

Community fights to restore the mana of its awa

Ruth Wong

The community of Wairoa is full of passionate and determined people, especially when it comes to their awa/river - Te Wairoa Hopupu Honengenenge Matangirau.

The Wairoa Awa Restoration Project came after concern about their river in the hope of creating awareness about their environment, the flora and fauna and restoring the mauri of the awa.

Local kaitiaki/guardians, Katarina Kawana (representing Hopupu),

Our submission and the majority of the community submitters sought to oppose the application in favour of sewage treatment being taken out of the river and placed on to land.

Ngāio Tiuka

Michelle McLroy, (representing Honengenenge), and Naomi Wilson (representing Matangirau) were chosen by their respective Marae which are situated along their awa, to represent them on the Wastewater Stakeholder Group - to discuss a Best Practicable Option (BPO) for the upcoming consent that expired in January this year.

These kaitiaki embarked on this journey in 2017. Very quickly they discovered how the oxidation plant works and how much abuse their awa has endured and how the status quo could no longer be



accepted. This was the catalyst for their protest and actions to continually strive to help their beloved awa. This is a lifetime story of protection for future generations.

Issues to do with the awa have included the discharge of raw sewage at a high rain event and increased discharge of treated wastewater into the

awa as well as mortuary waste going into the sewage and being piped out to the awa and moana.

Council has been repeatedly advised that this is culturally offensive. Gisborne District Council has recently lead the way in the removal of the mortuary waste from their wastewater in

Michelle presenting, Iwi Director Ngāio Tiuka to her right with the Wi Derek Huata, Hira Huata and Huia Huata to her left.

collaboration with tangata whenua and this is a great example of what can be accomplished as they work together.

Two weeks ago on Monday, 30 November - Tuesday, December 1 2020 an Environmental Court hearing took place in Wairoa, focusing on the Wairoa sewage

treatment.

Submissions were heard from individuals in the community, Wairoa Taiwhenua and Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated.

Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated's Environment and Natural Resources Director Ngāio Tiuka and Senior Analyst Shade Smith have worked alongside and supported the Wairoa team in their efforts.

"Our submission and the majority of the community submitters sought to oppose the application in favour of sewage treatment being taken out of the river and placed on to land," said Ngāio.

"It's a pleasure working with kaitiaki like this Wairoa team who are passionate about restoring the environment".

Michelle McLroy was heard as an individual and Katarina Kawana did a combined submission with Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated and Wairoa Taiwhenua.

"I brought in expert evidence from Hira Huata who did a powerpoint on the 'Whakapapa o te wai and Atuatanga', said Michelle.

"Katarina spoke about cultural monitoring i.e. 'Mauri Compass', "Having our skilled iwi experts at the table was crucial in our defence of the awa," Michelle said.

The journey proceeds. A report from the 3 Commissioners of the hearing is due by the end of January 2021.

"I can honestly say, with hand on heart, that we battled together and we now hope that enough was done to help restore the mauri of our awa" says Michelle.

i To keep up to date with their journey on the awa - visit the Facebook page Wairoa Awa Restoration Project.

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Time to relax with whānau, friends

Ngahiwi Tomoana

Tēnā koutou katoa i roto i ngā mihi o te Kirihimete e whakata mai nei, tae noa ki ngā mihi o te tau hou e mahuta ake nei i tōna pae.

The Christmas and New Year's season is upon us and celebratory excitement is bubbling up across communities.

But some pockets of people dread this time of year – those who can't afford gifts, who rely

on food parcels, which leads to whānau stress and often domestic violence.

Lessons learned during Covid-19 lockdowns were that everyone in the "main" shared and cared for each other and reached out to most isolated whānau in our communities, bridging all creeds, colours and cultures.

This we must do in the spirit of Christ. When Christianity was introduced to Māori we learned that Jesus was an indigenous man who spoke his

native language, giving prophecies of love and peace not unlike the prophecies of our own visionaries such as Tāwhaki, Toto and Ruawhoro.

