

ISSUE 5 – JUNE 2015

E ngā mana e ngā uri ō rātou mā e mihi atu ki a tātou katoa i tui tuia kia kotahi i roto i te Hapū o Ruapuha me Uekaha ki Waitomo.

Haere hoki atu koutou ko te hungā kua riro, kei ōna ringāringā hei tiaki i a koutou, Ko Tom Holden ratou ko Haami Pou ko George Kete, ko Pat Kete, ko Kim Wallace, ko Corey Enoka. Moe mai ra koutou i roto i ngā ringāringā a to tātou Matua nui i te Rangi.

Ka hoki mai anō ki te hungā ora arā ngā uri o Ruapuha me Uekaha ki Waitomo e noho ana ki nga takiwā o Taranaki ratou ko Whanganui, ko Rangitikei ko Manawatu hoki. Mā te atua hei manaaki ki a koutou katoa.

Tēnā koutou e te whānau.

THIS ISSUE OF TOMOKIA

Welcome to the fifth issue of Tomokia. Since our last issue in March a lot has been happening. The Hapū Trust's Annual General Meeting took place in May where we remembered 25 years ago in 1990 when the Waitangi Claim for our taongā the Waitomo Glowworm Caves was settled. The banner for this issue of Tomokia remembers the members of our whanau who were involved in that historic event. Now we look forward to what the next 25 years holds for us. The education grants for 2015 have been distributed this month by the Hapū Trust to support and grow our future leaders to bring us through the next 25 years and beyond. As always we are open to feedback on ways to improve communications so let us know your ideas. We hope you enjoy this issue of Tomokia.

EDUCATION GRANTS ROUND FOR 2016

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Education grants for intermediate and secondary students will now be paid before students start school in mid January. The 2016 education grants round for intermediate and secondary students will open **2 November 2015** and close 18 December 2015. Grants will be paid out in mid January 2016.

The 2016 eduction grants round for tertiary and work related studies will open **14 March 2016** and close **22 April 2016**. Grants will be paid out in early May 2016. Regular updates on the education grants will be provided on the Hapū Trust's website and facebook page.



VISITS TO THE GLOWWORM CAVES

Hapū Trust members can visit the Caves for free however recent changes to the Free of Charge Policy means that whanau are now required to make bookings with either the Trust Administrator or Trust Secretary. Contact details are:

Trust Administrator – phone: 0800 525 626; email: ruapuhauekaha@gmail.com

Trust Secretary - phone: 0800 558 787

Remember whanau, free of charge entry is for the benefit of Hapu Trust members (and spouses). It is not intended for friends or groups that Hapū Trust members may affiliate to including sports teams and schools. Here are the guidelines when planning a visit to the Caves.

Group visits of 10 or more people must be organised outside the busiest periods - before 10am and after 2pm and bookings must be made at least 3 days in advance of the intended visit.

Groups of 30 or more people will be scheduled so that the daily operations of the Caves are not interrupted. Times will be arranged by the Reservations Team at the Caves.

Groups of less than 10 people may visit the Caves throughout the day but are encouraged to visit outside of peak hours. Peak hours are between 10am and 2pm.

RUHT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The RUHT Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2015 took place at Tokikapu Marae, Waitomo on 30 May 2015 with approximately 80 people attending the hui. The Chairperson, Peter Douglas reported on the progress of the Hapū Trust since the 1990 Waitangi Tribunal claim settlement including an update on the Hapū Trust review by the Māori Land Court. Peter also reported on the \$1 million endowment fund that has been set aside for education grants along with the principles that have been set by the education committee to guide the Hapū Trust's administration of education grants for Hapū Trust members. Steve Keung presented the financial statements and information relating to the investment portfolio. If you would like further information relating to the AGM Peter and Steve's presentations they can be viewed on the Hapū Trust website. Electronic copies of the Annual Report are also available on the website and hard copies of the Annual Report can be obtained by contacting the Trust's Administrator.

MANIAPOTO TRUST BOARD ELECTIONS

Voting for the Maniapoto Trust Board elections closed on June 19 and the results are out. We thought we would publish the results in Tomokia because a lot of our whanau live outside of Ngati Maniapoto and we thought it would be a good way to update whanau on the new Trustees.

1,233

1,190

1.072

1.028

1,002 979

Votes Received

Election of SIX (6) Trustees Candidate

PUTARANUI, Haylee IKIN, Keith TAKIARI-BRAME, Bella TE KANAWA, Riria (Missy) TE KANAWA, Dan WETERE, Rongo H

For more information on the Maniapoto Trust Board visit http://www.maniapoto.iwi.nz/.







