



Mana Rangatahi

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō concluded the latest Mana Rangatahi wānanga in December 2024 at Rotoiti. As our flagship development wānanga, Mana Rangatahi provides the opportunity for rangatahi to return to Te Taihū to strengthen bonds with their cousins, and deepen their understanding of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō culture.

This wānanga took participants on a journey through their whenua. Climbing their maunga, Pourangahau (Mount Robert) gave them a tangible connection to their mihi and pepeha, while a visit to the wetland, Mangatāwhai, offered insight into how the whenua was used as a mahinga kai (food source). These lessons came to life as rangatahi applied what they learnt into practice, eeling in the streams around Rotoiti.

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A key focus of the wānanga involved immersing our rangatahi in māoritanga. Each morning began with karakia, while waiata and haka were practiced throughout the wānanga. A particular emphasis was placed on reintroducing and normalising older tikanga. After each meal, rangatahi performed pao for the kitchen staff to express manaakitanga and reinforce the mātauranga gained during the wānanga.

A high ropes course tested the resilience and determination of our rangatahi. Every participant showcased a high level of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga by supporting one another when they faced challenges and by encouraging each other to push through the obstacle course despite their trepidations. The rangatahi embodied the values that were taught to them throughout the wānanga.

Ngā mihi nui to our kaimahi for their support – the dedication of our experienced whānau to this kaupapa is invaluable.

Registrations for the next Mana Rangatahi will be shared on our social media and monthly pānui. Stay tuned, whānau!

Te Ipukarea 2025

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whānau are invited to join our mighty team for Te Ipukarea 2025 on Friday 4 and Saturday 5 April at Saxton Field, Stoke, Nelson.

Te Ipukarea is an annual sporting tournament that brings together all eight Te Taihū iwi for a weekend of friendly yet spirited competition. The event caters to all ages, from tamariki to kaumātua, with a variety of sports on offer.

- Basketball
- Kī-o-rahi
- Netball
- League 9s
- Debates
- Table tennis
- Euchre
- Touch
- Golf
- Tug-o-war
- Kaumātua games
- Waka ama

The tournament will be hosted by Ngāti Tama. It begins on Friday 4 April with a pōwhiri at Whakatū Marae and concludes on Saturday evening with a hākari and the handover of the mauri.

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with whānau and represent your iwi while wearing the best iwi merch in Te Taihū!

To register please visit the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō [website](#) or email events@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz.



FROM THE CHAIR

As the end of February fast approaches, the summer holidays seem a distant memory. 2024 was a complex and challenging year for many, particularly with the economic and political pressures.

I have tended to be apolitical in terms of what is said through this pānui but I must stress how important it is that you are registered for the upcoming local body elections. It is important that we have influence, and our say, at all levels of local and central government.

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō hosted our northern whānau from Ngāi Wairiki o Ngāti Apa at the end of January, after being hosted by them a few years ago in Whanganui. This treasured exchange was about learning more about our eponymous ancestor Apa Hāpai Taketake, our tribal history and our connections with one another.

Importantly, I would like to acknowledge and extend the iwi condolences to Pahia Turia whose son sadly passed away in Australia a day before Pahia was due to head into Te Taihū for the Apa Hāpai Taketake wānanga. Pahia insisted that the wānanga continue, and this commitment along with the contributions of all of our whānau and kaimahi helped to create a truly special week together.

Five whānau members from Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō were trained through November and December 2024 as tangata kaitiaki/tiaki to operate under the provisions

of the South Island Customary Fishing Regulations to ensure the safe and correct management of our customary fisheries. A page has been created on our website to help whānau identify our mandated tangata kaitiaki/tiaki: Margaret Bond, Clinton Gapper, Hamuera Manihera, Lee Mason and Gerrard Wilson.

The Pahi project is also progressing well, with revised concept designs delivered to the Trust by Design Base Architecture at the end of December. The next phase in this project is the detailed design, which includes preparing architectural plans to support resource consent requirements. Every effort is being made to keep this project on schedule.

