



Te Whetumaramatanga

December 2014

Update

from the Interim Chair:

Brian O'Shea



Tihe mauri ora!

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e rau rangatira mā

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

Firstly, I would first like to acknowledge the passing away of Murua Matika, a valued kaimahi in Hamilton, and esteemed kaumatua Eru Thompson, who was one of original Trustees for Te Roopu Taurima O Manukau Trust, and Matua Timoti Thomas, who most recently worked for the Trust in Otautahi. Their unique contributions to the Trust are appreciated and will not be forgotten.

2014 has been a challenging year for the Trust but I am pleased to say that it has come through this and is putting in the necessary building blocks to enable it to continue to flourish. There will always be waves in the ocean to navigate but we will do this with heart and vigour.

There are lots of achievements to celebrate in the last year. These include mokopuna attaining their own personal goals, kaimahi working hard on the completion of their new qualifications, the opening of He Kakano, the Trust focusing on lifting its performance and the appointment of the new board members. Good progress has been made on the appointment of the new CEO and we hope to make an announcement about this in the New Year.

On behalf of the Trust, I wish all mokopuna and their whanau and kaimahi a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year. Thank you for your ongoing support for the work of the Trust.

New board members

We are pleased to welcome four new board members; Mahaki Albert, Greg Keay, Merepeka Raukawa-Tait, and Moana Sinclair, who join current board members Brian O'Shea, Derek Petera and Debbie Dawson-Renahan. The Roopu gathered on October 23rd for a powhiri at our Otahuhu offices to welcome the new members and learn about their backgrounds.

All four new board members bring with them vast experience in different areas.

Moana Sinclair's passion for improving the lives of others has been evident through her work as a lawyer in the human rights and youth sectors. She intends to "put her heart and soul into the Roopu", as "this is mahi that deserves no less than 100%."

Greg Keay's accountancy, business skills and understanding of the Trust's vision will enhance the Board's role in overseeing the financial performance of the organisation.

Merepeka Raukawa-Tait brings a strong background in health and social services and wide experience in a number of governance roles.

In addition, Mahaki Albert's experience as Cultural Advisor for Counties Manukau District Health Board enhances the Board's awareness of key issues in the health sector.

This year has offered an opportunity to learn how to do things better, and we are looking forward to each new board member's involvement in preparing for a great year ahead. As Mahaki says, "we are accountable to our mokopuna," and we will continue to keep them at the forefront of our work."



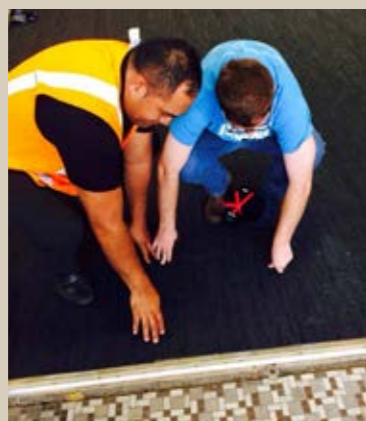
Rangatiratanga mo tatou katoa i runga i nga tikanga o tena o tena o tena

Ensuring empowerment and self determination regardless of disability, age, gender, race or status.



He Kakano opening

In early November, the Roopu opened an internet cafe for Auckland-based mokopuna. The building, next to our Otahuhu office, was previously an old liquor store, and we're pleased to have transformed it into something positive. "He kakano" means 'the seed', and naming the facility as such symbolises the seed of positive growth and learning for those who will be using it. Mokopuna have been involved from the beginning, with mokopuna Matthew Putze laying the last carpet tile in the new room and Rosina Neary and Rachel Stewart unveiling the plaque.



The funding for He Kakano came from the Ministry of Health's Te Ao Auahatanga Maori Health Innovation Fund. "The portal and resources are aimed at increasing the mokopuna's learning in literacy, numeracy and also preparing



them to sit the learner's driver's licence," says Roopu Advisor Trish Davis. The facilities are expected to help mokopuna increase their independence, and offer a fun environment in which to develop skills that will benefit their day-to-day lives. A big thanks to Valerie Lui, Tori Puata and Kaiawhi Wharemate for making this new service happen.



Mokopuna Ball

Our mokopuna ball in Auckland was a great success this year, with 250 mokopuna, whanau, and staff attending our 'Island Paradise' themed ball at The Dream Centre in Manukau on November 20th. Guests enjoyed delicious food, dancing, and fabulous entertainment. Huge thanks to Annette Putze, mother of Matthew, who was the driving force behind the event and made it all happen, and to Tala Poe-Tietie for her work organising the ball alongside Annette.



Whare Marire head to Ngati Porou

At the end of October, one of our whare went on an adventure around the East Coast. Mokopuna and kaimahi from whare Marire travelled to Ngati Porou to explore their genealogy, visit whanau and check out the local sites. Kaimahi Carlo Delamere and Pehau Ioane took mokopuna Arona Kimiora, George Walker and Michael Healey on a four-day trip around the East Coast, leaving on Friday 31st October.

