

NATI LINK

Issue 2

May 1998

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ko te kupu tuatahi he mihi atu kia tatou kia Ngati Porou whanui. Tena tatou i o tatou tini mate. Ko tatou nei o ratou morehu ki te ao turoa nei, heoi e nga mate haere, haere, haere. Ko tatou te hunga ora tena tatou katoa.

Our people warmly received the first Nati Link and many are now looking forward to the next issue. I hope the concept of the newsletter will encourage Ngati Porou to have input into the articles that will be printed and discussed. This will mean our newsletter will be something we own collectively as an iwi.

Nati Link provides an opportunity for us to communicate with each other. We can discuss issues of significance and at the same time talk about our history, our waiata, our haka and things of that nature.

Nati Link is a taonga for all our people. So to all Ngati Porou and all readers, I commend this second edition to you and look forward to input from you for the third and following issues of Nati Link.

Kia ora tatou katoa.

IMPROVING EDUCATION IN NGATI POROU

Last year the Education Review Office released a critical report about the poor quality of education provided by the twenty schools between Tolaga Bay and Potaka. The Ministry of Education and Te Runanga o Ngati Porou have joined forces to work with education stakeholders to develop a strategy to improve the quality of education in our schools.

Runanga Chief Executive Officer Amohaere Houkamau said the partnership with MOE was unique in that the project will be driven by Ngati Porou, for Ngati Porou.

"The project is significant to Ngati Porou because education is viewed as a cornerstone of Ngati Porou development. We have the ability to develop our own education plan where we deal with improving the performance of our schools and also ensure that education contin-

ues – from the womb to the tomb."

The Associate Minister of Education Brian Donnelly confirmed the government's commitment to improving education on the Coast. Brian Donnelly taught at Te Waha o Rerekohu Area School in 1981 and stated his personal commitment to the project. He said there were underlying tensions to work through that are common place in any new partnership, but the commitment and vision of the Runanga is the key to what he believes will be a constructive and positive initiative.

"The immediate question is not to pour more money in to solve the problem. The immediate question is to get the framework right, develop the appropriate structure and see what resources are needed to make that structure operate beneficially for Ngati Porou."

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Ngati Porou education stakeholders support Selwyn Parata's speech of welcome to MOE officials.



Associate Minister of Education Brian Donnelly and Beau Reweti are welcomed at Hiruharama marae.

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Tom Fox, Hopa Keelan and Alder Te Reo attend the Runanga's March Hui-a-Iwi at Iritekura Marae, Waipiro Bay.

FISHERIES MAJOR ISSUE AT MARCH HUI-A-IWI

Ngati Porou's case to the Auckland High Court in the debate over the definition of 'iwi' was a major talking point at the Hui-a-Iwi held at Iritekura Marae in March. Runanga CEO Amo Houkamau explained the background to the case and why it was crucial that Ngati Porou, as an iwi, affirm its perspective of iwi. Api Mahuika, Kate Walker and Rarawa Kohere gave evidence

on Ngati Porou's behalf in court. Other fisheries kaupapa included the recent crayfish allocation round. Of the 327 tonnes of crayfish quota available in the CRA 3 area, from Ngati Kahungunu to the East Cape, Ngati Porou receives 12 tonne of quota. Fishermen require at least 3 tonne of quota to be economically viable. This means that Ngati Porou only has enough crayfish quota to support four crayfishermen.

This was a sore point with local Waipiro fishermen. Te Whanau a Rakairoa pakeke Alder Te Reo told hui locals were fed up with outside commercial fishermen fishing their waters. He said the iwi kainga had experienced fishermen but were unable to secure fishing quota.

Economic Development Manager Arnold Reedy said the Runanga was pursuing ways in which they could secure more quota for Ngati Porou fishermen. He explained the relationship between the Runanga and the Horouta District Maori Executive who are working together to achieve Mana Whenua, Mana Moana and Mana Tangata in customary fisheries.

Asserting their Mana Whenua, Mana Moana and Mana Tangata, Alder Te Reo said the iwi kainga would not recognise fishing permits issued by people from other areas. Permits would have to be signed by locals authorised by their community.

Arnold Reedy also launched the Runanga's Economic Development Strategy and the C2000 plan.

There was unanimous support for the Runanga to take up their position on the Ngati Porou Hauora Board that has been vacant since 1995.

Huhana Rokx of the Early Childhood Development Unit spoke about the Parents As First Teachers programme which the Runanga is administering. The programme looks at offering support to parents of newborns.

The next Hui-a-Iwi will be held on the 24th of May in Rohe 3.

We have a summary of the Auckland High Court Case on page 6 ... and the Economic Development strategy highlights on page 3 ...

Continued from page 1

The ERO report suggests schools work together and pool their resources to improve administration, curriculum delivery and performance. Parent and Rangakura Teacher Trainee Tina Swann, agrees with this concept. "We have all been pulling in different directions trying to do our best for our kids. We need to find out what the needs of each school are, then work cohesively to use resources efficiently," said Tina. Parents, whanau and hapu need to own this kaupapa, she said.

