

## The year we all stayed put

A look back at Covid and 12 months spent at home

Ngahiwi Tomoana

**A** year ago, the Government made the decision to lock us down. It was unheard of but it was something that needed to happen to protect Kiwis from the fast-spreading coronavirus, which was killing people around the world at a rapid pace.

New Zealand families were introduced to a new and unsure wave of panic, stressing about family in other parts of the world, wondering if the world was coming to an end, worrying about food and cleaning supplies, the last-minute crazy toilet paper purchasing, emergency planning, a slight panic of unsurety, wearing masks, and having to accept and adjust to a new way of living.

After a week or two, we embraced "staying in our bubbles", buying online, nominating someone to go out and stand in long lines at the supermarket.

We got used to the quiet streets, the non-polluted diesel filled air, experimenting and cooking three meals a day, baking old time goodies, gardening and realising how important it is to have at least one broom to clean the yard.

We said hello to people who would go for regular walks in the morning and realised they lived close by.

We slowed down, we spent quality time with our whānau and our dogs and cats. We became quite savvy on the internet and created lockdown social media videos, games and singing groups, and we did what we do best and entertained ourselves.

We assessed our lives in a new way, and we learned to appreciate what we have and



love and tolerate those around us. Zooming became the norm. Showering at 2pm became the norm and we began to engage with each other in a new way. We learned a lot about ourselves, our family, our

neighbours. We congratulated the government call not to manage Covid-19 but eliminate it. And while we have experienced yoyo lockdowns,

**Zoom meetings and a strong online presence were crucial.**  
Image / Supplied

New Zealand is still the best place to be. From March last year, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi leaders stood up and supported their communities right to the hardest people they needed to

contact, which were our whānau pounamu, our elderly. Since that time, our Ngāti Kahungunu chiefs have gone from strength to strength and now we have leaders in housing, economic development, environment, and protection and development as well.

We can only report one Kahungunu death associated with Covid, and she was a kuaia living in Australia.

Overall, we can congratulate every individual for their vigilant efforts to protect the health and wellbeing of themselves, their families, their communities and our whole country.

We shouldn't be in a rush to open our borders for quick economic gain and putting us at risk, especially as a double mutant virus has been discovered in India. Everybody is suffering but everyone is safe. We must not be in a hurry to open our borders, even to Australia.

To the front line vaccinators and border workers, we thank you for your efforts and leadership to keep us all safe. Vaccine will be available to everybody within three months. We know some people are still worried about the vaccine and only strong research and evidence will inform our people in their decision making.

My wife Mere and I had our second vaccine last week which is a year to the day, after the first lockdown. Who would have thought that we would all have been through that rock and roll year and still come through without the frightening fatalities that are being recorded around the world.

Our decision to be vaccinated is a step towards bringing life back to normalcy, to protect our whānau, friends and those most vulnerable.

We still need to be vigilant, alert, but we should support each other unconditionally. Bring on another year.

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**AUNTY'S GARDEN**

# Concerted effort to enjoy music and kai

Harvest time for kumara: Just add beetroot and greens in a tasty salad

**Hanui Lawrence**

**A** couple of weeks ago, I set off to see a concert at St John's Cathedral in Napier. When I arrived a string quartet was playing as we entered. Strange I thought, where were the other members of the orchestra?

I found a seat near the front and settled down. A woman came and sat further along from me. I recognised her and asked if she was so and so. She replied that she was. I then told her that she had taught my son when he was a youngster at high school.

She remembered him and others as they had participated in the Westpac music competition way back in the late 80s.

It was good to reminisce about old times and people. She then told me that she was heading to the Regional Orchestral Concert at St Paul's Cathedral, but wanted to hear an original piece being sung at St John's.

Drats!! I thought, I'm at the wrong concert and at the wrong venue! However, I decided to stay, as this concert was by the Waiapu Choir. So beautiful was the singing accompanied by the piano, organ and a cappella as they cruised through their afternoon programme.

Hastings and Napier have wonderful theatres that are a pleasure to be in when

listening to good wholesome music whether sung or orchestrated.

At Aunty's Garden as well as the whole of Hawke's Bay, we are in the middle of a Concerto!

A concerted effort by all to harvest the fantastic Hawke's Bay produce. The apples, squash, pumpkins, tomatoes, potatoes, kumara and so forth, are all ripe and ready to be picked but there are not enough hands to harvest all the fruit, especially the apples in our orchards throughout the Bay. I wish I was a few years younger as I loved picking apples and was very good at it too.