Since 2006 the Ruapuha Uekaha Hapū Trust (RUHT) has been the subject of review applications before the Māori Land Court. These applications relate to the future administration of Hauturu East 8 which was vested in the RUHT as part of the Wai 51 settlement between the Hapū of Ruapuha and Uekaha and the Crown in 1990. Hauturu East 8 is Māori freehold land and forms the core caves area at Waitomo.

Application A20060002649 was filed by Norman Tane and application A20060002691 was filed by Adrian Martin. Application A20060026843 was filed by the Trustees of the RUHT.

The applications seek a review of the RUHT under Part 12 of Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 and have been heard together by the Māori Land Court. There was an initial hearing before Judge Milroy in October 2007 followed by appeals to the Māori Appellate Court which released its reserved decision in November 2010.

The combined effect of the Māori Appellate Court's decision and associated directions of Judge Milroy were the two consultation hui with beneficiaries held at Te Tokanganui-a-Noho on 13 April 2013 and 2 August 2015. At these consultation hui the RUHT and Tane/Martin presented their proposals for the future administration of the RUHT.

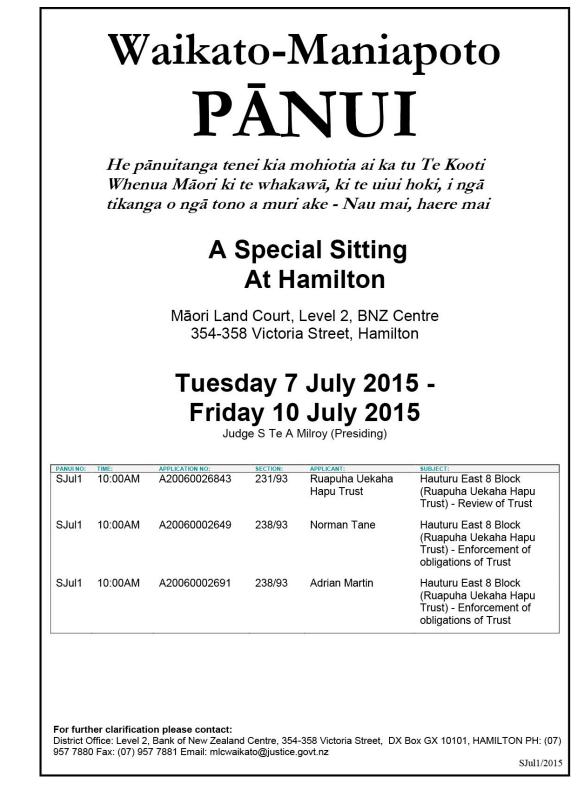
In order to determine support for these proposals amongst the beneficiaries Judge Milroy directed that following the second consultation hui a postal vote be conducted by the Māori Land Court.

In the postal vote Option 1 was the RUHT proposal for the RUHT to remain as an ahu whenua Trust where all beneficiaries would have an equal entitlement and the Trustees would retain discretion over the distribution of Trust revenue. Option 2 was the Tane/Martin proposal which sought to change the beneficial entitlement of the beneficiaries based on the shareholdings of the 22 original owners of Hauturu East 8. Tane/Martin proposed a mandatory distribution of 80% of the income of the RUHT to be distributed unequally amongst the beneficiaries.

The voting papers were circulated to the beneficiaries on 22 October 2014 and voting closed on 28 November 2014. The Māori Land Court subsequently released the results of the postal vote which were 254 in favour of Option 1 and 190 in favour of Option 2. Accordingly, a clear majority of the beneficiaries voted in favour of the RUHT's proposal.

Judge Milroy has now directed a final hearing on the applications which will take place in Hamilton between 7 and 10 July 2015. The parties have filed supplementary evidence which will be presented at the final hearing along with closing legal submissions. It is expected that Judge Milroy will reserve her decision.

At the hearing the RUHT will be seeking a direction from the Māori Land Court that there is not a sufficient degree of support for Option 2 amongst the beneficiaries and that the Tane/ Martin applications be dismissed. The RUHT will seek a further direction that the RUHT remain as an ahu whenua Trust and that the Trustees consult with the beneficiaries on the development of a new Trust order along the lines proposed by the RUHT at the consultation hui.



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 your ideas. Until next time whānau. Noho ora mai.

CONTACT – RUAPUHA UEKAHA HAPŪ TRUST

email: ruapuhauekaha@gmail.com web: www.ruht.co.nz

For registrations, education grants and cave bookings please contact the Trust Administrator phone: 0800 525 626. For all other matters contact the Trust Secretary phone: 0800 558 787.