

# Tikahi KAHUNGUNU

Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi  
INCORPORATED

## Feeling the pinch? Don't panic

Time for steady, calm, and sensible leadership

Ruth Wong

**A**cross the motu, whānau are beginning to feel the ripple effects of global tensions that have reached all the way to Aotearoa.

Although Australia remains one of the world's major exporters of coal and gas, its oil reserves are now extremely limited, and New Zealand is in much the same position. As nations positioned at the end of a long and fragile supply chain, we are vulnerable to disruptions occurring far beyond our shores.

One of the most significant pressure points is the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow but vital passage through which around 20% of the world's oil supply travels.

Recent conflict in the region has slowed shipping, increased risks to vessels, and tightened global trade.

These international shifts are now being felt locally: rising fuel prices, increased costs for farmers and transport operators, and growing strain on whānau already navigating the high cost of living.

For many of our Kahungunu whānau, these impacts are real and immediate.

Households already under pressure with health, housing, and financial challenges are now facing the added burden of rapidly increasing petrol and diesel costs.

For some, the weekly budget is stretched beyond breaking point.

Despite this, it is not a time for panic.

It is a time for steady, calm, and sensible leadership.



Te Rangi Huata, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi event manager, contemplates the cost of living.

a cost-of-living crisis here in Aotearoa. Many of our whānau will be struggling to make ends meet."

Following a recent Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management briefing, Barber notes that Aotearoa currently has seven weeks of fuel available and is operating normally, but the environment is changing quickly.

"I encourage our community to keep up to date with any changes. The government will advise if and when any fuel austerity measures are required."

Practical steps can help us stay grounded:

- Stay informed through reliable sources
- Avoid panic buying
- Strengthen local networks and check in on kaumātua and neighbours
- Plan essential travel carefully
- Support local growers and producers or grow your own produce
- Keep vehicles above half a tank and maintain basic supplies
- Uphold manaakitanga, kotahitanga, and whanaungatanga.

These principles are not new.

They are the same values our tipuna used to navigate uncertainty and change. As Kahungunu, our strength has always come from our ability to awahi one another, stay informed, and move forward together.

■ For updates, join our Pānui ki te Iwi mailing list by emailing [ruth@kahungunu.iwi.nz](mailto:ruth@kahungunu.iwi.nz)

Most global oil supply continues to move, governments are releasing reserves to stabilise markets, and some of the price spikes we are seeing are driven more

by speculation than genuine shortage. While we cannot control global events, we can control how we respond.

Ngāti Kahungunu chairman Bayden Barber acknowledges

the seriousness of the situation.

"We are entering uncharted territory as a nation and as a global community. Fuel prices are rising by the day on top of

"Tatou te Iwi o Ngāti Kahungunu,  
kia awhina tia tātou katoa o te  
Iwi o Ngāti Kahungunu"



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Riders' trail crossed the ancestral track, passing through ancient pā sites

**N**gāti Kahungunu Horse Trekkers rode from Waimārama to the summit of Kahurānaki Maunga to lay a mauri stone representing the mana of their ancestors and aspirations of their mokopuna.

The troop of 18 horses and riders departed Waimārama Marae on Saturday at 8am and arrived at the summit at around 2pm.

All food and water were carried by the riders and horses. By the time they returned to the marae at 6pm, they had been in the saddle for 10 hours.

The trail crossed the ancestral track from Waimārama to Kahurānaki, passing through ancient pā sites Mātanginui, Rangitoto (whenua still owned by the descendants of Tiakitai), onto Cabbage Tree and Te Aratipi Stations before crossing the maraetōtara river and then through Kōtare and Kahurānaki Stations.

The trek, which started at sea level, immediately starts climbing through the Okaihau hill country and up onto the peak of Kahurānaki at 670m (2200ft), the highest peak on the Heretaunga plains.

Once at the peak, a mauri stone cut from Taupunga rock (the anchor of the Takitimu waka) was laid and the appropriate karakia given.

Says Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi chairman and leader of the trek, Bayden Barber, "We had been told that the sale of Kahurānaki will go unconditional within the next few weeks so this was an opportunity to lay the mauri of our people, both past, present and future on our ancestral mountain, so that we don't forget the maunga and the maunga doesn't forget us."

