



Ngā Wai Karere o Rotomā

SEPTEMBER 2019





Tēnā rā tātou, e noho ana, i raro i tō tātou maunga a Matawhaura, arā, ki a tātou ngā uri o te whenua o te Rotomā, nei rā ka mihi.



Te Poroa Malcolm

As we reflect on the past few months my thoughts go to our loved ones who have passed. The Rotomā No.1 Committee of Management acknowledges the recent passing of Te Poroa Malcolm and his leadership and direction during his 30 years as Chairman of the Rotomā No.1 Incorporation. Te Poroa and the many committee members during his time laid the foundations for what we have been able to build in recent years. His parting is a huge loss not only for Ngāti Pikiao and Te Arawa but also for te ao Māori.

E te Pāpā te waha pūwherowhero o te kupu, he mahi tātangi koroki a Tāne, ka whitikina i te mātauranga mō tō iwi, he mihi matakoro ki a koe. Kua para te huarahi, mā mātou e whai atu. Nō reira, e Pā, hoki atu ki tō hoa rangatira, ki a rātou mā ōu kuia, ōu koroua, rātou e whanga mai ana mōu. Moe mai rā, moe mai rā, e oki.

It is always a privilege and honour to see our whānau succeeding and this newsletter has a clear focus on our people. Again, our ability to provide opportunities for whānau is due to the hard work of the many committee members and their contributions to our vision

‘kia mau ki te whenua, hei oranga mō te iwi’

This is our second newsletter to update whānau on some of the projects and kaupapa we have mentioned in our annual report.

Since 2014, the Committee has recommended generous distributions for our shareholders to consider and approve.

This has been primarily driven by the cash flows we have received from the Rotomā Forest harvest. Our intention is to provide similar recommendations for the next 20 years.

For the committee a major focus will be the completion of the Arawa street property re-development. Construction will commence at the end of this year with the demolition of the current building and the aim of taking possession of the new building in November 2020. I am sure there will be opportunities for whānau to gain employment during the construction phases and we will keep our shareholders and beneficiaries informed through our website pānui page and other associated websites.

Last year, whānau requested that Rotomā look specifically at the health and well-being of our kaumātua and housing. Finding solutions to these two kaupapa requires more resources than is within Rotomā’s capability to provide currently. It is important that Rotomā, along with our other trusts and incorporations begin working collectively and collaboratively. In recent years Eva Moke, Joyce Gardiner and the late Bruno Gardiner, conducted surveys with our kaumātua, identifying some of their immediate needs. After reviewing these results and seeing that we are owners in similar blocks across Ngāti Tamateatutahi and Ngāti Kawiti whenua, it makes sense that we sit down, talk and work collaboratively with our neighbouring entities to progress kaupapa, like this. A process has already started with our fellow entities, to see if we can meet in a more formal way to discuss various opportunities to work together.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge uncle Te Poroa for his many years supporting me and many other committee members of the Incorporation. Your tireless commitment and passion for education and mātauranga Māori exemplified in your doctorate thesis being awarded at the age of 80. Nō reira e Te Poroa, takoto, takoto, moe mai rā.

Nei rā te mihi ki a tātou katoa.

Nelson Meha
CHAIRMAN

Rotomā No.1 Incorporation

Cousins Internship

Kalia Kingi



A little outside more traditional investments Rotomā has invested in an upcoming movie Cousins. Cousins is a story written by Patricia Grace about three Māori girls and their lives from young tamariki to adulthood and spans a 50-year period.

One of the most exciting aspects of this film is that it will be filmed around Rotoiti and will feature many of our whānau. Another key aspect of the investment is that we have been able to provide internships to two of our beneficiaries, Rakaia Te Rangi Trotman and Kalia Kingi.

We caught up with Kalia recently and managed to get her to write a small update about her time thus far as part of the movie production team.

Kalia Kingi

Ko Kalia Kararaina Kingi ahau. I whakapapa back to Te Arawa through both of my parents, Ngāti Pikiao through my father Toby Kingi and Ngāti Kea Ngāti Tuara through my mother Horahuia Hare. On my mother's side, I also whakapapa to Ngāi Tūhoe, Ngāti Haka-Patuheuheu. I am originally from Rotoiti, but I have been residing in Wellington since the beginning of 2018.