That's how and why we embraced it at the time. It wasn't seen as a western religion then. It must become natural for us to reach out to make this season memorable for giving and for forgiving, for everyone.

A time to relax with whānau and friends and strangers we haven't met yet. It's been a long

and gnarly year.

Mā te oranga ngākau ka piki te wairua. A compassionate heart will lift the spirits of many. Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi o te Tau Hou, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



AUNTY'S GARDEN

Make merry with this berry treat

Hanui Lawrence

Earlier this month I was asked to participate in an event called Heretaunga Stories which was a collaborative event held over three nights at Toitū, the Hastings City Art Gallery and the Hastings District Libraries.

I was one of 15 local artists to share a 15 minute presentation about our local story. The presentations were diverse in nature as the selected artists came from a variety of artistic backgrounds and practices, including performing, visual arts and writing. Each of us presented in our unique way. I loved how creative our young people were.

I was introduced as Arohanui Lawrence then kindly referred to as the locally known 'Aunty' where I can be found everyday with my hands in the soil caressing papatuanuku in the gardens of Waipatu marae. Happy with my introduction, I proceeded with my presentation which was focused on growing up at Waipatu. It was great to share my memories.

'Waipatu – Turbulent Waters' beneath, unseen, deep, flowing freely, embracing the plains of Heretaunga.

'Waipatu – Turbulent Waters' upon the surface our tipuna struggled before us, mothers and fathers of handsome sons, beautiful daughters, writers of songs,

orators, teachers, nurturers in homes, steeped in Māoritanga, te reo and wairua.

'Waipatu – Turbulent Waters' lies serenely between Te Mata o Rongokako and the Kaweka where I grew up in a life of love, beauty and abundance.

'Waipatu' – The place where we would play at each other's house all day and when we were hungry our aunts and uncles and nannies would feed us.

'Waipatu' – I feel blessed to have had such a beautiful upbringing, and very fortunate to be able to share this love with our communities through Aunties Garden.

As Christmas is fast approaching, I hope you have



CHRISTMAS BERRY DELIGHT

Ingredients
1 cup of Raspberries (whole)
1 cup of Blueberries (whole)
6 pink wafers
2Ltr tub of vanilla icecream (or make your own)
1 cup of strawberries
Small bottle of cream
Some passionfruit (optional)

Method
Layer icecream then raspberries, then add wafers. On top of the wafers spread blueberries and then layer more icecream. Add wafers then layer finely sliced strawberries then icecream again. As a garnish, drizzle grated peanut slab or Cadbury flake over the top. It's delicious! Enjoy your Christmas Berry Delight and enjoy your Christmas with your family!

Christmas Berry Delight.

plenty of vegetables in the garden to make your festive season special. From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. If you need some greens and you're popping past the garden, do drop in. The raspberries are coming thick and fast so I've combined a variety of berries to make a Christmas Berry Delight.

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Tumuaki: Fleur Wainohu

In October, the Kura whānau celebrated it's 25th Anniversary. Held over a series of three days alongside local Kaumatua, Kohanga Reo, Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporation, the Hastings Mayor and contributions from local MP Meka Whaitiri. It was an opportunity to reflect and give thanks for all that the Kura has achieved thus far in its journey.

The Kura was born out of the need for Te Kohanga Reo o Te Wānanga Whare Tapere graduates to continue their immersion Māori education. Data showed, graduates enrolled into mainstream schools, lost their reo within the first 6 weeks. Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu was the first Ministry of Education recognised establishment for both the Hastings and Napier area. With an initial 12 students enrolled in that first year of delivery, the Kura continues to grow and develop to meet the needs of all immersion Māori students and their whānau.

Currently with a student roll of 145 spread over two sites, the Kura is excited about relocating to a designated site on Bennett Rd, Hastings where a new build is about to take place which will cater for up to 600 students aged 8 weeks old through to 55+.