Our recipe for this month is a Beetroot and Kumara Salad.

Yes, it's harvest time for kumara and so far our digging has been wonderful. See attached our photo of kumara being harvested on a drying rack.

**Beetroot and Kumara Salad**

**Ingredients:**

- 3 to 4 kumara
- 4 slices of feta cheese
- 1 cup of greens (I use Fathen, Prince of Wales Feather Spinach)
- ½ cup of baby peas (leftovers)
- 1 large cup of beetroot noodles

**Method:**

- Steam kumara to just soft (then cool and dice)
- Finely chop the green leaves together.
- Blanche beetroot noodles – 3-5 minutes then add salt and pepper to taste.
- Cube feta cheese.
- Extras: Onion, nuts, portions of grapes. Put all into a bowl and mix. I used various mayo ¼C cream or just vinaigrette. All combinations taste lovely.



Hanui Lawrence with her Beetroot and Kumara Salad and some of the harvested kumara.

## Is it time for Māori constituencies for Hawke's Bay Regional Council?

**Me whakatū rānei ngā roherohenga Māori ki Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Te Matau-a-Māui?**

*The Regional Council is holding a series of Hui-a-Iwi to consult on whether to establish Māori constituencies for voters on the Māori roll to elect councillors onto the Regional Council.*

*The Regional Council wants to hear what you think.*

**Find out more on [hbrc.co.nz](http://hbrc.co.nz)**

## Tukua mai ō whakaaro Have your say

*Join Hawke's Bay Regional Council at Hui-a-Iwi in each Taiwhenua area across the region to learn more and share your views*

- ▶ **Wairoa Taiwhenua**  
Monday 29 March 2021 - 6-8pm  
Upstairs conference room, Wairoa Waikaremoana Māori Trust Board, 34 Marine Parade, Wairoa
- ▶ **Te Whanganui a Orotū Taiwhenua**  
Tuesday 6 April 2021 - 5.30-7.30pm  
Ahuriri Business Hub, 36 Bridge Street, Napier
- ▶ **Te Taiwhenua O Tamatea**  
Thursday 8 April 2021 - 6-8pm  
Kitchener Street, Waipukurau
- ▶ **Te Taiwhenua O Heretaunga**  
Tuesday 13 April 2021 - 6-8pm  
821 Orchard Road, Hastings
- ▶ **You can also join Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Facebook Live Q & A session**  
Tuesday 30 March 2021 - 6-7pm

# Great Kahungunu leader has fallen

Legacy of leaders walk the path she created

Chrissie Hape

Last week we farewelled a rangatira, a great leader in Kahungunu. Annie Aranui (nee Eden) died unexpectedly on Friday, March 19. She was a wife, a mother, a daughter, a grandmother, a sister, a coach, a mentor, a friend and a visionary leader who will be sorely missed by all.

When we think of Rangatira and the qualities and the values we seek to be expressed, Annie was deemed to possess them all.

At her tangi at Moteo Pa many shared stories of her calmness, gentle style, kindness and manaaki tāngata across all of those she interacted with from Ministers in government through to whānau across Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti rohe – indeed across Aotearoa.

She was also quietly stoic and determined, described as a "silent assassin"; surprising people with her resolve and ability to cut through red tape to ensure results that improved the lives and wellbeing of whānau.

Annie was a very humble person who preferred to "do the mahi" and never sought accolades or recognition: "Kāore te kūmara e kōrero mō tōna ake reka".

Knowing Annie as I do, I know she would have found the kōrero about her uncomfortable but would have accepted it with her usual grace.

In 2020, Annie received the New Zealand Public Service Medal formally acknowledging her ability to successfully lead Māori-Crown relationships and achieve mutual outcomes across the public sector.



**Annie Aranui – a wonderful leader in the community who will be sorely missed.**

Photo / Supplied

Her ability and vision was again acknowledged at the National Iwi Chairs Housing Symposium in December 2020, where a resolution was passed stating the need to "increase public sector Māori leadership that achieves meaningful Iwi Crown partnership outcomes with such leadership as from ... Annie Aranui", reiterating her success and the respect they had for her mahi and leadership.

A great leader is also measured by the footprint they leave behind. Annie had an ability to spot and foster talent. She was

forever thinking about those around her, what awahi she could provide so they could reach their potential; especially wāhine Māori.

Giving young Māori an opportunity to be mentored and supported into employment was especially dear to her.