"Unless people who have got the most to lose and the most to gain, get on board this waka, it is doomed to failure. We are in a unique position. We have the ability now to influence policy. This is a turning point in Ngati Porou history. We have a chance to determine what happens in the education sector for the next ten years or more."

The Ministry and the Runanga have begun recruiting a Facilitator to liaise with caregivers, school communities BOT's and other stake holders, to work with each school to develop an overarching strategic education plan. The project is expected to take up to four months to complete.

Mo tetahi o nga pakeke o Ngati Porou he kaupapa whakahirahira tenei notemea kua whai wahi tatou ki te whakapakari i nga whakahaeretanga o nga kura. Hei ta Stone Wanoa, kei a tatou tonu te rongoa mo enei raruraru.

"He tirohanga hou kei a tatou te tikanga. Kua whakahokia mai te mana kia tatou te iwi. Me timata mai i o tatou ake korero, o tatou maunga, o tatou awa, o tatou kawa. Kei konei nga korero. Ka tu pakari a tatou tamariki i roto i tenei ao, ahakoa kei hea."



Connie Ryland and Libby Hayes at the March Hui-a-Iwi

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ACCOUNTING, LEGAL AND CONSULTANCY SERVICE AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

Te Runanga o Ngati Porou has released it's Economic Development strategy. Economic Development Manager Arnold Reedy talks about developing a professional service base in the rohe which looks to tap the skills of Ngati Porou's greatest asset - it's people.

The Runanga intends to establish a professional service base, which includes an Accountancy Service, a Legal Service and a Consultancy Service.

"So for those everyday decisions we have got the people who will help us make the right decisions, that are going to get us on the road to a better future," said Arnold Reedy. His immediate focus is the establishment of an Accountancy Service which will initially target the farming sector. Farms in Ngati Porou are paying about \$2 million in accounting fees to Gisborne accountancy services.

"This strategy serves two purposes. It strengthens our skill base and it reduces cash flow out of our region. While our focus now is to work with our lands, we will assist whanau and hapu organisations such as our Marae, Kohanga Reo and Schools in the future." He said they hoped to foster unity. "We have a natural unity through our whanau, hapu, iwi structures. We need to focus this unity into economic strategies.

To achieve economic growth we must maintain cashflow within the rohe. We gain economic strength by uniting. That unity gives us bargaining power with the people and organisations we do business with. Before that we need to know what services or products we can offer, and then what benefits can be offered in exchange. An accountancy service is an excellent vehicle for information collation," said Arnold Reedy. Establishing professional services was an investment in the future, said Mr Reedy. The Runanga will conduct a survey of the legal services Ngati Porou require, with a view to providing a service that focuses on education and information sharing, and also the provision of affordable legal services.

The Consultancy Service gives Ngati Porou with specific skills an opportunity to market and use those skills. An Information Service has already been formed and is developing internet pages to market Ngati Porou and Ngati Porou products.

The Runanga will consult with whanau and hapu throughout the region to coordinate initiatives for the year 2000.

"We are encouraging our marae, whanau and hapu to consider ventures that will make the most of the opportunities the new millenium will bring our area". The Runanga is looking to secure funding for a C2000 Co-ordinator and Marketer.

Mr Reedy said the Runanga may be able to assist with seeding funding for initiatives that are deemed 'beneficial to the iwi', through it's Mana Loans lending scheme.

"The criteria is pretty broad, but it is one avenue potential entrepreneurs could consider."

In commercial fisheries, Mr Reedy said seeking the views of Ngati Porou about to how they want to the fisheries assets

EDITOR'S NOTE

I must say producing Nati Link has been more of a privilege than a job. I've enjoyed speaking to Ngati Porou all over the country and am encouraged by the good things happening in Ngati Porou and the wider community. We are a progressive iwi, despite all the bad stats. If our ultimate goal is mana motuhake, how do we achieve it? By being actively involved in our children's education? By using our skills to create a job for ourselves? By acquiring fishing quota? By going to a night class to learn how to use a computer? Mana Motuhake is all of the above. It is getting to a stage where you have confidence in yourself to do whatever you put your mind to. If we want a better future for our children, we've got to do our bit to achieve that goal. Imagine how powerful 56,000 people with the same vision could be.

Erana



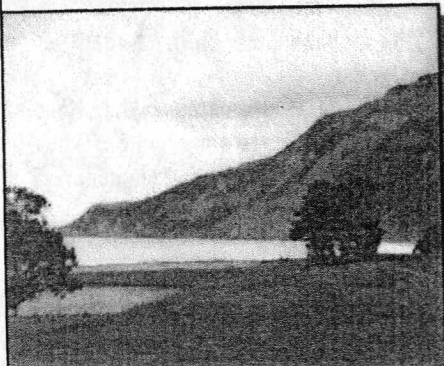
Ruatoria fishermen Maui Whangapirita, Alec Reedy, Joe Hohapata and Hone Harrison attend the Runanga's crayfish allocation hui for the CRA 3 area.

should be managed once they are secured from Te Ohukaimoana was a major priority.

