



ISSUE 3 – NOVEMBER 2014

*Ka pū te ruha ka hao te rangatahi.
E ngā uri o Ngāti Uekaha me
Ngāti Ruapuha hoki e mihi
ana ki a koutou katoa.*

The Hapū Trust wishes you and your whānau a safe and festive season.

VOTING FOR REVIEW OF HAPŪ TRUST



Recently Ruapuha Uekaha Hapū Trust (RUHT) members would have received two documents in the mail. The first document was a letter from the Māori Land Court outlining the review of the RUHT including the background of the RUHT establishment under the Wai 51 claim. The Māori Land Court letter also outlined both the RUHT Trustees proposal and the Tane/Martin proposal. The second document was a voting paper.

The RUHT Trustees proposal enables all Hapū Trust members to have equal entitlement regardless of their age. The RUHT Trustees proposal will allow the Hapū Trust to build up pūtea on behalf of all members with the potential to purchase the Waitomo Glowworm Caves license back from Tourism Holding Limited at an earlier date. The RUHT Trustees proposal will also ensure that members will be in a position take on management positions at the Waitomo Glowworm Caves when the handover takes place. Voting closes 5pm on **Friday 28 November 2014**. Make sure you have your say.

EDUCATION GRANTS AND MATHSBUDDY



Earlier this year in July, the Hapū Trust sought applications for Education Grants and subscriptions for MathsBuddy. We were delighted with the response which gave us an opportunity to support our Hapū Trust members in their studies from our tamariki through to secondary and tertiary students. Some of our future leaders are completing their NCEA, an apprenticeship, Bachelor's degrees and a PhD. The priority for the Hapū Trust is to focus on and strengthen a culture of learning amongst our members. Contact the Hapū Trust if you are interested in MathsBuddy and watch this space for announcements on future rounds of Education Grants.

LIMESTONE, PEOPLE AND TIME MEMORIES CREATED FOR ANOTHER 125 YEARS



In September, Hapū Trust members gathered in Waitomo to help the community celebrate 125 years of guided tours at the Waitomo Glowworm Cave. This was a significant community event that was run in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Tourism Holdings Limited. The Waitomo Glowworm Cave is one of the oldest tourism attractions in New Zealand and the Hapū Trust is proud to have a special kaitiaki role in ensuring that it is well taken care of for future generations to enjoy. A total of 25 events were well attended over the nine days of celebrations.

One of the highlights of the celebrations was the Ngapikowai Event which featured our rangatahi Hapū Trust members. Rangatahi guides Norton Watene and Ethan Kite were official Waitomo Glowworms Cave guides for the day taking Hapū Trust member through the caves. Rangatahi Hapū Trust members were also the hosts for the events, providing food and refreshments for the guests, ensuring all the dignitaries including our kaumātua found their seats and making sure the entertainment was on track. This culminated in all of our rangatahi, kaumātua and whānau members kicking up their heels at the Glowworm Ball where the Waitomo Hotel was decorated as a glowworm grotto.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, participated and attended the celebrations because without you it would not have been the success that it was.



More photos can be viewed in our gallery - www.ruht.co.nz/gallery

SPIRITED ADVENTURER



In each issue of Tomokia the Hapū Trust will highlight our people who are doing interesting and inspiring things with their lives and careers. So if you know of someone please contact us. For this issue of Tomokia we have the pleasure of sharing the journey of 17 year old Kaya Edginton (Great Granddaughter of Koro Totorewa Davis).



I had never sailed a ship before, I had never even seen a ship like the Spirit of New Zealand, and in all honesty the thought of being stuck on a ship with 40 complete strangers terrified me; but there is not one thing I regret about going on the Spirit of Adventure, because it was one of the most amazing things I have ever experienced.

On the 24th of June I travelled to Auckland to begin the ten day voyage called the Spirit of Adventure. When I first reached Auckland Harbour I felt confident and ready for the trip, but when I saw the silhouette of the ship in the harbour, and the groups of other teenagers already aboard I came to the realisation that I was extremely alone, and I was terrified!

There were 40 teenagers who came as complete strangers, and over the journey became a family. With no technology and no communication to home, we all left Auckland with only each other and the sea.

We sailed through the Hauraki Gulf to see and explore amazing places such as Kawau Island, Little Barrier Island, Great Barrier Island, Port Fitzroy, Smokehouse Bay and Waiheke Island. We were able to see some of the most beautiful and pristine places in New Zealand, and I was able to appreciate the beautiful country we live in. Between each destination we learnt how to work and lead each section of the ship and ensure there was smooth sailing. Other responsibilities included cooking, cleaning and completing night watch shifts.

My favourite memory is of the row back to the ship from Smokehouse Bay, it was a pristine and clear night and all stars were visible. When paddling back to the ship, with every paddle stroke the sea would light up from all of the marine phosphorescence on the surface, and it was stunning. It was like rowing through a sea of stars.

This trip really opened my eyes to the opportunities that are available to us if we look. It also opened my eyes to the amounts of extraordinary people that are out in the world. I was able to spend ten days on a ship full of strangers and every single one of them was an amazing person. The trip was beneficial to my leadership skills, my confidence and it also helped me to be more willing to take new risks and opportunities in the future. I learnt that it is easier and far more fun to go out into new opportunities with no walls, an open mind and to completely be myself.

The Spirit of Adventure is a trip I would recommend, and one that I want everyone to experience!

Check out the website for more information

<http://www.spiritofadventure.org.nz/>.





**Me te aroha nui ki a koutou katoa
Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete me te Tau Hou**

Wishing You All a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



KEEPING IN TOUCH IS IMPORTANT



The Hapū Trust has been developing ways to communicate more regularly with members through Tomokia, our Facebook page and our website. We are always open to feedback on ways to improve communications so let us know if your ideas. Until next year whānau. Noho ora mai.

CONTACT – RUAPUHA UEKAHA HAPŪ TRUST

phone: 0800 558 787

email: ruapuhauekaha@gmail.com

web: www.ruht.co.nz

