

Nga Taonga o NgaiTakoto

Pepi of the Month, Each issue we feature our babies of NgaiTakoto.

This month we welcome Analia-Paige Karaka



Anālia-Paige Evangeline Matarua Takirau Karaka

Born: 03/12/2017

Weight: 8.10lbs

Parents: Koropeke Karaka & Marcia

Looker

Ko Waimanoni te Marae

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Rangatahi Inspiration

Last year Kaitaia Primary held their prize giving. One of the awards for the night was for the Wrights Cup, a prestigious award where a student is recognised for overall achievement in Academic excellence. This was awarded to Kingi Heiwari Karira Thomas of NgaiTakoto.

His parents describe him as “laid back, cheeky, lovable, kind, clever little tutu”. He likes to laugh a lot, adds his mum and a few of his favourite quotes are “I love you dad” and “Mum, don’t stress”, laughs his mum.

He is one of five children to Apikera and Kingi Thomas. His parents say that Kingi has been put up a class, so is still achieving at a high level (with tamariki a year older than he).

His hobbies include anything with his whanau and food, He enjoys reading and laughing and keeping healthy through weightlifting, cross fit and boxing.

A very bright future ahead of you Kingi, we look forward to watching you grow and continue to inspire your peers.



A Twenty-Year Milestone

A Twenty-year milestone was celebrated over a two-day weekend at the NgāiTakoto Sweetwater Festival. In 1997 the NgaiTakoto negotiation team set upon a journey of submitting a submission to the Waitangi Tribunal in what would be their twenty year vision, fast forward twenty years and those visions are now the foundation for future generation to now envision the next twenty years and what better way to celebrate that milestone by then welcoming Whanau near and far to what was NgāiTakoto's 5th Sweetwater festival.

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rangianiwaniwa hosted this year's powhiri that included our Whanau that live abroad. NgāiTakoto Australia, made up of delegates from all states in Australia fundraised to bring home whanau from their respective states for what would be a week of educating, connecting and experiencing a taste of home. For some, it was a first time opportunity to participate and enjoy the festival.

Marae battled the courts in a mixture of Basketball games that catered to Tamariki, Rangatahi and Pakeke. A time to Whanaungatanga and connect back to their roots is always a key reference as to why Whanau support the kaupapa.

Saturday's rain showers didn't stop our whanau getting down and dirty in the touch tournament, with that NgāiTakoto competitiveness sure shinning through. Waimanoni Maraе taking out the touch tournament with a good lead ahead of our other Maraе whanau, bringing their best players to the field in what was a action-packed two hours.

During the break we had our Pioke Pēpi on the field enjoying a game of ripper rugby, the wet fields made for some good fun in the mud as well. The fields flashed with bright colours in full support representing as whanau combatted across those fields representing their Maraе and wow was that a sight to see. Below are samples of the uniform designs showcased at the festival and exclusive to the NgāiTakoto Sweetwater Festival.





A full-catered lunch awaited whanau as they all headed to Lake Ngātu for what would be the second venue of the day and playing host to the final leg of the sporting activities. Top-town was a first for the festival and a change that the festival committee saw would change things up for participants. Curious looks adorned the faces of whanau as activities were setup, Raft building, plank races and tug-o-war were all but part of the amusement that was shared across all the Marae as each Roopu battled against each other using a point system to secure the top spots. Activities challenged areas of strength, strategizing, and supporting each other all while having fun and they did just that! The roar of whanau laughter echoed across the lake.

Constructing a raft to sail around the buoy in the lake saw Mahimaru Marae take lead in what was a very well constructed raft, some rafts fell apart, while others weren't able to keep up with the strokes of the Mahimaru man-power. This power on the water however wasn't enough to beat Te Paa a Parore back on shore, it was a muscle-fuelled game of tug-o-war! And did they sure show were power lies, the sheer strength of their roopu gave them the winning spot of the Tug-o-war activity.

Top-town will definitely be kept in the books as the opportunity to have a good laugh amongst whanau was one to remember. The awards dinner signaled a closing to the festival with recipients receiving awards that recognise the outstanding achievements across a range of areas that are representative of the successes of our NgāiTakoto whanau. Nominations are open yearly, all information about the awards can be found on the application, which can be obtained through Te Runanga o NgaiTakoto

The NgāiTakoto Sweetwater Festival overall winner by point system went to Mahimaru Marae, which saw their roopu win a Spit-roast machine for their Marae, an initiative by the festival committee that would see roopu win resources to support their Marae. We congratulate Mahimaru Marae on their winning, we also thank all those whanau from Te Paa a Parore, Waimanoni and Wharemaru o Kaimaumau who all participated and continue to make the festival what it is, we look forward to hosting more whanau at the next NgāiTakoto Sweetwater Festival 2019!

Achievements Awards For 2017:
Sweetwater Festival Overall Winner:
Mahimaru Marae

Sportsmen Of The Year:
Giovanni Kubik

Sportswomen Of The Year:
Akira McCormack

Educational Award:
Te Irirangi Tawhara

Cultural and Arts Award:
Maori Erstich

*Nomination forms are available on request

Feedback:
What would you like to see at the next festival?
Sports? Stalls? Entertainment?

Email your feedback to:
admin@ngaitakotoiwi.co.nz

Te Paa a Parore



Marae Kokonga

The Paa A Parore Marae has undergone recent upgrades to the Marae, which saw the toilet block getting a revamp alongside a new oven for the kitchen. With help from Te Runanga o NgaiTakoto the committee have also introduced technology as part of their communications strategy, Te Paa a Parore committee say it will be used to help with the committee business and preserving the old Marae photos and Records. The committee believe by the end of 2018 they will have set up a way for Whanau to send in photos where it will be shared on a platform that is being designed.

The committee has also enforced a Alcohol, Smoke and Drug Free Marae, with signs that have been erected all around. Further developments and ideas are in the plans for 2018 with free WIFI Access and the purchase of a defibrillator.

Wharemaru O Kaimaumau



Wharemaru O Kaimaumau Marae has undergone extensive renovations over the last year to the existing building that resides on the whenua in Kaimaumau. With assistance from Te Runanga o NgaiTakoto, An ablution block has been completed in recent weeks to add further extension to the Marae.

Inside the Marae new flooring, a full relining of the walls and ceiling has also been completed to make way for the fitting out of new kitchen facilities. The new upgrade has many benefits to the whanau of Wharemaru Marae and will allow for a lot more opportunities.

Waimanoni



Waimanoni Marae committee have allowed for the use of bare land located behind the Marae to be transformed into a Nursery that has been supported by our Dune Lakes Project.

Over the last month work has been undertaken to prepare the land for the erection of the Dune Lake Nursery, which will house over 10,000 plants that have been propagated as part of the 2-year environmental course that that involves NgaiTakoto and Te Aupouri. These plants will be used as part of the restoration plan and plant out Dune Lakes within the respective Iwi spaces as well as create job opportunities in the near future.