Kahurānaki Station was sold in May 2025 through a closed tender process to an unknown purchaser after the bid by Tamatea Pōkaiwhenua Settlement Trust was unsuccessful.



## Iwi horse trek lays mauri stone on maunga summit

Continues Barber, "There is still a lot of mamae there amongst our people that we didn't achieve the purchase, so this is the Māori way to shed that taumaha or heaviness and move onward and upward. We are hopeful that the new owners will reach out to iwi so that the relationship with our maunga can be maintained."

The trek was attended by whānau throughout Hawke's Bay, including representation from Maraenui, Te Hauke, Omāhu, Whakaki and Waimārama.

Hoihō the Bay founder Alby Kiripatea commented, "It was an epic trek. My whānau loved every minute of it and hope it can become an annual event in memory of our maunga Kahurānaki. I also want to give a huge mihi to Bayden and his whānau for the hospitality which was second to none."

While this trek had a very deliberate kaupapa regarding Kahurānaki Maunga, it was also an opportunity to renew whakapapa connections, resurrect historical narratives and reinforce the important role that horses play in the



lives of many whānau, hapū and iwi.

Adds Barber, "We love our hoiho. Many sites of significance to our history and future are best seen from the back of a horse."

"It was great to get some of our rangatahi out on this trek, walking where their ancestors walked many generations ago. It is also timely, considering the rising cost of gas and oil," he said.

Ngāti Kahungunu horse trekkers rode from Waimārama to the summit of Kahurānaki Maunga to lay a mauri stone.



# Cushla Tangaere-Manuel

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Labour

# 'Garden gives because that is its nature'

**Aunty's Garden:** Feeding the whānau with chowder after a generous harvest

**Aunty Hanui Lawrence**

**I**t is a privilege to write for our people, to offer kai from the māra, ideas from the heart, and a little warmth for readers who stop me in the supermarket to say, "I tried your recipe."

Those moments mean everything.

Life in the garden continues. My kūmara have flourished this season, the perfect climate for these beauties. The kamokamo struggled, the potatoes were hit by psyllid, but the greens, tomatoes, and the rest of the māra have kept giving, as they always do.

Aunty's Garden has fed many over the years, rich, poor, kind, troubled, koha or no koha. The notes left in the box, the coins, or sometimes nothing at all... it has all been fine with me.

The garden gives because that is its nature.

**Kūmara Chowder**

- 3 or 4 kūmara — cooked well (boil) I used white kūmara — mash
- 8 mussels
- 1 packet prawns
- 1 medium piece of raw fish
- 1 can coconut cream
- 2 or 3 spring onions
- 1 teaspoon of mild curry



**Aunty Hanui Lawrence says her garden gives because "that is its nature".**

powder  
Also add the poaching liquid into the pot  
I used Thousand Islands dressing, but not too much

**Method**

Boil kūmara then mash, add to the mix 1 can of coconut cream, poached mussels, prawns, fish, spring onions and any other fish preference you desire.  
I dip in boiling water briefly, then add to the mix.



**Kūmara have flourished in Aunty's garden this season.**

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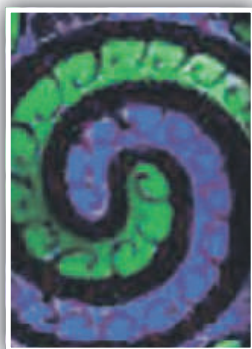
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## Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Scholarships

open 6 Feb & close 8 May 2026

Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated acknowledges that education is the key to personal, whānau, hapū and iwi development.

There are two types of scholarships -  
General worth \$500 and Research worth \$5,000;  
Applicants must be registered tangata whenua members;  
Applicants must be studying full-time in your third to final year of degree or doing post graduate studies



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# First steps to better health are up to us

Free programme offers information and support on the healing journey

**F**or many whānau across Ngāti Kahungunu, the journey toward better health and wellbeing begins with taking small, meaningful steps – steps that remind us "My Health Begins with Me".