Interwoven in this dynamic development is Te Kohanga Reo o Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu and Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu (Est 1983), the initiator and tertiary sector of this seamless educational pathway. These entities combined, cater for lifelong learning. Mai te kopu o te whaea ki te kopu o te whenua. This year we give thanks for our loved ones and acknowledge those who passed. He mihi aroha ki a koutou te whānau whānui e.

Young people's views need nurturing

Ruth Wong puts some questions to community and business leaders. This week it is Melissa Ihaka – youngest iwi board member, He Wāhine Toa

Ko wai koe?

Ko Melissa Chantelle Maioha Ihaka tōku ingoa.

No hea koe?

I come from Whakaoriori or Masterton, a large town in the greater Wellington region, the largest town in the Wairarapa, a region separated from Wellington by the Rimutaka ranges.

Tell us about your family?

My mum is Mandie Ihaka who grew up in Wairarapa and now lives in Lower Hutt. My dad is Shaun Waata who also grew up in Wairarapa and passed away in 2012. I am the oldest of three, sister Renee, 27, and brother Reihana, 22, who has two babies Shaun, 3, and Lena, 2. We grew up surrounded by the whole whānau, our parents, nannies and pāpā, uncles, aunts, cousins and all the babies.

Do you have someone who influenced you?

My Nanny Dorlan (Waireti Waata), she was my best friend before she entered the golden gates in heaven on February 6, 2019. She played a vital role in my upbringing. I learnt a lot from her. She was one of my

I love that I am in a position to help make sustainable changes and create better opportunities for our people.

hardest goodbyes. The biggest lessons I took from her would have to be to give without expectation and love without conditions.

I love my Nanny Dorlan, I miss her.

Who are your heroes in your life?

This probably sounds cheesy, but it is definitely our babies and younger generation. I look at our young people and see our future leaders. I see more conviction within them especially in the Te Ao Māori space. Young people see the world through such a different lens and I think, just plainly put, it's beautiful and we need to protect, guide and nurture their views.

My nanny grew up not being allowed to speak Māori and she kept us kids well away from "iwi politics" but she instilled within each of us to always stand for what we believe in and never back down from that stance. I feel like that's something that has helped me grow into the person I am today.

My mum. She didn't have the easiest life but she's always worked hard to protect and support us in all we do.

My Uncle Paddy and Auntie Char Mason have been consistent heroes and nurturers in my life. They teach me by their great example. I've learned that relationships are important, therefore although it's nice to be important, it's more important to be nice. They have also taught me that sometimes it's okay to be uncomfortable because uncomfortable means growth. These people are the most selfless, humble people I know and I am so honoured to have them in my life.

What's the best advice they gave you?

To work hard, to be honest and stand for what you believe in, even if you have to do it alone.

Tell us a little about your role and what your organisation does?

I am the youngest trustee of Kahungunu ki Wairarapa (KKW) Board as well as the Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (NKII) Board. KKW is the mandated iwi authority for Kahungunu in the Wairarapa.

We are dedicated to supporting the continuous development of culturally strong, healthy and vibrant whānau. Our key vision is that our young people are recognised as leaders. The NKII Board vision is to enhance the mana and wellbeing of Ngāti Kahungunu or the people of Kahungunu.

How did you get here? Why did you choose this as a career?

I used to work for Kahungunu ki Wairarapa in the education team and I decided to resign and go back to the shearing industry while I studied. During this time, nominations were being received for the KKW Board. I felt like I could help influence change for our people more from a governance level so I decided to put myself forward to become a KKW trustee and I was successful. I am now officially in my second term on the KKW Board and my passion remains the same. I still believe that change comes from the top.

What do you like most about what you do?

I love that I am in a position to help make sustainable changes and create better opportunities for our people. I am young enough to have a rangatahi voice, but old enough to be recognised on boards that will listen. Although there are many challenges, I have seen slight changes.

What's the things you don't like about what you do?

I don't like politics, although it's inevitable working for your iwi, yes it exists, and no, I don't like it.

What's the most challenging thing you've done in your life?

There's a few!