My favourite movie would be the film, "What We Do in the Shadows" directed and written by Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi. I have chosen this particular film as it is my "comfort film", it is the film that when I often feel as if the world is too much and I need a lighthearted film to cheer up my spirits, it is the movie that I turn to in times of distress. I am able to watch it millions of times, and it still feels like the first time I have watched it. The ability to make the audience fall in love every single time they watch it can be rare, but Clement and Waititi do it humorously. I adore every aspect of the film, its quirky one-liners, the authenticity behind the character "Stu Rutherford" and its fixation on Wellington, a city that I am very fond of, is why What We Do in the Shadows is my favourite film.

I am currently a second-year student at Victoria University of Wellington studying a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Film and Education with a minor in Music Studies. Film is a passion of mine and ever since I was a child I was always drawn to films and the stories of the characters within the films.



Kalia Kingi

It wasn't until my grandmother's death in late 2017, that I realised the brevity of life, and with this I began to encourage myself to follow my dreams of working in the film industry.

I decided that in order to be able to work in the film industry it was imperative that I learned as much as I possibly could. However, there is only so much film theory that a person can study. So the opportunity to be able to witness and to contribute to the filming of "Cousins" has been priceless. To be able to learn from industry professionals such as Ainsley Gardiner, and to be a part of a predominantly Māori film set that also values Māoritanga itself is an experience that I could only dream of being a part of.

The internship is going amazing so far, it's incredibly enjoyable and fast-paced so everything goes so fast before you even notice that it's happened.

There have been so many incredibly rewarding things that I have learnt from the internship, but I think the top three most rewarding things I have learnt are; the ability to be able to work strongly in a team, problem solving skills and flexibility/adaptability.

There have been so many amazing things about the internship but I think my two favourite things have been; being able to meet so many amazing, creative and experienced people who work in the film industry and being fortunate enough to be able to look at the different departments in the industry and see how they operate first-hand.

Thank you whānau for this life changing opportunity.



In 2018, Rotomā No.1 invested in a Dairy factory development now known as Waiū. This investment saw several Māori entities collaborate to take a 66% ownership stake with Cedenco, a specialty foods producer based in Japan, taking the remainder.

The partnership of 10 Māori entities which includes Rotoiti 15 and Ngāti Mākino placed a significant emphasis on employment opportunities for owners and between our entities we can say we have benefitted greatly with a number of our whānau having gained permanent jobs within the now fully operational dairy plant.

Rotomā No.1 has invested \$1 million into this development and whilst in time the Incorporation will gain financially from this investment the impact of employment is a far greater outcome that will continue to have a positive benefits for those of our whānau who have found employment and their families.

On a recent visit to the Waiū site (31 July, 2019), I was fortunate to catch up with Merrill Flemming the production Manager at Waiū and owner in Rotomā No.1 and Rotoiti 15.

Neville: What made you move from Miraka to Waiū?

Merrill: I wanted to move closer to home. I have family land in Tikitere, no-one has been there for the last 30 years, so I am building a place there at the moment so moving home was a key motivator.

Neville: Were you the Production Manager at Miraka?

Merrill: Yes, a similar role. Basically, during this development I've been a second pair of eyes and to be involved in a Dairy project that has brought me closer to home was pretty hard to turn down.

Neville: Does Waiū do dry powder products as well?

Merrill: Yes we do your normal milk products like whole milk powder, skim milk powder, we are doing the same except the change is MPC or what we call Milk Protein Concentrate, it's protein powder, all the muscle powders our Pīkiao league boys apparently buy.

Neville: What were some of the challenges setting up Waiū?

Merrill: Similar challenges to what we had at Miraka, a distinct difference here will be the unique employment criteria's, we are looking at employing within this factory. Like any industry is a bit hard to get people with the skill levels required to work in this industry. I assumed it was going to be hard to get that skill level within the group. But you kind of want to have half and half. Half that have the skills and the other half to just have positive attitudes. I think there is a lot of expectations as well, of how the whole factory has

run from when I started in the industry a couple of years ago, like the internship and the pre-courses that have helped shape our whānau here at Waiū. I am confident the employment outcomes are going to be good for our whānau.