"We will help Ngati Porou prepare to receive and administer those assets. These assets belong to Ngati Porou, so it's imperative that we know what Ngati Porou wants to do with them."

The Runanga will hold a series of hui to present the Economic Development Strategy.

"Our hui are a top priority. The Runanga wants Ngati Porou consensus on our economic direction. Without Ngati Porou support for these initiatives, they will fail. A Ngati Porou Accountancy Service will only prosper if we have a client base. So it's imperative we secure the support of the people so that we can move forward."



Tuparoa beach, Ruatoria. Find out how Ngati Porou wants to manage the fisheries assets held by Te Ohu Kaimoana, once they are secured is a priority for the Runanga.



TAURA HERE REPORT

This month's Taura Here report comes from the Hamilton based Ngati Porou Taura Here ki Kirikiriroa. Why form Taura Here? What do urban Nati's expect of the Runanga and the home base? Anei te whakahoki a Tamati Reedy ...

"Ko te kaupapa ake o tenei Taura Here, he pupuri tonu i te ia, te ha, o Ngati Porou kei konei e noho ana. We meet regularly to talk about what is happening at home. Our young people here want to learn te reo ake o Ngati Porou and hold on to their Ngati Poroutanga.

In light of the debate over the definition of iwi, I think it's become more imperative that we do identify ourselves strongly as an iwi, by forming formal associations like Taura Here.

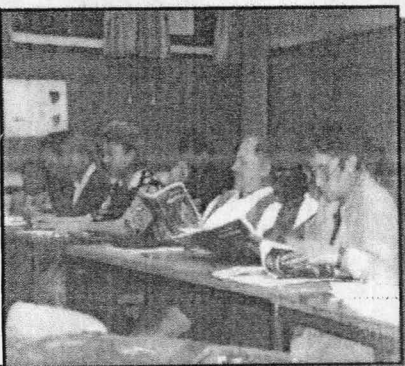
Kotahi anake te manawa o Ngati Porou, ara, kei te wa kainga. Our Taura Here is a way of expressing our identity as an iwi in this rohe. We acknowledge the iwi kainga of this rohe, but we confirm the fact that we affiliate strongly to our home base.

We are not expecting to be fed from the home base. The role of the Runanga is to maintain that sense of identity at home and abroad. We would like to help more in terms of providing sustenance to the home base. It comes back to that saying, 'It's not what Ngati Porou can do for you, it's what you can do for Ngati Porou'.

At our last Taura Here meeting, it was suggested that every Ngati Porou who was able to, make a koha of \$100 a year to a fund for improving communication, supporting marae and an education fund that could be used to provide perhaps an incentive allowance to attract and keep teaching professionals in Ngati Porou.

Assuming that there are 20,000 Nati's in the work force able and willing to contribute to this fund, that's roughly \$2 million a year. It can be done. It's just a matter of developing and marketing a good package so that people feel it's a way they can contribute to our people and our future.

Ngati Porou whanaunga living in Hamilton at the Ngati Porou Taura Here ki Kirikiriroa Review Consultation hui held at Waikato University in early April.



LET'S GO FISHING

He taonga tuku iho, he tapu nga tikanga a Tangaroa, tae atu ki ana maara kai katoa. Na reira me tieki nga kai Maori o nga moana, o nga awa, me nga roto. Ka karapotingia te mana moana me te mana whenua i raro ano o te mana wairua o Tangaroa.

Koia te putake o te whakaahua kua mau nei ki runga whakaahua, e pa ana ki nga tikanga a Ngati Porou mo etahi momo ika, kaimoana hoki a Tangaroa. Na Te Runanga o Ngati Porou i para te huarahi nei i tera tau.

Ko Vianney Douglas te kaiarataki o te kaupapa nei. Kua whakaahuatia ki runga ripene whakaahua hei whakamauhara ki a tatau o enei ra, nga momo tikanga a o tatau tipuna e pa ana ki te moana me nga awa. He tohe ano tenei, kia hoki tatau ki manaaki i aua tikanga no mua, notemea, he tikanga enei i hangaia, hei tiaki i nga kai o te moana, o nga awa, o nga roto hoki, me te whakatupato ano, ara memea ki te murua nga kai nei kia pau rawa, ka pehea a mua atu.