Her internship model taking on year 11 or above students from local high schools across her region into meaningful roles within the Ministry in the school holidays is a good example of that. Her hope is that other local and central government

agencies will follow her example.

Those she coached, mentored and enabled across Aotearoa are now her legacy of leaders continuing to walk the path she helped them create.

Annie knew her people and her region and her advice and input was actively sought by everyone. She sat effortlessly with leaders in government at a national, regional or local level, community, hapū and Iwi and loved working in collaboration, connecting the dots and focusing on what matters which was whānau. Annie always had whānau at the heart of her every thought and action, not just in mahi but in life.

She loved her family, her husband of 40 years James, her three children, her eight moko, her parents, siblings, nieces and nephews. Everyone inhabited a special place in her heart but she and James were especially excited when they became grandparents.

Her times with her moko were especially precious with Friday nights quickly becoming exclusively Nanny and Koro time. Although she is no longer here she will, alongside her dear Dad Albert, continue to watch over her whānau.

To me Annie was my friend and along with many others, I will miss her dearly.

"Annie, your MSD whānau and the wider public service did you proud. Although grieving and reeling with loss themselves, they stood up and provided the awahi and manaaki to your immediate whānau so they could spend what precious time they had left with you and to ensure their leader was farewelled in the manner you deserved. They certainly did that."

Kia hora te marino, kia papapounamu te moana, kia tere te kārohirohi i mua i tō huarahi. Moe mai, moe mai rā e hoa. Haere rā koe ki ō tāua mātua.

**Chrissie Hape** is Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated chief executive



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# OT expert welcomed to iwi unit



The Oranga Tamariki team at Melissa's pōhiri on March 15.

Ruth Wong

**N**gāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated is growing its Te Ara Toi Ora – Health and Wellbeing team.

Melissa White has been seconded from Oranga Tamariki to lead and co-design a navigational service with Kaupapa Maori providers across Hawke's Bay on behalf of the iwi.

This service will focus on building whanau capability and resilience to

empower them to be independent.

Melissa has 21 years' work experience in the government sector and brings with her a wealth of knowledge that will enhance the mahi in the iwi office.

She currently works for Oranga Tamariki but has worked for the Ministry of Social Development for most of her working life.

Former co-worker and current iwi chief executive Chrissie Hape is thrilled to have another strong Kahungunu advocate to join her team at the iwi office.

"We are thrilled to have Melissa join us and we know she will enjoy being with our team. She will add to the hard work that is done in the office to support our whānau, hapū, iwi," says Chrissie.

At her pōhiri, Oranga Tamariki spokesman, youth justice manager for Hawke's Bay, Sam Te Manaaki Tiuka, spoke very highly of Melissa and the work she has done with Oranga Tamariki.

Melissa has joined the Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Te Ara Toiora Ora – Health and Wellbeing unit

## Melissa's Pepeha

- Titiro whakarunga au ki tōku maunga ko Mōumoukai
- Ka heke whakararo ki ngā wai o tōku tipuna ko Waitirohia
- Ka hoki au ki tōku marae ki Tane Nui A Rangi
- Kei reira ko tōku hapū ko Ngāti Rangi
- Matakiti ana au i te rahi o tōku iwi o Ngāti Rakaipaaka
- Ko Melissa tōku ingoa
- E noho ana au ki Heretaunga

led by Chrissie Hape and which consists of Tawehi Munro, Matauranga manager seconded from the Ministry of Education, Krystal Haimona, senior adviser seconded from the Department of Corrections, Taasha Romana, senior adviser, contractor, Ana Carroll, senior adviser, Oranga Tamariki and Errol Kalmancsi, Corrections offender recruitment consultant. Other units within the tari and working out how they can use Melissa's work background to support their work as well.

Nau mai Haere mai Melissa!

# Internships help Kahungunu law students

In 2020, Ngāti Kahungunu built a relationship with Anderson Lloyd Law Firm and an internship opportunity was initiated.

Anderson Lloyd offered to strengthen the relationship with the iwi by investing in the future of the iwi, and legal profession by offering an ongoing internship programme.

Dunedin-based Kahungunu student James Barclay was the first intern and in November last year he joined the firm and immersed himself in the work.

James said the experience helped him to see what it's like to work in a law firm, which gave great insight to the work.