Neville: When will the site be fully operational?

Merrill: We are near the finishing now, by the end of the week. To be realistic the expectations of finishing the project in 10 months was a big call. I don't know who set those expectations, but I never thought we would get to where we are in the time frame that was set. This is a huge accomplishment. I am pretty sure the pressure to get this done was immense, it took Miraka 1 year and a half at least and it's basically the same size plant. They have done really well to get it done in the timeframe, overall you have invested in a good plant, I have been around in Fontera plants and I have travelled around with Fontera, that was one of my roles as a on job assessor, trainer and this is as good as any plant I've walked into.

Neville: How did you get into the industry?

Merrill: I started off in the sawmill at Red Stag when I left Lakes High. All my family went into the saw-mill so I just followed through. Within a couple of years, I was the youngest shift manager. I was only 18 years old. I started off at the Red Stag, and when we have family get together's and talk about the wood, timber and how much production they could get through and I thought I want a change from this. So I went to University. I got a bit of information that I needed to get into Fontera. A bit of food science and computing. I did a computer course and carried on from there. Through Fontera I ended up completing my Diploma in Dairy Technology. My grandmother was a trustee in Tuaropaki so that's how the Miraka side came in. She said you are into Dairy, you are coming to work for us. That was that. I covered as General Manager at Miraka for a small stint.

Neville: What about our Pīkiao whānau?

Merrill: The dynamics of the team that we put together was like a whānau based, it's like working at the Marae, people have their own individual jobs, you have people in leadership and that's how I like to run the factories, my factories anyway.

Our Pīkiao entities are well represented in this plant with Debbie Griffin, Rehutai Haimona, Pineaha Smith and Awhi Awhimate also recently employed at the Waiū plant.

At the time of writing this report the plant was working through a commissioning process and the board of directors had approved an up-grade to the plant and will be adding a butter production operation within the next year. We will keep people posted should any further employment opportunities arise.



“The dynamics of the team that we put together was like a whānau based, it’s like working at the Marae, people have their own individual jobs, you have people in leadership and that’s how I like to run the factories, my factories anyway.”

- Merrill Flemming



Scholarship Recipient 2019

Matangireia Yates Francis



The Incorporation is proud to announce Matangireia Yates Francis as the recipient for this year's scholarship. One of our first kura graduates to do so. Matangi has enrolled to complete his Masters in Architectural Design in 2020. He has been an inspiration for many of our Kura boys and a staunch supporter of our kapa Te Hikuwai. Matangi in an interview shares his whakaaro of his educational journey and aspirations.

Tōku reo, tōku pūmau, tōku timatatanga, tōku whakamutunga, tōku whare tangata.

Ko tōku hononga ki te ao Māori, kei roto i te oranga o tōku ū ki tōku mana Māori motuhake. Kua tipu ake au i raro i te maru o tō tātou ao Māori, me ōna tikanga, kawa me ngā korero o tō tātou mātua tipuna. Koinei nga pūtake e ora ai i roto i ōku whāinga huhua, kia tutuki i ōku wawata.

Tētahi tino āhuetanga e ora tonu ai tōku ao Māori, koia tenei te kapa haka. Ko ngā hua o te kapa haka, ka āhei au ki te hoki atu ki te kāinga ki tōku waka o Te Arawa, ki Rotorua, noho tahi ai ki ōku marae tokomaha kei Rotoiti, me ōku mātua, teina, karangamaha. Kei reira, kōrero tahi, wānanga tahi i raro i ngā rekereke o ōku pakeke, kōeke. Arā ko ngā kōrero me ngā waiata o tō tātou mātua tipuna, ara ake ngā hua o tōku mātauranga Māori, orangatanga Māori. Koia nei anō ngā hua kei waenga i ōku mahi katoa, ahakoa rō mahi toi, mahi hoahoa (art, design), te whakapakari tinana, te kapa haka, anō hoki kei roto i ōku whāinga katoa i tēnei ao hurihuri, i tēnei ao taketake.

