said was a powerful rongoā for urinary tract infections. During the wānanga, he demonstrated how to prepare some of his rongoā, and there was strong interest in learning more.



Richard Allen



Peter Shaw

Reviving the Maungataniwha Forest with Ngutu Kākā and Kiwi

Reviving the Maungataniwha Forest with Ngutu Kākā and Kiwi

A powerful kōrero with Theresa Thornton and Pete Shaw — two passionate kaitiaki dedicated to restoring and protecting Aotearoa's native flora and fauna.

Theresa shared the inspirational work taking place on behalf of Ngāti Pāhauwera within the Pāhauwera district to aid the recovery of the Ngutu Kākā. Pete brought decades of experience from Maungataniwha Reserve, where he leads kiwi recovery and forest restoration.

MANAAKI GRANTS

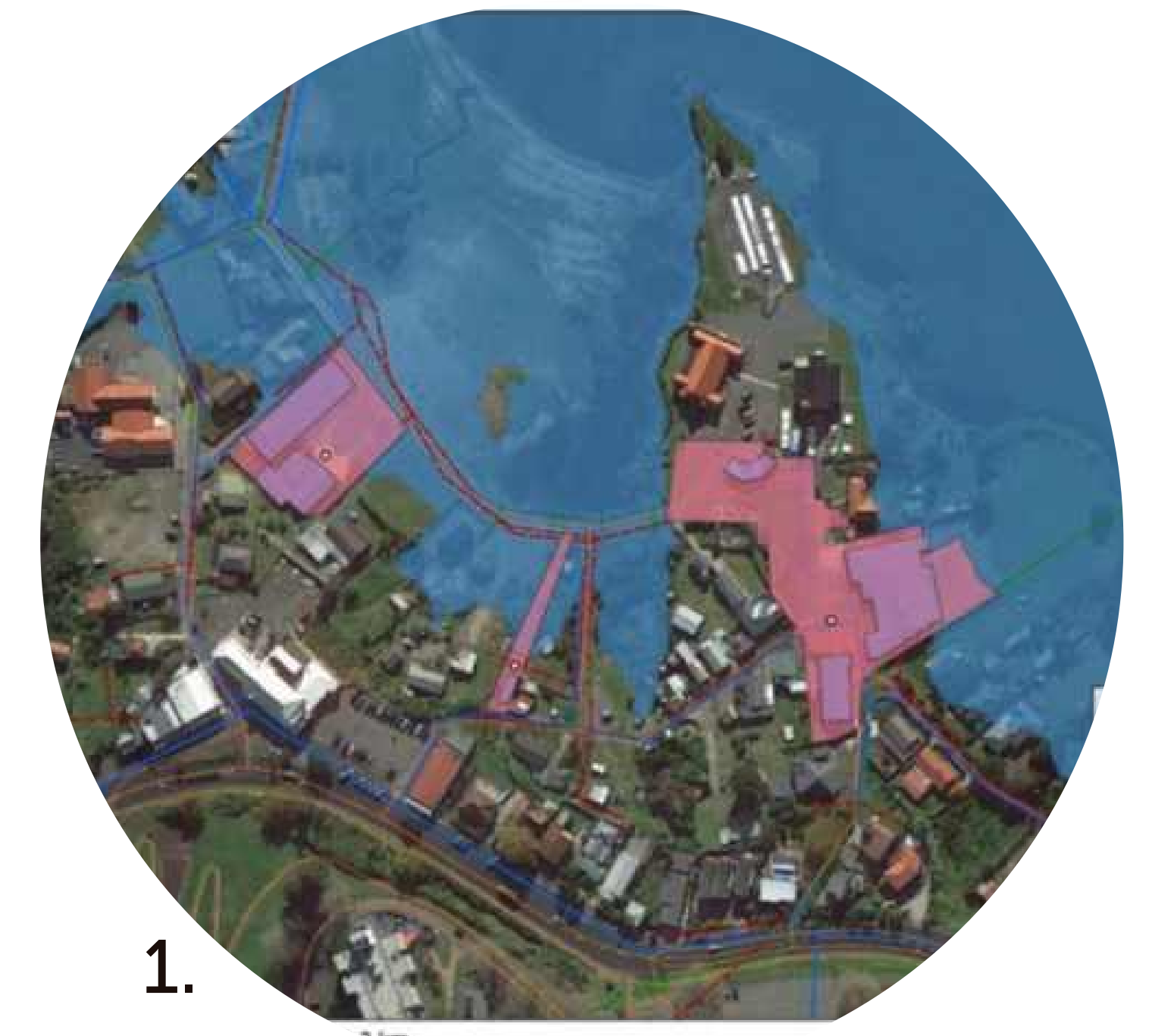
For over a decade, NPDT's Manaaki Committee has walked alongside whānau, empowering their journeys from secondary school through to tertiary success. We celebrate the incredible achievements of so many.