Becoming a caregiver to my cousin's four kids when I was 22 years old, then handing them over to my uncle a few years later. I felt like I had failed my nephews, but the relationship with the babies are still strong and I am

grateful to have played some part in their lives.

Being a trustee on the Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi (NKII) Board and leading out the Covid-19 Kai Hau Kai hub in Wairarapa. Being on the NKII opens your view to the whole of Kahungunu and not just your area in which you represent on the board. Under a year into my three year tenure we were hit with the Covid-19 level 4 lockdown and I had to step up. It was such an unprecedented time for everyone and our iwi lead out on the response was touch and go. I kind of didn't know where or even how to start to develop support for our community, but the iwi wrapped its full support around me and I could never be prouder of the response we led, not just on a Taiwhenua level but also across the whole Kahungunu rohe.

What's your favourite thing to do?

My favourite thing to do, apart from hanging out with our whānau, is honestly to think of ways to help encourage our rangatahi to bring their voices to the table and help them have their voices heard. They are important and it makes me feel sad that they're not openly heard.

What's your favourite sport?

If I didn't have a broken knee, it would be volleyball or netball, but my favourite sport to watch would have to be

rugby.

What's your favourite colour?

If black was a colour it would be black but otherwise I like baby blue.

What's your favourite kai?

A lovely juicy steak, potato salad, coleslaw and my nanny's dough boys.



Taikura promotes the retention of traditional Māori knowledge and practices by encouraging active participation of senior kapa haka who perform haka in a non competitive environment.

The **Taikura** programme seeks to encourage (pakeke) adult Māori 55 years and over to get active through Māori Performing Arts. To perform tribal, hapū, whānau haka, waiata, mōteatea, and poi that were performed pre 1970's.



Taikura practises each Tuesday night 6.00pm – 7.00pm
Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu
706 Albert Street, Hastings.

For more information please call **0800 827 373 – 0800Tapere**

Global gathering helps shape marae

Many families dream of making good use of their precious land. For the whānau of Ngāi Tūmapuhia-a-Rangi Okautete, they are driven to fulfil the dreams and aspirations of their tipuna to build a meeting house for the purpose of preserving the Māori language, the Māori culture, and the whakapapa of Tūmapuhia-a-Rangi.

Ngāi Tūmapuhia-a-Rangi ki Okautete marae is located in Okautete, Homewood, about 65 km southeast of Masterton. The marae Reservation was first established in 1890 by Tūmapuhia manawahine Maraea Iraia aka Ngapine. Its primary hapū is Ngāti Tūmapuhiārangi of Ngāti Kahungunu iwi.

The marae connects ancestrally to the waka Takitimu and the maunga Maipi and the awa Kaihoata. The marae is being planned for construction early next year.

Although Covid-19 slowed down the process, the whānau have held a number of wānanga to get involvement from whānau near and far, to keep the momentum going. Modern technology has allowed the whānau to live stream their wānanga, bringing in more than 500 whānau members into their hui from other parts of the world.

Plans have progressed quickly from mapping their aspirations for the concept



The marae connects ancestrally to the waka Takitimu and the maunga Maipi and the awa Kaihoata.

Pictured from left, Crawford Morris, Mere Kerehi, Tai Gemmell, Sam Morris, Jason Morris and Dave Morris; below, Concept Design ready for first build.

design to the first build stage. In October concepts were finalised for the entire marae complex.

3D concept images look beautiful and you can see how this whānau is driven by their past and their future. "The concept may change a little bit once we get down to the finer design work", says whānau spokesman Dave Morris.

"The finer detail will involve Dr Takirirangi Smith and other kaumātua who are advising and working alongside the architect Rau Hoskins and the

project group to design the building complex. We want our Whare Tipuna to be an expression of Tūmapuhia-a-Rangi."

There is a lot more planning and scheduling the construction stages which requires designs with further detail for each building with a site layout but this whānau have worked in a smart and united way to progress things. Once they agree on a construction manager, things will move quickly. Ka mau te wehi whānau!