The Kia Ora Programme is a FREE kaupapa within our rohe designed to help whānau better understand their long-term conditions and feel confident in managing their own hauora.

It offers a warm, supportive learning space where knowledge, empowerment, and whānau connection come together, helping each person take positive steps towards improved wellbeing.

The Kia Ora Programme provides three course options tailored to every day life: Chronic Disease Self-Management, Diabetes Self-Management, and Chronic Pain Self-Management.

Each course focuses on simple strategies that make a big difference such as managing pain and fatigue, healthy kai choices, medication awareness, breathing techniques, handling tough emotions, and communicating better with



At the Health Hawke's Bay Kia Ora Te Ora Symposium this year, from left, Crystal Edwards, Chrissie Hape, Bayden Barber and Irihapeti Mahuika. The Kia Ora Programme is a free course supported by Health Hawke's Bay and is part of a pathway to wellbeing for Ngāti Kahungunu whānau.

**Kia Ora**  
My health begins with me



Many participants discover new ways to understand their conditions, build confidence, and find support.

**The Kia Ora Programme is a free kaupapa within the rohe.**

uplift each one another.

Many participants discover new ways to understand their conditions, build confidence, and find support among others on similar journeys.

It's about reclaiming control, growing knowledge and knowing you're not alone. Tama tū, tama ora; tama noho, tama mate.

With sessions available across Wairoa, Napier, Hastings, and Central Hawke's Bay, the programme is easy to access, helping remove travel barriers and bringing support closer to home.

The Kia Ora Programme isn't just a course.

It's an empowering step toward a healthier future for you and your whānau.

When one person learns, the whole whānau benefits.

Ready to start your hauora journey?

**Take that first step today – scan the QR code to sign up and say yes to better health, better knowledge, and a brighter future.**

health professionals.

At the heart of the programme are Ngāti Kahungunu values: Manaakitanga – caring for ourselves and each other. Whanaungatanga – building meaningful connections. Kotahitanga – learning together for a stronger future.

These values shape an encouraging space where whānau can learn, share, and

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# Iwi scholarships now open for Kahungunu students

## Scholar an inspiration to future students



**Ruth Wong**

**E**very year, Ngāti Kahungunu invests in something powerful, 'the potential of our own people'.

Our iwi scholarships aren't just financial support; they're an invitation for our taura to dream bigger, push further, and step confidently into futures where they lead, innovate, and uplift our communities.

And this year, that invitation is stronger than ever.

Thanks to strengthened partnerships with the Māori Education Trust and several tertiary institutions, our iwi has secured additional funding to grow the research and learning opportunities available to Kahungunu students.

This means more support for the projects that matter

most to us as an iwi, the kaupapa that protect our taiao, strengthen our reo, and advance our collective wellbeing.

In 2025, 101 taura/student-s received tertiary scholarships, including three outstanding recipients of our research scholarships, each valued at \$5000.

These scholars have since completed their masters and doctoral studies, proving what becomes possible when iwi support and personal determination move together with purpose.

One of those scholars is Kotuku Tomoana, a name known and respected across Kahungunu.

Kotuku's life is a tapestry of



service: radio announcer, touch rugby referee, IronMāori athlete, kaumātua guiding ceremonies at Waipatu Marae, and a dedicated educator who has shaped countless young minds. His influence stretches from classrooms to sports fields to marae, always grounded in manaakitanga and genuine commitment to his people.

Last year, Kotuku stepped away from his teaching role at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Ara Hou Wharekura to pursue

postgraduate study at EIT.

He undertook Te Tohu Paerua mō Te Aka Whakaaroaro – Master of Professional Practice and Te Tohu Titohu mō Te Aka Whakaaroaro – Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Practice.

His journey wasn't just about personal growth, it was about strengthening the knowledge base of Ngāti Kahungunu.

Now back in the classroom, Kotuku is already weaving his Taiao studies into the learning of his secondary students.

What makes Kotuku remarkable is his ability to take what he learns and transform

**Scholar Kotuku Tomoana is a name known and respected across Kahungunu, and is also a kaumātua guiding ceremonies at Waipatu Marae.**

it into authentic, meaningful change in the way he teaches.