MANAAKI GRANTS Haukapuanui Vercoe

As 2024 draws to a close, I want to extend my utmost thanks for your tautoko towards my doctoral studies at the University of Auckland this academic year. The tautoko you have provided has alleviated the financial pressures of university, enabling me to make progress in my professional growth and academic endeavours. I am pleased to share that this year has been busy and successful, and this report provides a summary of the key highlights and challenges.

Whilst this has been a challenging and rewarding year, significant progress was made across multiple areas of research and professional development.

In 2024, my research was recognised through a number of media releases and disseminated in various academic, wānanga, marae, and wider industry settings. Key milestones also included the completion of marae interview transcription and response inputs from whānau, finalisation of geospatial marae hazard maps (see Figure 1),



1.

A poster presentation at the QuakeCoRE annual meeting (see Figure 2).



2.

An article was submitted for review and has recently been accepted by the Australian Journal of Emergency Management, marking another step toward sharing this research with a broader audience.

As the research draws closer to the final stages and with all the moving parts, it has been challenging to prioritise and efficiently comb through the various qualitative and quantitative datasets. Nevertheless, I have found that breaking tasks into smaller, more manageable pieces makes the workload more achievable.

Another significant challenge overcome this year was navigating the complexities of engaging with marae while balancing the demands of research. Coordinating hui and interviews with whānau was challenging due to the voluntary nature of marae roles and their already busy schedules. However, adopting a "marae space, marae pace" approach proved to be the most effective way forward. Although most of the marae were our own whānau, this approach ensured trust and meaningful relationships could still be maintained whilst getting the mahi done for, with, and by our whānau. Without their tautoko, this research would not be possible, as shown in Figure 3.

Outside of studies, I have continued to contribute to kaupapa I am passionate about, such as inspiring the next generation of rangatahi through tertiary education.

On several occasions this year, I have co-presented with my brother to kura kaupapa and mainstream high school Māori students to share our pathways in the hope that we will see more rangatahi Māori pursuing tertiary education in the years to come.

In summary, this has been another successful year and I am proud of the work we have done with and for our marae. The research has contributed to critical discussions on marae resilience and hazard preparedness, gaining recognition in the media and sparking growing interest among marae, the wider community and government agencies, including NEMA and Civil Defence.

3.



I am inspired by the resilience-building efforts being undertaken by our marae across the motu, which strengthens my commitment to make a tangible difference supporting our whānau, hapū, iwi, and marae in this important work.

As I reflect on these experiences, I remain grateful for your continued tautoko towards my studies and the opportunities it has made possible. As with the whānau from all our marae, this rangahau would not be possible without your support either. I am truly thankful and look forward to sharing more milestones as I approach the finish line. Wishing you all a joyful and restful Christmas and New Year – kia haumaru ngā rangi whakatā e heke mai nei.