Ko Morehu Te Maro tenei e korero atu nei ki a Tini Fox (te Kaipatai). Ko nga kai-whakaahua, ko Neil Cardno me Trudy Lewis (mai i Cardno Productions, Rotorua)

Ko te ingoa o te whakaahua nei, "Ko Nga Tikanga Tapu a Tangaroa, me tana iwi a Ngati Porou". E rua tekau ma ono nga kaiakorero no nga hapu o Ngati Porou, kua whakaahuangia mo te kaupapa nei. Ko a ratau korero kei roto tonu i te



He taonga tuku iho, he tapu nga tikanga a Tangaroa. Ko Te Kapunga Matemoana Dewes me tetahi o ana mokopuna a Tataioterangi Reedy. "Ko te ataahua o te kaupapa whakaahua nei, kia mau nga tikanga o mua mo nga uri whakatipu."

reo tuturu o Ngati Porou.

Ko tetahi o nga kaiakorero ko Te Kapunga Dewes. Nana me tana iwi o Horoera ki Te Pakihi te karanga tuatahi kia whakaarangi he Rahui hei tieki i nga kaimoana o te rohe o Te Whanau a Hunaara mai i te marama o Hepetema ki Tihema i te tau 1997. Kua whakahiatotia hoki e ratou he mahere whakahaere i o ratou kapata kai. Kua komokomoa ki roto i taua mahere nga tikanga tawhito me nga ture o te pakeha. E kii ana a Koro, ahakoa he ahuatanga hou ki te tauhou, ehara, he taonga tuku iho mai i nga tipuna hei tieki kaimoana. Ko te tumanako kia kauaka e apu kaimoana, e muru ranei, heoi ano me hii, me hao, me ruku, me kahi ranei - mo te kai, mo te mina, mo te manaaki manuhiri, ka ngata te hiahia.

He kupu whakamatakitaki na Koro tenei, ara ko te ataahua o te kaupapa whakaahua nei, kia mau nga tikanga o mua mo nga uri whakatipu.

Ka whakahaeretia he hui whakaatu i te ripene nei ki ia marae o nga kaiakorero, tena pea hei te marama o Mei. Inaianei kei te rapa putea te Runanga hei waihanga whakaahua-a-hapu, ma ia hapu, whanau ranei.



NGA KAIMAHI

In Nga Kaimahi this month, we meet the Runanga's Chief Executive Officer, Amohaere Houkamau.

"We are all products of our upbringing," according to Runanga CEO Amohaere Houkamau. Her upbringing was influenced by hardworking and conscientious parents and grandparents who were quietly proud of their Ngati Poroutanga. Ngati Porou was not something that they talked about, it was more a way of life and practise. Amo's grandparents Te Rangiuiaia Houkamau and Amohaere Houkamau (nee McClutchie), Wiremu Pahuru and Heni Hoki-moana Pahuru (nee Kohere) were all raised around Wharekahika, Te Araroa and East Cape and during their time, dedicated much of their lives to their whanau, hapu,



"I hope to continue on from where our Ngati Porou tipuna left off - that journey towards mana motuhake."

marae and wider community.

Amo's parents Tau and Awhina Houkamau raised her, two brothers and a sister, to take responsibility for their actions and to be respectful and honest with people.

"When I reflect on my current role in the Runanga, I am merely continuing on where mine and other Ngati Porou tipuna left off - asserting to tatou mana motuhake."

Amo has been working for the Runanga since November 1992, three years after returning from Christchurch. She lived, studied and worked in Christchurch for ten years.

"I was drawn to Canterbury University because my tipuna Reweti Kohere studied there and I was interested in their post-graduate Journalism Course."

Throughout the early 1980's Amo was involved in various protest activities, including the 1981 Springbok Tour and the Waitangi Action Committee. She also became involved in a range of local, regional and national community development projects, an experience which helped develop skills for her current job. She spent much of that

time in a National Youth and Maori Women's forums assisting with policy development and project work.

While Amohaere has given up the protest placards and 'foot-stomping', the messages are still the same.

"We should have the right and responsibility to determine our own destiny and future, within our rohe. We need to respect the complimentary roles of men and women, mokopuna, matua and tipuna. The strength of Ngati Porou is in our whanau and hapu and the collective strength we draw upon when we celebrate our heritage and our descent from our eponymous ancestor, Porourangi."

Amohaere has been CEO of the Runanga since September 1997, after being Acting CEO since April 1996. Amo never considered being CEO, because she was content in her role developing projects which focussed on 'people development' - social services, health and housing. But she thoroughly enjoys her job and the privilege of working for and with Ngati Porou."

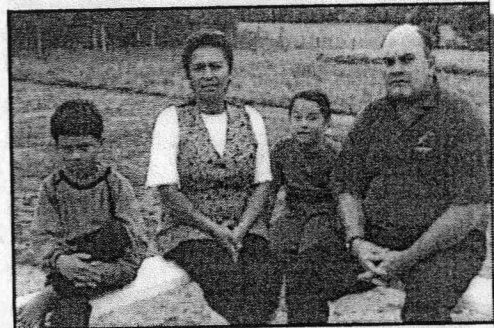
As the CEO of the Runanga, she attends numerous hui, responds to daily inquiries and oversees the Runanga's forty two staff, ensuring the organisation is working towards its Vision - 'To assert the mana motuhake of Ngati Porou, through our spirituality, our people and our resources'.