"The Ngāti Kahungunu internship

offered by Anderson Lloyd provided me with so many amazing new skills and connections over the summer. I completed two rotations in the Auckland Commercial office, starting with the banking and finance team and then moved into the property and projects teams. I particularly enjoyed being consistently given new and exciting tasks and the type of work really opened my eyes to the reality of what working in a full-service law firm is like," said James.

"The team was extremely welcoming which made those first few nervous days a lot easier and they were always there to support me if I had any questions or felt confused by something I was asked

to do. It was a great experience and I would highly recommend the summer clerkship to other aspiring lawyers from Ngāti Kahungunu!"

The team at the law firm were equally very happy with James and his work.

The firm is running another internship programme. Applications close on April 9. For more information visit <https://www.alnz/careers/ngati-kahungunu-internship-programme>. Or email Kelly Pankhurst [kelly.pankhurst@alnz](mailto:kelly.pankhurst@alnz)

Anderson Lloyd is a leading New Zealand law firm focused on achieving the best possible outcomes for their clients, and supporting the industries that make New Zealand successful.

**Dunedin-based Kahungunu student James Barclay.**



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# 'Care for ourselves and those we cherish'

Ruth Wong

**J**ohn Barry Heperi Smith, better known as JB Smith, was nominated by his people to represent Tamatea Taiwhenua on the Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (NKII) Board and has been the highest elected candidate for that position at the past three board elections since 2013.

JB is the NKII Board deputy chair and his position requires leadership to guide the iwi strategic vision and priorities.

He also works for the Hawke's Bay District Health Board as the senior cultural adviser, providing support and advice to the community disease and health protection teams. During the Covid-19 pandemic over the past 14 months his role has been crucial.

JB was raised in Takapau, Hawke's Bay, surrounded by his koroua and kuia, kaumātua, uncles and aunts, who groomed him in a cultural setting to build his character for future opportunities.

"Among many things, they taught me to gain a good education so I can serve our people", says JB. "Through the years, I've tried to do those things that will help."

"My goals have always been to strengthen our distinctive culture and language, to drive and nurture education as the forefront of our success, and to seek every opportunity in order for the next generation to prosper and flourish."

JB has a deep understanding of the challenges in a changing political landscape but especially now with Covid and other health issues that surround us. His upbringing has helped him advocate not just for physical health, but for holistic and spiritual wellbeing.

The greatest blessings in JB's life are his children and mokopuna who he adores. With his "village raised concept" he also has a much wider circle of whānau that he cherishes and who cherish him.

When JB left school he moved to



Examples of JB's mahi.

Wellington and qualified as a butcher. He went on to Teachers' Training College in Palmerston North and his first teaching job was head of the Māori bilingual unit at Terrace School in Waipukurau.

He went on to work for Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Takapau as the principal where he co-designed the kura, which gained an architectural award. He worked as a senior teacher at Te Aute College before moving into health as the pou tikanga for mental health at Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga. A few years later he became the Oranga Hinengaro social and rehabilitation manager in the community and was promoted to the ministry's executive management team. In total JB worked for 12 years at the ministry.

Kapa haka always ran through JB's blood and from a young age he was trained by the late Piri Sciascia in the

## Pepeha

- Ko Te Rangi-tapu-ā-whata te maunga
- Ko Whatumā te waiū
- Ko Takitimu te waka
- Ko Te Rongo-a-Tahu te marae
- Ko Ngāti Kahungunu te iwi
- Ko Ngāi Te Kikiri o te Rangi, ko Ngāi Tahu Mākakanui, ko Ngāi Toro-i-waho ngā hapū
- Ko JB Heperi-Smith tōku ingoa

Tamatea Arikiniui Kapa Haka group, leading them in 1995. Sheree Cotter-Spooner approached him to be the male leader for Te Rerenga Kotuku in 2005, the start of a 12-year journey. In 2020 he resurrected Te Kikiri o te Rangi to build cultural capacity for his home people and descendants of Te Whatuiapiti.

JB is one of the first graduates of Tā Pita Sharples, who trained him in Māori weaponry in the early 1980s which incorporates Māori history, whakapapa, traditional practices, respect, self-discipline and leadership skills.

JB is a trustee on several boards and provides cultural leadership wherever he goes.