Nāku i roto i ngā mihi, nā
Haukapuānui Vercoe



MANAAKI GRANTS Jacq Huata

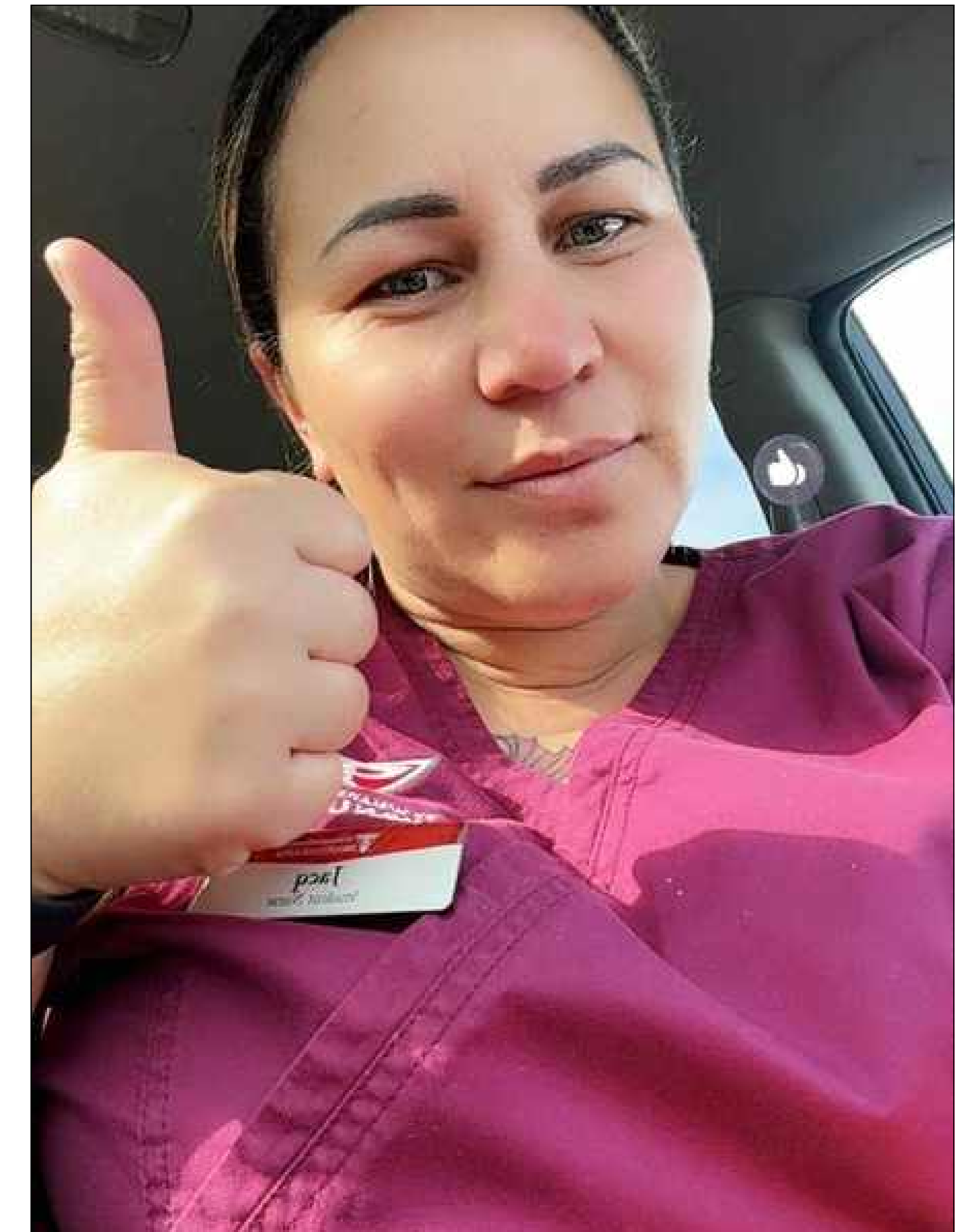
Tēnā koutou,

Ko Jacq Huata tōku ingoa. I am a proud mother of five and currently in my second year of study toward a Bachelor of Health Science Māori Nursing through Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. I have been truly grateful to receive the Ngāti Pāhauwera Manaaki Grant each year of my journey, and I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the support that has helped me get this far.

Nursing wasn't always a goal of mine. In fact, I never imagined I would take this path. But when the opportunity to enrol in the Wānanga's Career Preparation Programme (CCP) here in Te Wairoa came up, I thought, "Why not give it a go?" It was free, local, and perfectly timed with my tamariki's school and kōhanga hours. It felt like the universe had aligned things just right.

During the CCP course, I began to see a future in nursing. I realised I was good at the skills we were learning, and more importantly, I discovered a passion for helping people. So in 2024, alongside eight other taura, I made the leap into the full Bachelor of Health Science Māori Nursing programme.

My goal is to make healthcare more accessible for my people—to bring services to our marae, led by someone who is ahi kā, who knows and understands the needs of our community. I want to be a familiar face delivering care, support, and knowledge to my whānau, hāpori, and iwi.



I'm doing this to make my tamariki proud and to be a role model not just for them, but for all the tamariki who surround me. I want to keep my whānau informed and empowered about their Hauora. And most importantly, I'm doing this for me.

I am surrounded by incredible tutors who push me to reach the goals I've set. Their belief in me, along with the support from my whānau, has made a world of difference. I remain committed, passionate, and proud of the path I'm walking.

