

Nga Taonga o NgaiTakoto
Pepi of the Month, Each issue we feature our
babies of NgaiTakoto.
This month we welcome Mia Leaf



Mia Kotahi Leaf

Born: 03/01/2017
Weight: 7lbz 15oz, 52cm
Parents: Hine & Ian Leaf

Ko Waimanoni raua ko Mahimaru toku Marae

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50 Years of Service

Early this year Mothers Union duo Myra Berghan and Poro Paraone celebrated 50 years of service to the Mothers Union New Zealand in the Anglican Province of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

The celebrants were presented their Tohu following a Sunday Service at Matarau Church in Awanui in February.

We caught up with Myra at her home in Awanui, who joined the Mothers Union in 1968, she remembers this well as she recalls Rev. Waha Tauhara as being priest at the time. Prior to joining, Myra was already attending the meetings, which she enjoyed alongside her mother and mother-in-law.

During her time, she was made Kai Karakia, she also took services in the homes and hospitals for those that were unwell. Her service to others shows through the many photographs and medals adorned on the walls of her living room

Poro and Myra are two of six members still alive today, as they celebrate this milestone we think of the many achievements along the way, we express our gratitude towards these two Kuia for their continued service to others.





Dune Lakes Project

Nga Roto Tapokapoka

With the launch of the Dune Lakes project May 1, trainees have started their 2-year Horticulture studies that have seen some awesome outcomes so far.

Teams study Monday to Wednesday with NorthTec, with a x2 day practical component Thursday – Friday, they are involved with a range of community projects that enable them to experience cultural/identity connect, this is the Iwi's contribution to giving teams a grounded/rounded approach to life. These opportunities not only help to give back to the community but make them part of the community.

This strategy develops a unique approach to a Te Hiku-wide collective approach to achieving key strategic objectives of tribal identity and integrity and to grow the tribal primary industrial estates, and the opportunities (such as employment) that come with those industries. It respects and recognises the special inherent relationship that Te Hiku Iwi have with the land and environment as mana tangata, mana whenua, mana moana and is designed to enhance iwi participation and leadership in resource and environmental management, whilst developing ourselves, and the region, economically.

This strategy is only one part of the many streams (that are connected) that will transition the iwi membership into the future management of themselves, as they move forward to protect and grow the future economies of Iwi, and their people, in their respective rohe, whilst contributing too, and growing, the Northland economy overall.

The connectedness of this strategy is to link post treaty settlement outcomes into a workforce capability exercise, building on the Te Hiku Social Accord Strategy for Economic development and Social Change in the areas of Primary Industry, i.e. Red Meat Strategy (Beef / Lamb), Horticulture, Tourism, Forestry, Fisheries, Small Business development, linking Te Hiku to the Northland Regional Economic Strategy and further, linking into the He Kai Kei Aku Ringa (National - Crown – Iwi Economic Strategy). It is anticipated that an increased investment in education and training i.e. *"Cradle to Career Strategy"* will facilitate collaboration, collective effort and joint investment whilst building the capability of our Whanau and Hapu, Iwi and community members to participate.

If you are interested in joining our two-year project, please enquire with our office 0508 TAKOTO (825686) open to Far North residents.



Community Projects

Puna Reo / Whanau Hub – NgaiTakoto

Tremendous amounts of work have gone into the renovations of two empty classrooms in Awanui Primary School – The preparation of both rooms are for the establishment of a Puna Reo and Whanau Hub which will enable parents to up-skill while their children are in the adjacent room, the Puna will also allow smooth transition into the Primary School.



Renovations – Wharemaru Marae

Wharemaru Marae are in the process of renovating their Marae, project teams have assisted with both inside and outside the building - staining the deck and gutting the inside in preparation for insulation and relining the walls.



Restoration – Te Matarau Church

Project teams have been working on a restoration plan for the Church / Urupa, this includes painting fences, headstone restoration and also ground / building maintenance.

The power company had also condemned the power lines attached to the Church due to overgrowth of Elephant grass that was present, teams removed the Elephant grass that had become a hazard and helped to lay underground cables to the Church.



He Manawa Pioke – “Heart of the Shark”

On June 27, NgaiTakoto Runanga Launched He Manawa Pioke, “Heart of the Shark” Puna Reo Play group as part of NgaiTakoto’s “Cradle to Career Strategy.

The Puna is an initiative that hopes to help increase enrollments into Awanui Primary School and make transitioning from Playgroup that little bit easier for Tamariki. Based on the Awanui School grounds in what use to be an empty classroom, the room now boasts vibrant colours, an abundance of creativity areas and plenty of resources to help parents engage with their Tamariki’s learning, an area for mums with new bubs and a kitchen is also made handy to all who attend. Rich History also lines the walls that tell stories of NgaiTakoto whakapapa and knowledge.

The Puna is currently operating every Tuesday and Thursday 10am – 2pm and is Co-ordinated by Betty Harris (Kemp) of Mahimaru. It is also forms part of the Whanau Hub that is being established in the adjacent room, here parents will be able to utilize the room to up-skill and enroll in programs while their Tamariki are creating and exploring their surroundings next door.

NgaiTakoto Runanga have also launched the Kura packs into Awanui, Waiharara, & Rangaunu Kohanga Reo this consists of a Backpack, Drink Bottle, Lunchbox and also *Ko Wai Au* book which tells the NgaiTakoto stories and will be made available to Tamariki who are registered with NgaiTakoto Runanga.