Lastly, at the beginning of February, Dr Darren Ngaru King, the Trusts Kaiwhakahaere, notified the Trust of his resignation. Darren has provided the Trusts with invaluable dedication and service over the past two years. He has led a loyal team throughout some trying times and is admired for his loyalty and good sense. Darren is leaving us to spend more time with his young family, but he will be with us until the end of April.

I look forward to having the opportunity to update you again in the next pānui in March.

Ngā mihi
Hinemoa Conner
Chairperson



Hui and events

Paepae wānanga

When: Saturday 8 March

Where: Te Hora Marae

Who: Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whānau

Kai Ngātahi Ōtautahi

When: Saturday 22 March

Where: Hotel Elms, Papanui

Who: Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whānau

Register for both events online at www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz/whanau-opportunities/our-events-2/calendar-events-2

Nelson Tenth

In March, Te Here-ā-Nuku working group will be holding a series of hui around the rohe to update whānau on the work taking place to resolve the Nelson Tenth kaupapa. The hui will be hosted by kaumātua Rore Stafford and members of the working group. All whānau are welcome and there will be opportunities to ask questions at the hui. All sessions run from 4pm–6.30pm.

- Monday 10 March, Pūtangitangi Greenmeadows Centre, Stoke
- Tuesday 11 March, Onetahua Marae, Pōhara
- Wednesday 12 March, Waikawa Marae, Picton
- Thursday 13 March, Hauhunga Marae, Spring Creek
- Friday 14 March, Te Āwhina Marae, Motueka



Apa Hāpai Taketake

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō welcomed Ngā Wairiki o Ngāti Apa from the Whanganui region to Te Taiwhiri to retrace the journey of our shared tīpuna, Apa Hāpai. His migration from the north to the south was instrumental in the formation of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō and laid the foundation for this wānanga.

The wānanga began on Monday 27 January, with a whakatau at Ūkaipō, followed by a boat trip through Tōtaranui (Queen Charlotte Sound) with Dr. Peter Meihana. The rōpū retraced the journey of Apa Hāpai, visiting Meretoto.

On Tuesday, the rōpū visited Omaka Marae, where Dr. Peter Meihana and Auntie Margaret Bond shared kōrero on the history of the marae and the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō journey to settlement. From there, the rōpū travelled to Rotoiti where they were warmly welcomed by Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō whānau. Everybody shared kai, paddled in our waka *Te Haeata*, and both sides showcased impressive manu skills.

Wednesday was dedicated to exploring the rohe. One group climbed Pourangahau (Mount Robert), while the other took a boat tour through Rotoiti, learning about mahinga kai, rākau, and pāhi sites. A special visit to the entrance of Kawatiri saw Auntie Alice share kōrero on the journey to the coast and the significance of the Kawatiri River.

The final two days, led by Mark Moses, focused on building a physical connection to our wāhi tapu

across Te Tai Aorere (Tasman). The rōpū visited Riuwaka, swam at Kaiteretere and Moturoa, leapt from the wharf at Māpua, and strengthened bonds at Tāhunanui. Many reflected on this as a deeply wairua-fulfilling experience.

The hīkoi concluded at Te Āwhina Marae with a hākari. As part of this gathering, two beautiful taonga were exchanged. Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō gifted Ngā Wairiki o Ngāti Apa a pūtātara named *Te Tuhi o Ngā Raukawakawa*, crafted by our whanaunga and Trustee Fayne Robinson. In return, Ngā Wairiki o Ngāti Apa gifted a toki that had belonged to a tīpuna of Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Te Ahuru. A direct descendant of Te Ahuru, his seventh-generation grandson Sam Thorn (Manihera), was present at the hākari.

This wānanga was a truly special occasion, enabling both rōpū to exchange knowledge, strengthen ties, and forge bonds that will last a lifetime. It was a powerful reminder of the enduring strength of whanaungatanga and manākitanga.

Ngā mihi nui to all our whānau and kaimahi whose contributions made this wānanga possible.

