

Eke Pāruru

The Ngāti Rārua Atiawa Iwi Trust Pānui

E te whānau whanui o Ngāti Rārua me Te Atiawa ki Motueka, tena koutou katoa.

Ohu Maatu 2014 underway

To ensure our mahi builds on the momentum created by our September hui, NRAIT has established a team to plan the programme for next year's Ohu Maatu.

The development team is: Joy Shorrock, Ropata Taylor, Mereama Chase, Aneika Young, Rima Piggott, Donna McLeod, Talei Morrison and Miriana Stephens.



Development Team members, Rōpata Taylor, Joy Shorrock & Mereama Chase

The team includes our ahi kaa and taurahere, as well as our Trustees, to ensure we get a wide range of perspectives and make it a hui that everyone will enjoy.

On 29 November some of the team met to start working up a programme for next year. This will reflect all the feedback and evaluations received from this year's hui, but if you have more ideas that you'd like to put

up for consideration, please email us or send us a message on Facebook.

Save the date

In 2014 Ohu Maatu and our Annual General Meeting will come together in an exciting three day programme over Easter (18 – 20 April 2014), so mark your calendars now.

There will be plenty of whānau time, lots of activities for tamariki, and special sessions run for and by our rangatahi. We'll also have tours of some of our most significant sites, along with panel discussions and forums around our stories and tikanga. And, as always, there'll be great kai, music and plenty of fun.

Meri Kirihimete

2013 has been a big year of progress for NRAIT, with Ohu Maatu being a memorable milestone. We would like to thank our owners for their support and participation, and we look forward to our next big hui - the AGM - in April 2014.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer holiday and hope that Christmas brings you together with loved ones and special memories.

Ngā mihi o te tau hou

From the team at NRAIT



A very Meri Kirihimete from the team at NRAIT. Top: Nichola Dixon and Renee Thomas. Bottom: Ivan Tava and John Charleton.

Spotlight

Funding for all owners

After receiving a lot of valuable feedback from owners on our scholarship and grant programme, we've made a few changes:

- There are now two application periods for scholarships – closing at the end of April and October. Grants are available year round and applications are reviewed each month.
- Grant funding has been pooled to fund applications for all owners requiring assistance with secondary school, tertiary and adult education, and sports and cultural activities.
- New Kip McGrath (coaching) grants for 10 weeks of tuition are now available for NCEA students.

The numbers

NRAIT has provided financial support for education, sports and cultural activities since **1996** with a total distribution of **\$309k**, which has funded **234** scholarships and grants awarded across **140** individuals.

Owners have access to a pool of **\$45k** each year across education, sporting and cultural activities, however over the last **4** years an average of only **\$17k** has been granted each year, due to low numbers of applications.

So apply now!!!

1. Login to our website or signup with your owner registration number.
2. Visit the Education page – located under Member Benefits – on the website.
3. Select which type of grant or scholarship you'd like to apply for.
4. Fill in the required details, save your application to complete later or submit it to NRAIT for review.
5. If you need help or more information, call Nichola on 03 548 0770.

Healing Waters

If you're feeling rundown in the lead-up to Christmas and in need of some spiritual and physical refreshment, you couldn't do better than to visit and bathe in the healing waters of the Riuwaka River.

Te Puna (meaning spring of water) o Riuwaka is where the northern branch of the Riuwaka River rises from caverns deep below the Takaka Hill. The water, as pure as Pupu Springs, has run its course through marble rocks and passages down to the foot of the hill to spring out into a deep, crystal-clear pool surrounded by huge moss-covered marble boulders and towering ancient trees. The river tumbles on down the hill through a series of pools, including the stunning Crystal Pool.



Te Puna o Riuwaka (the Riuwaka Resurgence) is wahi tapu for our people, a sacred, supernatural place where our tupuna would come to cleanse and heal their bodies and sustain their spirits. Many of our tupuna lived beside the Riuwaka River, including a revered tohunga (expert/priest), named Tamati Parana, who made his tūāhu (sacred place) near the healing white stones of these waters.



The entrance to the 15 minute walk to Te Puna o Riuwaka is marked by a beautiful carved waharoa (gateway) depicting Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Maui on the right, Ngāti Rārua on the left. The figurehead at the top, gazing into the distance, is Hui Te Rangiora, the great explorer who is believed to have rested here during an epic voyage from Rarotonga that took him to Antarctica around 650AD.

Planning a visit to Te Puna o Riuwaka? Take SH60 from Riuwaka up the Takaka Hill and at 5km take the left fork in the road, signposted to the Resurgence. Drive another 7km alongside the river and you'll come to a carpark and picnic area and find our beautiful waharoa at the start of the short (7 minute) walk to Te Puna o Riuwaka. If you're planning a plunge in the Crystal Pool, be warned: it's a very bracing 11 degrees!



  Share this with your friends on Facebook by clicking these buttons at the bottom of this story on our website.

New on our website

- > [Update on Tailah Love's success](#)
- > [Healing Waters](#)
- > [Board blog on December Board hui](#)

Staying in touch

-  www.nrait.co.nz
-  facebook.com/ohumaatu
-  03 548 0770
-  info@nrait.co.nz
-  PO Box 13, Nelson

Keeping up with you

Keeping up with the way people communicate is important in every organisation and especially in ours, with owners located all over the country and around the world. Social media, email and other online communications can also save us all a lot of time, money and paper.

In line with this, NRAIT is gradually moving to become a more 'digital' organisation. We'll start next year with a campaign to get more of your email addresses so you can be part of the transition.

What's happened so far?

- Built a brand new, fit-for-purpose website

- Increased our activity and engagement on Facebook
- Introduced two new blogs, one for Te Whanake and the other for the Board
- Started a short video media collection – see vimeo.com/user21172167

What's happening next year?

- Our panui will become electronic and interactive
- Hui and other events will use electronic invitations and registrations
- Our Board members will start receiving their papers electronically
- We'll join other social media platforms that you want us on.



Together we grow stronger

 *Ohu Maatu*