Achieving Mana Motuhake for Ngati Porou and ensuring her children develop into confident individuals immersed in their Ngati Poroutanga, are two of the dreams that drive Amohaere in her work. She is grateful that her husband and best friend, Selwyn Parata shares her vision for the future and provides her the essential support she needs, especially with her heavy work load.

It's a work load that takes her away from

Selwyn and their four children Awhina (11), Ngarimu (7), Rapaea (5) and Te Muiora (4) regularly.

"Believing we can achieve the same degree of control and responsibility for ourselves as our tipuna achieved pre-colonisation drives me. We have much to learn from the past," said Amohaere.



Amo's heart is with her family. From left to right: son Ngarimu, Amo, daughter Rapaea and her husband and best friend, Selwyn Parata.

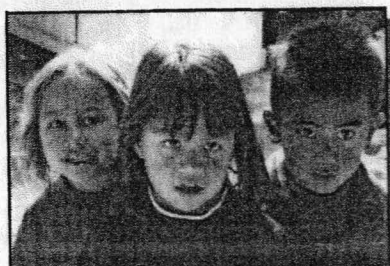
Amo said being clear about her pathway in life and knowing that she is constantly under scrutiny by the iwi, keeps her focussed. Regular assessment of her performance keeps her accountable and honest. She draws strength from a strong support network of whanau and work colleagues.

"That keeps me going, knowing that I don't do this job on my own. My whanau provides me with a strong support network."

And what are her goals in life? Amo said one of her main goals is to see every Ngati Porou realise their full potential as active and committed Ngati Porou people at either a whanau, hapu, marae or iwi level.

When she finishes working for the Runanga, she'll turn her focus to developments within her own hapu, Te Whanau a Hinerupe, Te Whanau a Rerewa and Te Whanau a Tuwhakairiora amongst others, "While my heart is with my husband and children, my soul is in Hicks Bay, Te Whanau a Tuwhakairiora."

For now she's content to make her contribution to her hapu, as a member of the Hinemaurea ki Wharekahika marae committee and as one of the dishwashers at the marae.



Baby of the whanau Te Muiora (centre) with two of her whanaunga, Angel Reedy (right) and Tasi Leota (left).



Kua rongo te ao i nga tautohetohe i waenganui i nga 'iwi' me nga Urban Maori Authorities me etahi atu ropu Maori, mo nga rawa o nga ika kei Te Ohu Kaimoana e pupuri ana i tenei wa. I haere a Ngati Porou ki te Kooti Matua o Akarana i tera atu wiki, ki te whakakoia i te mana o te iwi o Ngati Porou.

E whai ake nei, ko nga korero a to tatou Tiamana a Apirana Mahuika, mo nga whakahaere i roto i te Kooti.

E toru wiki etahi o matou i te kooti i Akarana e tautohetohe ana mo te kupu nei 'Iwi'. Ko te mea aroha ke ka noho ke ma te pakeha e whakatau, he aha te tikanga o tenei kupu, a, ka mahue mai tatou te hunga kei te noho i raro i te maru o tenei kupu, penei i a tatou o Ngati Porou nei.

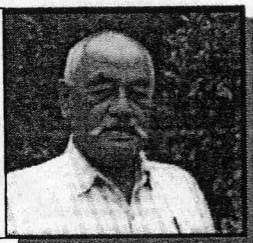
E ki ana etahi ko tenei kupu iwi, he kupu no na tata tonu nei, ehara i te kupu tahito. Ki nga roia o te kainga me etahi atu o nga roia e korero ana, kao. Ki te titiro tatou ki nga tuhituhinga i te tau 1820 kei reira e pa ana te kupu iwi. Na reira, koinei nga tautohetohe kei te tautohetia i te ra nei.

Ko te mea pouri ke kua tu mai etahi o nga Maori tonu, ki te korero kaore ratou i te mohio ki tenei kupu te 'Iwi', notemea ko o ratou iwi e mohio whanuitia nei, ehara ke i te 'iwi' a, ko te kupu 'Iwi', kaore he kupu whakapapa o roto.

Mo matou nga mea e noho ana i runga i te mana korero, ko tenei kupu 'Iwi', he whakapapa tona. Ka mau tonu matou ki tera ahuatanga. Na reira kei te taria atu te whakatau a te kooti pakeha, ko wai tatou.



Tiamana o Te Runanga o Ngati Porou, Apirana Mahuika.



Ko Api Mahuika tetahi o nga mangai o Ngati Porou i tu ki te korero ki te Kooti mo te tikanga o te kupu nei – iwi. Anei nga whakaaro o James Johnston, mo nga whakahaere ki roto i te Kooti.