Nāku noa,
nā Jacq Huata

Me he manu rere au ka tau ki Maunga Haruru
Pukanakana ki raro ki te awa o Mohaka te
whakarurutanga o Paikea
Tau ake taku waka tapu o Takitimu i te ngutu
awa o Waikare
Ka topa, ka tau ki te whenua o Raupunga
Huri kau ake ki te poho o Te Huki
Te kai rangitamiro mo nga iwi o Te Tairawhiti

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou mō tō koutou
manaaki me te tautoko i tēnei haerenga.

Tihei Mauri Ora

MANAAKI GRANTS Leedti and Bobby Te Heta



Leedti Te Heta (left) and Bobby Te Heta (Right)

A video of Leedti thanking the Committee was sent in. Both attended NZ Māoris and had "Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Ltd" put on the backs of their shirts.

Ngā mihi
Crystal Heta

Thank, you Manaaki Committee.
Crystal Heta, daughter of the late John Heta, would like to thank the Manaaki Committee on behalf of her two boys, who attend Hato Pāora College—both successful in receiving a Manaaki Grant.

MANAAKI GRANTS Hannah and Ella Lawson

Sisters Hannah and Ella Lawson are both graduating with their master's degrees.

Hannah studied a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Management with a minor in Māori Studies, and also took Agricultural Innovation papers, which led her to pursue a Master of Applied Science in Food and Agriculture this year. Ella completed a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Finance with a minor in Accounting, and she is now completing a Master of Business in Finance. What a powerhouse duo!

We are incredibly proud of all our whānau striving for brighter futures.

Ngā mihi nui to our Manaaki Committee for over 10 years of tautoko and āwhina. Your work changes lives.

Graduating side by side means so much to sisters Hannah and Ella Lawson.

"It feels pretty special, it's not often you get to experience such a big milestone with your sibling right beside you," Ella says.

Ella and Hannah will both be graduating with their master's degrees. Hannah studied a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Management with a minor in Māori Studies, and also took Agricultural Innovation papers, which led her to pursue a Master of Applied Science in Food and Agriculture this year. Ella completed a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Finance with a minor in Accounting, and she is now completing a Master of Business in Finance.

Being from Puketapu in Hawke's Bay — two flights away from Dunedin — Hannah and Ella truly value each other's presence. "I've always been someone who gets a bit homesick, so having family support around me has honestly made such a difference," Hannah says.



MANAAKI GRANTS YMP RUGBY AND SPORTS CLUB - GROWING STRONGER FOR OUR FUTURE

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It's been an incredible season so far for YMP Rugby and Sports Club, and we are proud to share the milestones, achievements, and aspirations of our teams across all levels – from our youngest tamariki to our senior men and wāhine toa. Our journey is fuelled by the passion and talent of our players, the unwavering support of whānau, and the strong backing of our sponsors and wider community.

Everything we do is for our tamariki – mō te oranga o ngā uri whakatipu.

This season, we are proud to have between 76 to 80 tamariki registered in our Rangatahi grades.

These young players are involved in Ripper Rugby, Junior Tackle Rugby, and Primary Grade Tackle, showing up each week with passion and pride in their club. A major milestone this year has been the introduction of the Intermediate Grade within Wairoa JAB – a first for the region. Thanks to the strength of our numbers, YMP was able to field its own team in this new grade, contributing players to the Wairoa 11th and 12th Grade teams.

“Everything we do is for our tamariki – mō te oranga o ngā uri whakatipu.

Not only are we growing on the rugby field, but also on the courts. Our junior netball team is currently competing in the Wairoa Netball Competition and remains undefeated – a huge achievement that speaks to the talent and drive of our young wāhine. Three of our players have also been selected for the Wairoa rep team. Later in the year, we will also enter teams into the Wairoa Basketball Competition and the Hawke's Bay League Tournament, held in Napier and Hastings.



Ngā Tamariki – Our Rangatahi, Our Future

Our tamariki are the heartbeat of this club. Watching them grow, learn, and strive is an accomplishment in itself, and we are privileged to walk alongside them. Special thanks to their incredible sponsors: Hawke's Bay Heavy Haul, Galbraith Earthmovers, APG Horticulture, and A & Waylyn Whaipakanga – your support makes a world of difference.



Wāhine Toa – Netball with Heart

YMP is proud to field two women's netball teams in the Wairoa Netball Competition: YMP Raupunga and YMP Ake Ake. These teams are made up of strong, wāhine who are loyal to their club, mums reclaiming their space, rangatahi seeking connection, and the experienced OGs who bring a unique dynamic and energy to the court.