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Te Wānanga
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Right medicine for those struggling



Me with my sweetheart Shianna.

Kia ora my name is Dylan Jordan Cooper Karauria Rosser. I am a survivor of past trauma, anxiety and depression and am now sharing the rongoa or the medicine that helped me, to help others to become a greater version of themselves. I am a core facilitator for Aoteroa Men's Medicine.

As a young person through to my adulthood, I experienced a lot of trauma that carried on into my adult years. Mental and emotional abuse moulded me as a teenager which I carried inside me while trying to mask it all with drugs and alcohol.

I grew up watching my father being abusive and consequently I took on his traits and started being abusive to my own whānau. After losing my father to suicide last year, it drove me into a deep state of depression where I started to drink day after day, night after night, eventually mentally and emotionally breaking my partner and tamariki/children to the point where I was incarcerated for two months.

While inside, I was able to take the time to reflect on my life and the reasons that had me imprisoned. It had given me enough time to think about how I can better my own life and also be present with my own whānau.

I was released from prison and set out on a mission, a mission to save myself and my whānau. This was a turning

point for me and I tried to seek help from a lot of different places.

I received a phone call from a 'brother' of mine who had heard of my craving for change. First he listened to me and he let me express myself. He taught me how to become accountable for my own actions and wrong doings and take full acknowledgement for what I had been through. Another great 'brother' of mine shared this whakatauki with me, "We cannot heal the past, we can only heal our up line."

I started digging deep within myself and over time I was able to acknowledge and accept the past and all those years of trauma and depression. This was the real breakthrough for me. I then realised how I could help so many others like me, and be like my 'brothers' were to me.

Over time, I was given the honour and privilege of taking on the role of being the core facilitator of the Men's Medicine mahi/work, where I am able to help out our people to start their up line healing by giving them the right tools and fundamentals to start dealing with their anxiety, depression

I was released from prison and set out on a mission, a mission to save myself and my whānau.

and trauma. I have the sure

PEPEHA

● Ko Dylan Toku Ingoa
He uri au ki te Wairoa me Te Reinga!
Ko Takitimu te Waka
Ko Tamatea Pokai whenua te Tangata o Te waka o Takitimu
Ko Ruawharo te Tohunga o te waka Takitimu
Ko Hangaroa me Ruakirituri ngā awa
Ko Whakapūnaki te maunga
Ko Te Reinga te marae
Ko Tuarenga te whare tipuna
Ko Hinekorako te wharekai
Ko Ngāti Hinehika te hapū
Ko Ngāti Kahungunu ki Te Wairoa te Iwi
Ko Dylan Jordan Cooper Karauria Rosser tōku ingoa
Tuturu whakamaui Kia Tina haumi e hui e
Taiki e!

knowledge that this medicine works because through this journey I now have a strong belief within myself and I have become the greater version of me and I know that I can share this and help others become the greater version of themselves.

I want to acknowledge my brother, John Robin, who took the time to listen, and help me through my journey. Already we have helped so many people, men and women who have struggled like me. The inner turmoil is real. You may have someone in your whānau who needs help. To learn more about what we do, visit my Facebook page – Ko Dylan Toku Ingoa

Warm greetings to you all,
Ngā mihi mahana kia koutou katoa.

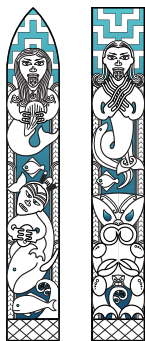
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Dedicated to supporting our whānau

Ruth Wong

Kahungunu ki Wairarapa is dedicated to supporting the continuous development of culturally strong, healthy and vibrant whānau.

Our key vision is that our young people are recognised as leaders; we have a league of fit and healthy kaumātua who participate in activities that embrace whānaungatanga; and we support the collective of Kahungunu ki Wairarapa marae and hapū through Te Kotahitanga.