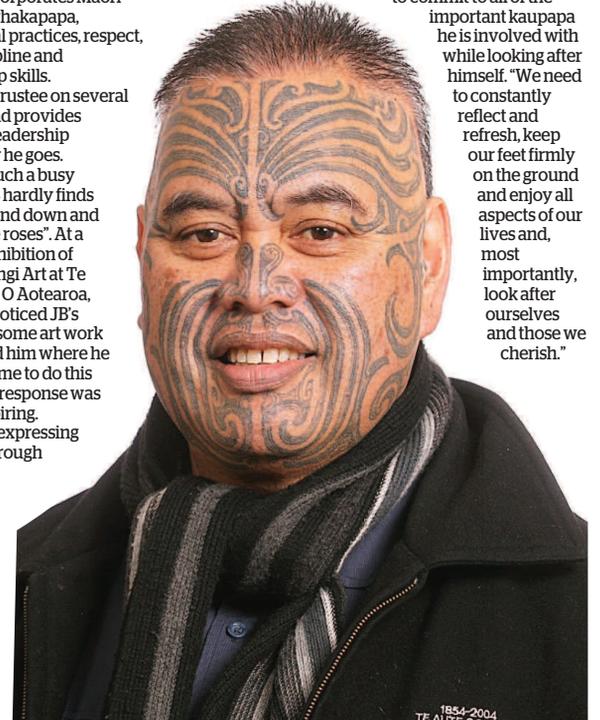
With such a busy profile, JB hardly finds time to wind down and "smell the roses". At a recent exhibition of Toimairangi Art at Te Wananga O Aotearoa, viewers noticed JB's name on some art work and asked him where he gets the time to do this mahi. His response was quite inspiring.

"I love expressing myself through art... [it]

takes my mind off the busy things of the world, and allows me to nourish my wairua" said JB. "Matua Sandy Adsett is the tohunga in the art world. To work under his direction is a blessing"

JB shared said he'd been taught by great leaders like Sciascia, Sharples and now in his art world by Tā Sandy Adsett. "These men have influenced my life and I a very humbled."

A challenge is finding time to commit to all of the important kaupapa he is involved with while looking after himself. "We need to constantly reflect and refresh, keep our feet firmly on the ground and enjoy all aspects of our lives and, most importantly, look after ourselves and those we cherish."



John Barry Heperi Smith, better known as JB Smith.

## LAUNCH OF THE



**Tangaroa Tohu Mana  
Tangaroa Tohu Mauri**  
MARINE CULTURAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

Join us for the launch of an innovative and New Zealand first marine monitoring programme founded on mātauranga Māori

Wednesday, 14 April | 5.30 pm

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**TE HERENGA WAKA  
O AHURIRI**

The Marine Cultural Health Programme is a kaupapa (initiative), driven and undertaken by Ahuriri mana whenua, in partnership with Napier Port – Te Herenga Waka o Ahuriri. The Kaupapa is spear-headed by the Mana Whenua Steering Komiti. Through a unique and innovative cultural monitoring framework, the programme measures and monitors the cultural and ecological health of the marine environment in and around the Ahuriri area, including Pānia Reef.

The Marine Cultural Health programme is founded on mātauranga Māori and recognises that everything is connected – the spiritual world, natural world, te taiao (environment) and people. People share a whakapapa (ancestry) with the environment and all living things on land and sea.

The Mana Whenua Steering Komiti in partnership with the Napier Port has been developing this programme for the last year and a half, come along and join us for the launch of this exciting new kaupapa.

### What the launch will cover:

- The Marine Cultural Health Programme Framework and Plan
- The launch and walkthrough of the Marine Cultural Health Programme interactive website
- An introduction on how we use digital platforms for surveying, data recording and updating the website
- An overview of the ongoing research and monitoring programme.

Please register your interest by emailing:

Te Kaha Hawaikirangi | [tekahah@napierport.co.nz](mailto:tekahah@napierport.co.nz)  
[marineculturalhealth.co.nz](http://marineculturalhealth.co.nz)

# Training manager shares vision for Māori in trades

Goal is that all learners gain level 4 apprenticeships

**Ruth Wong**

**N**gāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated is pleased to introduce James Thurston as the new K3 Trades Training manager.

He uri ahau nō Porourangi nō Uepohatu nō Tamatea Arīkinui.

James Thurston brings a wealth of industry experience and knowledge to the K3 kaupapa which will ensure K3 Māori apprentices receive the guidance and support they need to be successful in their career and life.

James worked for Gemco Construction for more than three years and before that five years' building in Europe.

With a huge passion for a Te Ao Māori approach in trades, for the normalisation of Te Reo Māori in the industry and for promoting Māori success, James is looking forward to the challenge ahead.