Now in our second consecutive year participating, we are committed to growing our presence in the netball space. Our wāhine proudly represent their whānau, hāpori, iwi, and most importantly, themselves. The future looks bright as they plan to attend the 2025 Kurangaituku Netball Tournament and the Court in the Bay competition.

Arohanui to their sponsors: 24-2 4EVA, QRS Wairoa, Pickerings Cabinet Makers, NRG Rising, and Wairoa Liquor Centre – thank you for believing in our wāhine.

Senior Men – Strength and Pride

Our Senior Men's Rugby Team is currently having an outstanding season, remaining undefeated so far, with their finals coming up on the 11th of July 2025, which will be held at McLean Park in Napier. With the support of CODD Contractors, the team has not only built momentum but also had 10 players named in the Wairoa Sub Union wider squad – a testament to their dedication and mana on the field.

He Kōrero Hōu – Poutama and the Path Ahead

A significant milestone for our club this year has been the opening of our new changing rooms – "Poutama." Named after one of our traditional hāngi stones, Poutama symbolises the first stepping stone – the one that connects and anchors all others. It represents our foundation, our beginning, and the journey ahead.



Looking forward, we are making plans to establish and build a dedicated clubroom – a space to foster connection, coordination, and community pride. Having the support and presence of our Marae has been a blessing in this kaupapa.

We would also like to express our deep gratitude to both the Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust and the Ngāti Pāhauwera Manaaki Trust, who back all codes in our club with sponsorship and have been incredibly supportive of our club and our kaupapa. Their 100% backing means everything to us, and we are proud to walk this path with the strength of our iwi behind us. Their support has empowered us to push further, dream bigger, and deliver more for our tamariki and wider hapori.

The Best is Yet to Come! YMP Rugby and Sports Club is more than just sport – it is whanaungatanga, whakapapa, and whānau. As we look to the future, we do so with pride, determination, and a deep commitment to building a stronger tomorrow for our tamariki and mokopuna.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui. He toi whakairo, he mana tangata – through artistic excellence, comes human strength.

Ngā manaakitanga,
YMP Rugby and Sports Club Committee



On The Up: Rugby club bands together to build new changing rooms in two weeks

Acknowledging
Ngāti Pāhauwera –
Our Heartfelt Thanks



ANZAC SERVICES

Held at Waipapa A Iwi Mohaka Marae and at Te Huki Marae in 2025. Photographs were brought by whanau members to remember their loved ones who fought in the wars

If you have never been to your marae then come along for an ANZAC service next year or organise a time prior. Clean up days are also a great time to get involved with your marae and meet new people.