Kahungunu ki Wairarapa is one of six Taiwhenua/districts established and convened for the purpose of representing Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi in the rohe of Wairarapa. Unlike the other five Taiwhenua where their governance boards are made up of marae representation, Kahungunu ki Wairarapa has a board or trustees nominated or elected in accordance to their constitution. The marae representatives meet with the Te Kotahitanga collective.

Our tari/office is based at the rear entrance of the Trust Lands Trust building, located in Queen St, Masterton. The office is centralised in the town centre and gets regular visitors from those who live in the district. Part of the office is leased to Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust, our claimant group who represents marae



Cape Palliser, lighthouse, is a promontory in the Region of Wairarapa on the southern coast of New Zealand's North Island

and hapū land claims.

Over the past year we have also leased space to Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga and Te Puni Kokiri who run contracts for whānau in Kahungunu ki Wairarapa. This has continued to help us strengthen relationships with other organisations.

During Covid-19 level 4 lockdown earlier this year, Kahungunu ki Wairarapa had a team of volunteers who supported the dissemination of kai and goods to our community. These structures are still in place for future disasters if anything should occur.

To help us help our community, it would be good in the first instance for our iwi members to register with Kahungunu ki Wairarapa on the Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Database. Check

KKW Governance Board

- 1. Hera Edwards – Chairperson
- 2. Kristina Perry – Deputy Chairperson
- 3. Nelson Rangī – Kaumātua
- 4. Melissa Ihaka – Representative on Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc. Board
- 5. Hariata Tahana
- 6. Andrea Rutene
- 7. P.J. Devonshire
- 8. Maxine Hemi
- 9. Jenishavorne Waipuka
- 10. Reon Kerr

if you are registered by phoning Brooke Greville 0800524864.

KKW Operational Team

- General Manager: Tai Gemmell
- Office Manager: Mariana Mutu
- Early Childhood Educational Advisor: Chakani Hemi
- Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities Advisor: Dianna Cruse
- Environmental Consultant: Rawhiri Smith
- One Billion Trees Project: Joe Potangaroa

■ Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated is a Mandated Iwi Organisation/Authority. Ngāti Kahungunu is the third largest iwi. Geographically the tribe has the second longest

coastline in the country from Paritū in the North to Turakirae in the South. Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated maintains an independent position to provide research, advice and advocate for the interests, rights, values, beliefs and practices of Ngāti Kahungunu alongside our whānau and hapū. Our mission is to enhance the mana and wellbeing of Ngāti Kahungunu.

KKW Office Contacts:

- Physical address, 187-189 Queen St, Masterton (rear entrance)
- Postal address PO BOX 132 Masterton
- Phone 063775436 Email address tari@kahungunu.wairarapa.iwi.nz

Meri Kirihimete me te Tau Hou

Thank you for all the support received in 2020 and I look forward to serving as your local MP again in 2021.

My office hours over the holiday period are:

Wairoa Office

Closes Tuesday 22 December 2020 – 12noon

Opens Monday 11 January 2021 – 9:30am

Tairāwhiti Office:

Closes Tuesday 22 December 2020 – 12noon

Opens Monday 11 January 2021 – 9am

Te Matau-a-Māui office:

Closes Thursday 17 December 2020

Opens Monday 18 January 2021 – 9am



Ngā mihi me ngā manaakitanga
Kia tau te rangimārie

Hon Meka Whaitiri
MP for Ikaroa-Rāwhiti



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The background of the card features a green textured surface with a large, ornate silver star in the top left corner. Two large gold Christmas ornaments are positioned in the top right. The ornaments have intricate patterns; the front one has a blue and white logo. The text "Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi INCORPORATED" is printed on the front ornament. The main greeting is written in a mix of cursive and serif fonts. At the bottom, a group of ten people, including board members and staff, are posed for a photo. The bottom section has a yellow and orange geometric pattern.

Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi
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We wish you all a very
Merry Christmas
and a **Happy New Year**



"Enjoy this festive season with whānau and friends.
Arohanui from our board and staff"

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2020
AND WILL RE-OPEN ON THURSDAY 7TH JANUARY 2021