He inspires curiosity. He encourages research. He shows his students that higher learning is not only possible, it's powerful.

This is exactly what our iwi scholarships are designed to nurture. Ngā mihi ki a koe Matua Kotuku Tomoana, for being a fabulous example to us all.

■ Applications for Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Scholarships close at 4pm on May 8, 2026.

Taura can apply online: <https://www.kahungunu.iwi.nz/iwischolarships>

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## KAHUNGUNU LIVING LONGER

Ono

Hawke's Bay Today

TIHEI KAHUNGUNU

# PurSuit dedicated to transforming rangatahi's lives

## Initiative gives a brighter future

**P**urSuit stands as a powerful force for transformation in Heretaunga, dedicated to uplifting rangatahi and whānau by creating genuine pathways toward brighter, more empowered futures.

Guided by the vision "Kia haukuru ngā kurupena, kia poipoiā ngā moemoeā", which means 'to strike down the things that weigh us down so we are free to dream' PurSuit grounds every programme, service, and relationship in purpose and hope.

Their mission, "Kia hau ai te ora... Ki te herenga iho o Heretaunga", reflects a holistic commitment to nurturing the wellbeing of body, mind, and spirit.

This approach has shaped PurSuit into a trusted community anchor, one that walks alongside people as they rebuild confidence, reclaim

direction, and step into new opportunities.

Since opening in late 2017, PurSuit has supported more than 800 job seekers with interview training, employment preparation, and access to professional clothing. Founder and director Moira McGarva-Ratapu says the heart of their work goes far beyond employment.

"Even though our focus is on employment and education, our job seekers gain life skills and confidence. We're all about making positive changes permanently."

Free pre-employment support is available to anyone aged 18 and over, including CV creation, interview preparation, confidence building, and pastoral care.

For rangatahi aged 18-24, PurSuit offers the innovative Digital Pathway to Employment programme,



**Angel (left), and Ann-Tyneal have thrived with the PurSuit initiative.**

funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Participants gain a Level 2 New Zealand Certificate in Computing through EIT, learning website development, social media content creation, and creative marketing.

The programme is led by Anaru Ratapu, whose own experience building an online te reo Māori business inspired him to teach young people the same digital skills.

PurSuit removes barriers wherever possible, providing

transport, cooked lunches, and wraparound support, while gradually guiding rangatahi toward independence.

A dedicated social worker ensures the programme nurtures every aspect of wellbeing, from relationships and physical health to wairua.

At the centre of PurSuit's work are four core values: Whanaungatanga, Manaakitanga, Whakamana, and Whakamānawa.

These values shape every interaction and ensure that each person is welcomed,

supported, empowered, and honoured. The impact is undeniable. In 2026 alone, PurSuit supported 143 of their 180 active rangatahi into employment or study.

Among them are three remarkable young people whose journeys, each unique, each courageous, reflect the true power of PurSuit's kaupapa. Their stories are living proof that when barriers fall, potential rises.

PurSuit continues to be a beacon of hope, opportunity, and transformation – helping

**Let's go to Church!**

**Flaxmere Christian Fellowship**  
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Main Sunday Meeting - 10:00AM

*The Flaxmere Christian Fellowship is a local Church which has been operating since 1980. Situated on Flaxmere Avenue it draws people from around the Hastings and Napier area. This Pentecostal Church was birthed out of the Charismatic renewal of the late 1970's.*

The main meeting is every Sunday morning starting 10:00. A Bible College also operates on Sunday evenings for those serious about advancing their knowledge of the Bible. Different groups run during the weekend which cater to youth and adults. Children's Sunday school

classes run on a fortnightly basis during the Main Sunday service.

The Fellowship aims at reaching people with the Good News of Jesus Christ and the transformational power that message brings. It is

involved with different programs in the community to help bring this to pass. The Flaxmere Christian Fellowship is also a strong advocate for the Jewish People's right to exist as an independent and sovereign state on their historical ancient land in Israel.