"Ki a au nei, na te kaha o ana korero me nga korero a era o tatou i tu ki mua i te kooti, i whara tera taha. I pupu ake ki roto i au te whakahihi mo to tatou iwi, i te wa i a Api me etahi atu o nga mangai o Ngati Porou, e korero ana i roto i te Kooti. Ka mau ke te wehī Mo Whaimutu Dewes, tetahi o nga upoko o Te Ohu Kaimoana kei te mohio ratou, na te rangirua o nga Ture Ika, a, kua puta mai enei raruraru.

"Ko te mea nui maku i te wa i a tatou i roto i te Kooti, i tu a Ngati Porou ki runga ano i tona ake mana. I reira hoki a Hauraki me etahi atu iwi i raro i te maru o te Treaty Tribes Coalition. Ko te rereketanga, i tu motuhake a Ngati Porou."

I tenei wa kei te whanga matou mo te whakatau whakamutunga a Kaiwhakawa Patterson mo tenei kaupapa. E ai ki nga korero, ki te kore nga taha e rua e rata mai ki tera whakatau, ka kawea ano te kaupapa nei, ki te Privy Council.

KUA RONGO TE KOOTI TEITEI I TE MANA O TE IWI O NGATI POROU

Nga Kaimahi continued

And while we are on the kaupapa of fishing - one of our big fishies will soon be leaving the net, so to speak! Fisheries Administration Officer Honore Chesley is retiring after five years with the Runanga. Guess the sea's a lot bluer and cleaner in Wharekahika.

No doubt the fresh sea air and good weather will be restful.

Honore's regarded as a pakeke of the Runanga, not because of his maturity, but because of his mana, his commitment, his knowledge, his gentle nature, his humour and his crankiness.

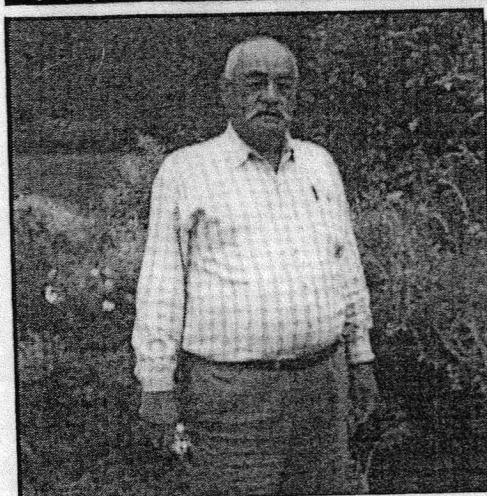
For years his colleagues have seen him juggle his work and marae responsibilities. Now he can devote his energy to Hinemaurea. So Honore, from all your work mates at the Runanga - all the best for the future. To Alice and the children, thank you for sharing your husband and Dad for so many years.



Fisheries Administration Officer Honore Chesley resigns after five years with the Runanga.

CAM'S CORNER

Ko Hikurangi te maunga. Ko Waiapu te awa. Ko Ngati Porou te iwi. A well-known pepeha that encompasses the cultural essence of our being – being Ngati Porou! I had the pleasure of being in Auckland during the first week of the High Court case concerning, in a nutshell, the fish! My real reason was to buy a truck for our family farm. While there I took in the sights and of course, the case. Dressed rather casually I apprehensively approached the public gallery only to be seen and greeted by the 'Revered One' himself. Api Mahuika. Sitting next to him was Matanuku, his son, and my big brother Whaimutu. I was committed. Any hopes of a neutral corner on this debate were firmly, publicly dispelled in a flash of a handshake and a press of a nose. And I'm glad. For that brief period I witnessed Kate Walker and Rarawa Kohere take the stand. What they said in the box made me very proud to be Ngati Porou. I was too late to catch Uncle Api's korero, but I did see Professor Wharehuia Milroy in action. He was being cleverly cross examined by Annette Sykes. I felt a little annoyed and somewhat bewildered by it all. I've chosen to leave this issue up to Whai and Dad to sort out, but my summation of it all is – this is an unseemly scrap over the spoils, much like the seagulls squabbling over Syd Clarke's Te Araroa rubbish dump. In the meantime, we, the iwi, Ngati Porou, both home and abroad, are still waiting. Call me a tribal fundamentalist. All I can say is, is that bad?



Chairman of Te Runanga o Ngati Porou Apirana Mahuika replaces his pen, with a pair of secateurs, to tend his garden. Gardening is a favourite past-time of the Runanga's Chairman.

NGA KAITIEKI

'Straight as totara and tough as teak'. That's how Whaimutu Dewes describes Chairman of Te Runanga o Ngati Porou Api Mahuika.