Their first port of call was Taupiri Mountain, where George's dad is buried. They then made their way to Opotiki, then on to the beautiful Hicks Bay. Michael is from Hicks Bay originally, and the team stayed a night with his whanau, which was a great chance to get to know everyone.

Pehau hadn't been to the Ngati Porou area before, so the trip was a great chance for him to explore his genealogy. Mokopuna also got the chance to check out places made famous by quintessential Kiwi films *Whale Rider* and *Boy!* They explored the marae in Whangara, where scenes from *Whale Rider* were shot, and took photos in front of the massive waka that was used in the film. Toward the end of their journey, they explored Waihou Bay where *Boy* was shot. Carlo has whanau there, and the mokopuna even got to meet a few *Boy* actors, one of whom is Carlo's cousin!

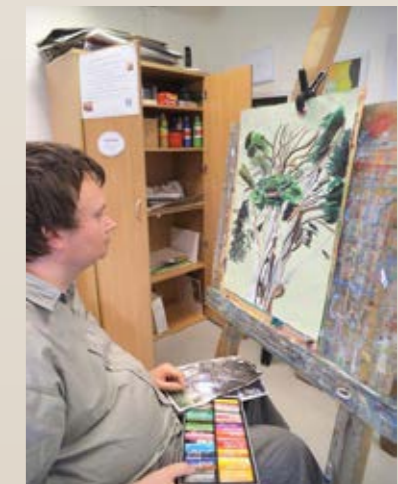


Andrew still making waves in the art world

In the last edition of Te Whetumaramatanga, we talked about Andrew Martin, a Kaiapoi-based mokopuna who's showcasing his talent by taking the local art scene by storm. Andrew was placed second in this year's IHC Art Awards, competing against other talented New Zealand artists. One of the biggest influences on Andrew's work is the support and encouragement that he has received from our kaimahi, and he currently works at *Our Studio*, an art space in Rangiora, where the Roopu runs classes twice a week.

Along with that of other local artists, Andrew's work has been selected for the *Outside In* exhibition at the Canterbury Museum, from 26 January to 22 February 2015. The exhibition will include work by artists with intellectual disabilities and those with lived experience of mental health issues. *Outside In* will showcase their artistic abilities, and give the public an opportunity to purchase their work.

Andrew's work features animals, trees, and New Zealand landscapes in bold pastels, and is sought after locally. Often, it's sold before he's had the chance to exhibit it, and he's looking forward to having the opportunity to show it to the public.





Moving into a new age of rostering

We're looking to introduce new internal processes to ensure our Roopu is running as efficiently as possible. This includes a planned shift from our existing manual rostering system, to a more streamlined, electronic system that covers all staff nationwide in 2015.

We'd like to ensure the best quality care for our mokopuna as possible, and moving to a modern, digitalised rostering system will help to do just that.

Our AGM was held later than usual this year, on the 18th of December, and reflected on how the Roopu is starting to take positive steps forward financially. Our new board members presented their credentials and we heard from people about how Te Roopu Taurima O Manukau Trust is going. We look forward to a exciting year with the organisation.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

We're taking a nice long break over Christmas to spend time with our families, so our offices will be closed from Wednesday 24th of December 2014 until Wednesday 14th of January 2015. We'll still have kaimahi rostered on at the whare, and a national on-call roster will be published with contact details.

Strategic Plan

Te Roopu Taurima O Manukau Trust's strategic plan has been updated. It showcases our vision, which is to support mokopuna, their whanau and their communities to develop positive lifestyle choices where mokopuna are valued and accepted.

With our core values of whakapono (faith), tumanako (hope), and aroha (love), we have set several strategic goals that aim towards continuous improvement in every service. These goals include:

- **Mokopuna and whanau are rangatira**
We will continue to enhance the current framework for identifying individual mokopuna goals, increase opportunities for mokopuna to volunteer and participate in community activities of their choice, and we will enhance the engagement of whanau in the decision-making process for mokopuna
- **Great service choices**
We will review Te Oranga Pumau/Lifestyle Plan to ensure mokopuna have the appropriate service choice, we will continue to develop the Choice in Community Living model and enhance the residential service model, and will ensure the Trust is up to date with international and national philosophies in regards to service choices
- **Excellent quality**
We will review the current accreditation quality framework and evaluate alternative quality frameworks for measuring quality
- **Capable workforce**
We will recruit, retain and develop the best workforce, and ensure that the values of the Trust and its kaimahi are aligned and actively demonstrated, and we will review current training
- **Strong organisation**
We will maintain a strong kaupapa Maori platform, enhance the Trust's reputation, adopt an integrated approach to the delivery of financial and IT systems, and we will adopt business systems to enhance service delivery.

With these goals guiding us, we look forward to continuous quality improvement in every service, and a stronger organisation.