Ko ōku tino wawata e whāia ana e au kei roto i ngā mahi toi, me ngā mahi hoahoa anō hoki. Kei roto i ēnei tū āhuetanga ka āhei au ki te hoki ki aku hāpori Māori, arā hoki ngā hāpori Māori katoa huri noa o Aotearoa. Ki reira whakatau i ōku whāinga, wawata me ōku mātauranga ki waenga i a rātou kia whakapuaki i tō tātou whare Māori, wāhi Māori. Ko te wawata kia whakamenomeno i tō tātou ao Māori ki roto i tēnei ao tūroa i waenga i ōku mahi.

My connection to te ao Māori is sustained by my commitment to my mana Māori motuhake.



Matangireia Yates Francis

I have grown up with the guidance and protection of te ao Māori, our tikanga, kawa and the kōrero of our mātua tipuna. These are the things that will thrive in my various pursuits and enable me to fulfil my aspirations.

One particular aspect that sustains te ao Māori is kapa haka. The benefits of kapa haka are that I am able to go home to Te Arawa, to Rotorua, and have noho on my various Rotoiti marae with my parents, my siblings and cousins. There to sit and wānanga at the feet of my pakeke and kōeke. There will be the kōrero and waiata of our mātua tipuna, an abundance of mātauranga and orangatanga Māori. These are aspects I take into whatever I do in this world, whether it be art and design, sports and fitness, kapa haka, and also any other future pursuits.

I am currently studying in the field of art and design. This provides me another avenue to work within Māori communities, my own and other Māori communities all around Aotearoa, where I can use my mātauranga to give unique expression to Māori buildings and places. I aspire to use my work to display the beauty of te ao Māori to the world.

E te kōmiti whakahaere o Rotomā, tēnā koutou katoa.

Ngāti Pikiao Ahurei 2019

29th September 2019 - 5th Competition



Ka tipu ake te huatau

Ka rere tonu te āweko kia whakatū te ope hakahaka

Ngā ringa mau ki te hoe o kawenga

Huia te ihu o taku waka ki ngā parenga o te Hui Ahurei

Ki te Rotowhāiti tau ana hā!

I tēnei mārama ka eke anō ngā marae me ngā hapū o Ngāti Pikiao ki te kaupapa whakaharahara e mōhiotia ana e tātou ko te Ahurei o Pikiao. Me hoki mahara tātou ki a rātou te kaupapa ka puawai te tini, me te mano o Pikiao hei whakanui i te kaupapa me ngā mahi a rēhia, koutou e noho mai rā i te oranga mutunga kore, koutou e moe, e moe, okioki e. Hoki kōmuri ana ōku whakaaro ki ngā roopu kapa haka, me ngā toki kawē i te kaupapa, kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui koutou.

On the 29th of September, Ngāti Pikiao will come together once again to celebrate our Pikiaotanga. The Ahurei has seen the best of our whānau take to the kapa haka stage to represent their marae and hapū. The success of the Ahurei over the past eight years is seeing our tamariki and mokopuna who are now performing with their pakeke groups but also at Regional and Matatini competitions. Looking at our Tamateatuahi whānau kapa haka roopu this year. I'm sure we are not too far away from having a kaumatua division at the next one.

The 2019 event marks the 5th Pikiao Ahurei and each year the competition and level of performance has improved. Ngāti Hinekura have won the previous two Ahurei the others being Ngā Marae o Mourea in 2011 and Ngāti Rongomai in 2013.

This year Ngāti Rongomai are hosting the Ahurei which will be held at Okataina. To the many performers, we are so proud of the efforts you and the tutors put in to ensure that we maintain our traditional waiata and haka.

We must also include the many individuals and whānau who work tirelessly and voluntarily behind the scenes supporting their rōpū and ensuring kapa haka are sustained from the grassroots of iwi, hapū, whānau to the national and international stages.

Ki a tatou o Ngāti Pikiao, ka pū te puehu, kia mau!

2015/17 Winners Ngāti Hinekura (photo on right)
2013 – Tamateatutahi (photo below)



Kia mau ki te **whenua** hei oranga mō te **iwi**

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