"He's strong and has the strength required of a leader. He takes risks and the knocks and plaudits that go with it. He's a believer and defender of Ngati Porou tikanga. He's tough, but is very family oriented with deep views about whanau and whanaungatanga," said Whaimutu Dewes. That probably comes from the loving upbringing Api had, as the baby of Hamana and Hemoata Tangipo Mahuika's big family of nine boys and four girls. Hopa Keelan attended Te Aute College and St John's Theological School with Api. Hopa said he and Api were great friends and his whanau was always very supportive of Api. "Oh he was a much loved son and his big brothers and sisters spoilt him too. The old people used to drive all the way up to Auckland to pick up Api for the holidays. Mind you we never called him Api. We called him Mazook at Te Aute and that name carried on to St Johns," recalled Hopa.

'Mazook' accompanied Hopa to buy his first motorbike, a 500cc Ariel, so they finally had some 'wheels'. They would ride home for the holidays and scout the local dances. They were good times, said Hopa.

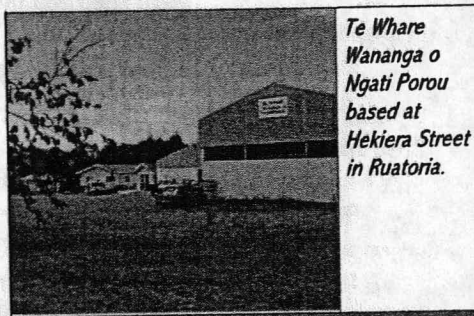
Despite numerous good times, Api's scholastic achievements are very impressive. Api went on to Auckland University to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree and then over to Sydney University to complete his Masters in anthropology, sociology and education. In 1974 Api was an Elizabeth II post graduate scholar. He has a Diploma in Theology and is an ordained anglican clergyman. Api is also a Licensed Interpreter in Maori.

His linguistic skills in Maori and English are renown throughout the country.

"He's one of the most articulate people in New Zealand in Maori and English," said Whaimutu Dewes.

"When he uses language, it's like watching a crystal. It's clear and has that many different aspects in the light and meanings that can be retracted through it. And he's able to use that like how you see a man who is a tohunga in patu or taiaha - there's a deadly majesty about how he uses language. I mean he could charm birds out of a tree."

A Raukawa song bird fell victim to that charm. She was Karin Jurgensen. She and Api married in 1968 at St Mary's Church in Tikitiki. They have two sons, Matanuku and Hamana, and a mokopuna, Renata. Teaching has monopolised most of Api's working career.



Te Whare Wananga o Ngati Porou based at Hekiera Street in Ruatoria.

Most of his teaching and lecturing responsibilities have been related to tikanga Maori. In 1991 he set up Te Whare Wananga o Ngati Porou and later developed Te Reo and Tikanga ake o Ngati Porou courses, which he currently tutors. At the same time, Api's kept his finger on the pulse of Ngati Porou development. He's chaired the board of Te Runanga o Ngati Porou since its inception. And with whanaunga and peer Koro Dewes and oth-

ers, have ensured the voice of Ngati Porou is heard through the corridors of power. Ngati Porou lawyer James Johnston has worked with Api in a range of forums - the Waitangi Tribunal, the preparation of the Runanga's claim to the Tribunal and just recently in the presentation of Ngati Porou's case to the Auckland High Court in the debate over the definition of fisheries assets.

"Api was cross-examined for more than 5 hours by QC's and some of this country's top lawyers and at the end of the cross examination, his evidence and our case was stronger. While he was giving evidence, you could have heard a pin drop in the court and no one had any doubts about Ngati Porou's position. I've seen him at a number of forums throughout the country where issues have been debated vigorously and as yet I have never seen him bested, nor do I ever think I will see him bested."

James has been practicing law for many years now and said there have been cases where he has sought advice from Api about tikanga Maori.

"Api has assisted in ensuring that a new dimension is brought to bear in relation to some of the cases before the courts. This has been lacking in the past because people have been unaware or ignorant about the Maori dimension."

Ensuring a Maori dimension has seen Api elected to a number of government appointed boards and a raft of other organisations. He's been a member of the NZ Historic Places Trust and chair of its Maori committee. He chaired the Puao-o-te-ata-tu committee of the Department of Social Welfare. He's chaired the NZ Maori Congress and is a current member of the Museum of NZ and chairs its Maori committee.

For Whaimutu Dewes, 'Api', 'Uncle Api', 'Mazook' is an icon of Ngati Porou identity. His contribution to our development, said Whaimutu, will live on forever.

"He's offering inspiration to you, me and others. It's not what you do that's a test of your greatness, it's what foundations you lay for the next group of people to build on."



YOUNG NATI HAS SIGHTS SET ON THE OLYMPICS

Remember the stories about how our tipuna navigated their way from Hawaiki to Aotearoa, using the sun, wind and stars to guide them on their journey? No radars, maps or propeller engines in those days. Eighteen year old Jayson Herbert of Te Aitanga a Hauiti has inherited our tipuna's ability in sailing.

Jayson is one of NZ's top sailors, in the single handed laser class. "It's all dependent on wind shift and how you manouvre the boat to make it go faster. So it's pretty tough to be world champion in this class," said Jayson.