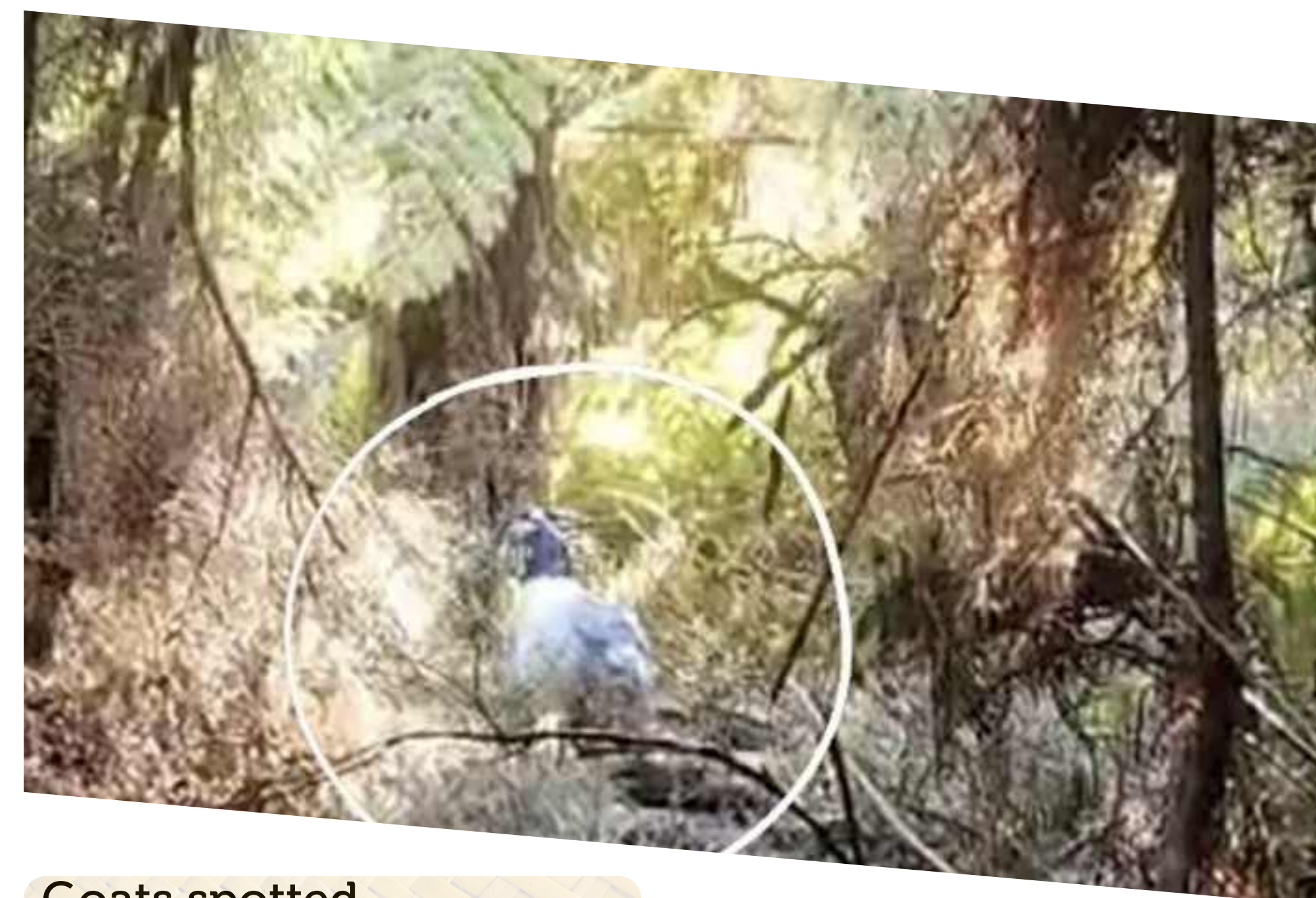
TAIAO



Te Heru O Tureia



Tracks cleared



Goats spotted

Te Heru o Tureia - Tracks & Maintenance

The primary aim was to clear and identify paths in Te Heru o Tureia to enable a safe walking track for field workers to carry out pest control activities for ungulates.

Tyrone Thornton and Henare Thornton, NPDT, have successfully created a path up to 4.6 km over very rough terrain, which now allows pest control workers to walk safely through the bush, inspect the area, and ensure there is effective pest management in key locations.

Our primary focus is to restore the mauri of Te Heru o Tureia with a particular emphasis on threatened species, to protect our native flora and fauna. By monitoring this area, we get a better understanding of the impact of ungulates.

This track was marked a few years ago by Pete Shaw, who manages the nearby Maungataniwha block. (He has overseen the creation of over 120 km of walking track and 10 huts across 11,348 ha).



Tyrone Thornton scrub cutting the track

KĀKAHI WĀNANGA

A Kākahi (freshwater mussel) wānanga was held at Kurahikakawa Marae. Locals delivered a presentation about Kurahikakawa Marae, nearby sites of significance, and local kōrero on the kākahi found in the Waihua Awa. Rangatahi, Ahi Kā, and Taiao experts came together to learn about Kākahi management in the area.

Kathryn Gale, a freshwater scientist, presented on the Kākahi life cycle and the need for fish. It begins when a male mussel releases sperm into the water, which is then absorbed by the female mussel to fertilize the eggs. Later, the mussel sneezes the eggs onto a suitable fish host, where they attach to its gills or fins and continue to grow. Then they eventually drop off as juvenile mussels and continue the cycle.



Learning how to measure and identify Kākahi



A makeshift river was formed on the lawn, and Kākahi were placed out so we could practise finding and measuring Kākahi. A bathyscope was used to see what was beneath the surface of the water. It works by removing surface glare, allowing for clear visibility underwater.

Rangatahi engagement in this learning process is a must—passing on the knowledge, showing them how to identify, measure, and look after the Kākahi.

Kākahi were a valuable mahinga kai resource for many Māori, providing food and materials. The shells can be used for tools, like stripping muka, and are a natural material with cultural significance.



TAWHIRIRANGI TE MAUNGA TAPU

KO MOHAKA TE AWA

TANGITŪ KI TE MOANA

MAUNGA HARURU KI UTA

KO NGĀTI PĀHAUWERA TE IWI

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