"I have seen with my own eyes the underutilised potential of Māori in trades and am determined to open up that opportunity for those who have dreams and aspirations. We are going to be very busy at K3 and in this housing crisis we have opportunity for those who want it to prosper. My role is to do everything we can to support our apprentices and help them overcome any bumps in the road," says James.

Outside of his mahi in the building industry, James enjoys sharing time with whānau

hunting, fishing and anything outdoors.

K3 Kahungunu Property Development is a wholly owned company of Ngāti Kahungunu. Its aim is to provide solutions for good quality, affordable homes for whānau through creating beautiful communities. Its ethos is more than just construction and is driven by the desire to uplift and grow Māori skill and business ownership. The aim is to work together to improve the cultural, social, physical, and economic health and wellbeing of Māori whānau which will lead to a prosperous future, and positive and sustainable change for whānau Māori.

A key part of this initiative is the K3 Apprenticeship programme which aims to ensure that more Māori learners can obtain meaningful trades qualifications and apprenticeships. The end goal is that all participants gain level 4 NZ apprenticeships/cadetships leading to employment in selected Trades and the Primary Industry sector.

James' role is key to the success of this programme and he will make a real difference, providing a platform for the apprentices to gain skills in one of the most in-demand sectors in New Zealand.

"We're excited about where the programme is heading and have already seen some great opportunities developed since James started," says Rawinia Lewis, Ngāti Kahungunu Asset Holding Company business manager.



K3 Trade and Training manager James Thurston.

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# Trust in magic of music

Five years' free tuition for primary and intermediate pupils

**O**rokohanga Music Trust (OMT) was created in 2015 to offer a free string (violin and cello) instrumental programme for students in the community who would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn such an instrument.

OMT founder and programme coordinator Ngaire Shand has worked as a music educator for many years. It is her passion and desire for music that brought the Orokohanga Music Trust to life. The purpose and vision of the trust is to empower communities through music.

The programme is rolled out through participating schools. The trust started with Camberley School in 2015 and some of those students are now attending high school. The current participating schools are Heretaunga Intermediate, Hastings Intermediate, and Ebbett Park School and soon Central School will join in.

The goal is to provide five years' free music tuition for primary and intermediate school pupils. The trust firmly believes that through formal music training from a young age, children are offered the opportunity to further their own self-belief, self-discipline and develop a life-long love of music. We believe that our music programme offers a powerful tool for social change in communities.

The trust enables this opportunity through the generous support from community organisations, groups and individual sponsorship.

"After five years in existence Orokohanga Music Trust is still buoyant,



**Orokohanga Trust performs at Toitot HB Community Trust Fundraiser.**

thanks to all our donors, and bringing much pleasure to almost 200 children and the whānau of Ebbett Park, Heretaunga and Hastings Intermediate," says Ngaire. "I gain much satisfaction in observing the classes in action and watching the delight on the students faces as they learn new skills," she says.

"The trust has two outstanding and experienced tutors who drive the programme so successfully, director of music and violin tutor Suzanne Weeks

and cello tutor Hilary Baker.

"2021 is our year for a drive to lift the programme and standards to greater heights," says Ngaire.

On Friday, March 19, the Orokohanga Music Trust was invited to present a performance at the Toitot, Hawke's Bay Arts and Event Centre, as part of a fundraising event for the Hawke's Bay Foundation Trust. This was a great opportunity for the children to show their talents, build confidence and gain

experience in front of a large audience.

It was also a time to build on the values of the Hawke's Bay Foundation Trust which centres on reinvesting funds to build and strengthen the needs in our community. OMT trustee and Hastings District Councillor Malcolm Dixon said the performance was outstanding.

**i** For more information about the Orokohanga Music Trust, email [orokohangamt@gmail.com](mailto:orokohangamt@gmail.com)

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PROPERTY

## Whakatipu Rangatiratanga Growing Māori Business

- ▶ Does your Māori trades business need help to grow?
- ▶ Do you want to be connected to the K3 kaupapa?

Through our Māori Business support function we have the ability to help your small or large Māori trades business to grow and be successful. So we want to hear from you.

Contact us at K3 Property (a wholly owned company of Ngāti Kahungunu) at [admin@k3property.co.nz](mailto:admin@k3property.co.nz) or visit [www.k3property.co.nz](http://www.k3property.co.nz)

**Phillip McRoberts,**  
Power Up Electrical and  
K3 supported Māori business owner