But that's what he's aiming for – the world champion spot at the Olympic Games in 2000. Jayson's currently ranked 4th in New Zealand, in his class, and 45th in the world and getting to the top spot is going to be hard work. Jayson has a rigorous training regime and gets practical training in overseas regattas. He's just returned from the World Sailing Championships in Dubai.

He's been racing in the laser class for three and half years, being initially introduced to the sport through a Water Wise programme for children when he was 11. He hopes more young Maori get in to this sport as there are only three Maori out of 300 who are sailing in his class. Jayson's skill was acknowledged at the recent Maori Sports Awards, where he was nominated as Junior Maori Sportsman of the Year.

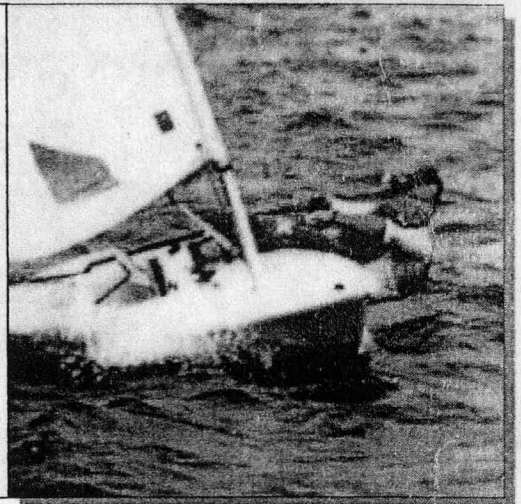
Jayson has two boats of his own, which are custom made. As the technology improves, said Jayson, the sport can get more expensive.

Last year the Runanga organised \$5000 in sponsorship for Jayson. Jayson returned to Ngati Porou in September last year to receive his sponsorship cheque at the Runanga's Birthday celebration at Porourangi Marae. It was his first time back in the rohe, since he left Tolaga Bay as a very young child.

Jayson also attended the Runanga's native tree planting ceremony at Pakihiroa

"Sailing is a good opportunity to get out on the water. It's brain testing because you've got to work with the elements to make your boat go fast. You've got the wind in your face and it's just awesome."

Ngati Porou's Olympic hopeful, Jayson Herbert.



mony at Pakihiroa

station, taking time to speak to some of the Kohanga Reo and primary children attending the ceremony.

Jayson's proud to be role model for young Ngati Porou.

"I have so many people to thank for getting where I am today. I'm testimony that anything can be achieved if you work at it. I started off with nothing and have made a whole lot out of my life. Sailing is a good opportunity to get out on the water. It's brain testing because you've got to work with the elements to make your boat go fast. You've got the wind in your face and it's just awesome!"

Jayson still maintains regular contact with the Runanga through post cards, reports and his bi-monthly newsletter 'Sailing with Jayson'.

He was inspired to read the book 'Paieka' and has commissioned a bone carving of Paieka to give him inspiration while he's on the water. No doubt he'll have Paieka close to his chest when he sails in the 1999 regatta, at which New Zealand's representative will be chosen to sail at the Melbourne Olympics!

We'll keep you posted on his progress!

Kia kaha koe e Jayson!



What is happening in Ngati Porou in the year 2000?

Imagine the sweet voice of Kiri Te Kanawa echoing off the peaks of Mt Hikurangi as the rays of the first dawn of new millenium break the night sky. Then as the sun begins to dry the morning dew on Hikurangi and surrounding hills the thunder of a kapa haka 1000-strong resounds throughout the rohe as they perform a repertoire of Ngati Porou haka. And when the sun reaches it's morning spot, a 30-foot statue of Maui-tikitiki-a-Taranga pulling up the carved prow of Nukutaimemea, is unveiled at

Lake Takawhiti.

These are just three of the events planned by Te Runanga o Ngati Porou for the dawn ceremony on Hikurangi for the year 2000. Since 1992 Te Runanga o Ngati Porou has been preparing for the year 2000, convening sports and cultural activities every New Year. In 1993 the Runanga set up the C2000 company to co-ordinate events leading up to the year 2000. Chaired by Tamati Reedy the annual events have included taking groups up Hikurangi on New Years Eve to welcome each new year and then celebrating the new year with a champagne breakfast at Uepohatu in Ruatoria. The 1997/98 C2000 activities included an

Inter-Marae Sports Festival held in Ruatoria and a Waka Regatta in Tolaga Bay. Chairman of C2000 Ltd, Tamati Reedy said while Mt Hikurangi would be the focal point for Ngati Porou, indigenous people throughout the world would celebrate their sacred mountains also.

"We are looking to holding an International Conference on Environmental Issues focussing on 'mountain culture' called Nga Maunga Korororero o te Ao.

There will be huge exposure of our maunga on a world wide basis and of course, huge possibilities for Ngati Porou."

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