**Feel free to come and try us out!**

**Flaxmere Christian Fellowship - 220 Flaxmere Avenue, Hastings**

**Main Sunday Meeting 10.00am - Phone 06 879 5588**

**Email: flaxmerechristianfellowship@hotmail.com**

**Web: www.flaxmerechristianfellowship.com**

TIHEI KAHUNGUNU



Kopiri

Primary School as a qualified teacher aide, where she supports students with care, patience, and dedication.

She plays an important role in the classroom and is respected for the way she connects with tamariki and supports their learning and wellbeing. Ann-Tyneal's journey has not been an easy one. She has faced personal trauma and many challenging days, but she never allowed those struggles to stop her from working towards a better future.

There were moments when she felt like giving up, yet she continued to push herself forward with strength, resilience, and determination. We are incredibly proud of her. She is resilient, driven, and inspiring, and her journey is a powerful example of perseverance and growth.

She will never give up on her dreams or goals, and we look forward to seeing everything she continues to achieve.

Kopiri is such a beautiful wahine, inside and out. It has truly been a privilege to work alongside her and witness her journey before she moved into employment.

From the very beginning, Kopiri carried herself with honesty, awareness, and enthusiasm. She is fluent in te reo Māori and holds a Certificate in Māori Early Childhood Education – achievements that reflect both her dedication and her deep love for her culture. Her dream is to become a te reo Māori teacher, and without a doubt, she will achieve that. Today, Kopiri is working with MSD –

a huge accomplishment and a testament to her determination. But her path was not easy. Kopiri has faced many obstacles in her life. Nothing was handed to her on a silver platter.

She had to grow up quickly, stepping into the role of a big sister and taking on responsibilities far beyond her years – at times carrying the weight of being like a mother. Her journey has been hard, but through every challenge, she showed resilience, strength, and unconditional love for her sister. Getting to know Kopiri and understanding the struggles she endured revealed just how incredibly strong she is as a wahine. Her perseverance, her heart, and her commitment to those she loves are truly inspiring.

There are so many wonderful things that could be said about her, but most importantly, we are so proud of the woman she has become. As she begins her next chapter in Wairoa, we wish her nothing but success, happiness, and continued growth. Kopiri, may you succeed in everything that comes your way. Your journey is just beginning – and the future is bright.

Angel came to us with many barriers in her life, and at times, the journey was not easy. She would challenge us, and there were moments when things felt tough. But once Angel got on a roll, she showed just how capable and determined she truly is. Step by step, Angel began to take control of her own journey. She worked hard to get her licence, dropped off CVs, and even secured emergency

housing for herself. One of the most powerful things to witness was seeing Angel start to put the work in for herself, instead of relying on others to do it for her. That was the moment her growth really began to shine. Angel has had many ups and downs in her life, but what stands out the most is her resilience. No matter what life has thrown her way, she has always found the strength to pick herself back up and keep moving forward. Wanting a better future for herself, Angel made the brave decision to move to Wellington.

Since then, she has achieved so much through her own determination and hard work. She moved into her own home and worked two jobs – one at the meat factory and the other doing road work. Despite working so hard, she still made time for herself by going to the gym and focusing on her wellbeing.

Angel has also surrounded herself with positive support, spending time with family and friends and building a new relationship that has been positive for her. Since moving away, the change in Angel has been incredible to see. She is happier, stronger, and growing into a confident wahine who continues to move forward with purpose.

Angel has achieved all of this through her own strength and determination, and I am incredibly proud of the wahine she has become and everything she has accomplished.

● We acknowledge Pursuit Communications for this pānui.

communities dream boldly and step confidently into their future. Ann-Tyneal has come an incredibly long way in her life. While she was on our course, she secured a role as a lifeguard at Splash Planet, where she thrived and truly enjoyed the work.

Her dedication, reliability, and positive attitude were evident, and she consistently gave her best in everything she did.

From there, Ann-Tyneal moved into a teacher's aide position at Omahu Primary

School – the very school she attended as a child.

This was a meaningful and full-circle moment for her. Through her commitment to supporting tamariki and her strong work ethic, Ann Tyneal proved herself to be a valuable part of the school community.

Recognising her passion, potential, and growth, the principal encouraged her to continue training and developing her skills in education.

Today, Ann-Tyneal proudly works fulltime at Omahu

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