

# Rereahu may tackle treaty claims alone

REREAHU iwi members are taking matters into their own hands to have their Treaty of Waitangi grievances settled "by Rereahu . . . for Rereahu".

Three special general meetings will be held next month throughout the North Island for iwi members to discuss the withdrawal of Rereahu hapu, marae and wai claims from the Maniapoto Mandate Strategy with the Crown in regard to the Maniapoto Large Natural Grouping (MLNG) settlement.

Te Maru o Rereahu Trust (TMoRT) project manager Glen Katu says the withdrawal, which has been discussed by iwi members for the past two years, is the only pathway left for Rereahu to have its Waitangi grievances settled separately from Maniapoto.

## BACKGROUND

Established in 2001, TMoRT was mandated by Rereahu to negotiate a settlement of Rereahu treaty grievances with the Crown.

In 2012, the Crown announced they were ready to negotiate a treaty settlement with the MLNG of which Rereahu iwi and rohe was included.

TMoRT met with Office of Treaty Settlements (OTS) officials and Maniapoto Mandate Strategy Steering Group (MMSSG) representatives several times in 2013 and 2014, to work on an agreement for Rereahu to settle its treaty grievances separately within the MLNG.

Mr Katu says MMSSG consistently denied a separate settlement for Rereahu within the Maniapoto Mandate Strategy accepted by OTS that portrays Rereahu as a hapu of Maniapoto and lists Rereahu hapu

and marae as Maniapoto hapu and Marae.

Rereahu requests for a separate settlement pathway to Maniapoto have also been declined by OTS.

## SPECIAL MEETINGS

"The new Maniapoto mandate entity called Te Kawau Maro will have 16 appointed members – two seats have been allocated for Rereahu representatives and 14 seats for Maniapoto representatives," says Mr Katu.

**"This is not about Maniapoto versus Rereahu. It's about the Crown not recognising Rereahu as an iwi and who have the ability and capacity to engage with the Crown to negotiate its own settlement . . ."**

"Clearly Rereahu will be marginalised within this Maniapoto grouping.

"Tainui and Rereahu history clearly demonstrates that Rereahu is Maniapoto's father and that Rereahu people have had mana whenua (territorial rights) over their lands known as 'Mai Rangitoto ki Tuhua' to this day.

"So at next month's meetings, Rereahu iwi

members will vote on two resolutions 1) that Rereahu iwi, hapu, marae and wai claims be removed from the Maniapoto Mandate Strategy for the Maniapoto Large Natural Grouping settlement and 2) that Rereahu representatives not be appointed to Te Kawau Maro the Maniapoto mandate entity."

The three meetings will be held in Mangapehi on July 5 and in Pa-kuranga and Feilding on July 6.

## CROWN RECOGNITION

"We want to make it clear though that Rereahu fully supports Maniapoto in their treaty settlements and we will help them in any way we can," says Mr Katu

"This is not about Maniapoto versus Rereahu.



**REREAHU TO DECIDE:** Te Maru o Rereahu Trust project manager Glen Katu says three special general meetings will be held next month to discuss the withdrawal of Rereahu hapu, marae and wai claims from the Maniapoto Mandate Strategy with the Crown in regard to the Maniapoto Large Natural Grouping settlement. FILE PIC

"It's about the Crown not recognising Rereahu as an iwi which has the ability and capacity to engage with the Crown to negotiate its own settlement whether as part of the MLNG, or separate to the MLNG.

"It's the Crown's process that we have to engage with so we are calling a hui a iwi of our Rereahu people to say the minister (Minister of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Christopher Finlayson) hasn't listened to us and therefore we need to withdraw from the process officially."

Mr Katu says Mr Finlayson has been given written confirmation stating Rereahu is not properly recognised within the mandate document they have accepted and has also been advised that TMoRT has formally requested the MMSSG to remove Rereahu iwi, hapu, marae and wai claims from the Maniapoto Mandate Strategy.

Maniapoto Maori Trust Board chairman Tiwha Bell declined to comment about the withdrawal until a final decision is made by the Rereahu iwi following the special general meetings.

## Library backs Snail Mail Day

WAITOMO District Library staff are inviting residents to come along on Friday from 10am and take part in 'Snail Mail Day'.

The initiative aims to help people experience the joy of corresponding with family and friends in the traditional and more personal way, via letter. (*Waitomo News*, May 22)

The library, in Taupiri St, is supporting the day by giving residents of all ages the resources to create their own letters. Paper, pens/felt pens and pre-paid envelopes will be available and a letterbox so that people can 'post' their letter.

Library staff will then deliver the mail to NZ Post at the end of the day.

For more information, contact Julie at the library or email [library@waitomo.govt.nz](mailto:library@waitomo.govt.nz)

## IN BRIEF

### Club to mark 40th anniversary


FROM an advertisement placed in the *King Country Chronicle* on July 30, 1974 - *Wanted Known* - Anyone interested in forming a hot rod club is welcome to attend a meeting - the Te Kuiti Rod and Custom Club was formed. This year marks the club's 40th anniversary and members would like to invite all previous members to help them celebrate on August 9. If you are an ex-member or know of someone that was and has since moved out of the area please contact us - Brett Randell 021 0236 6311, Graham Howell on 021 253 7227 or email [karen.fitzwater@gmail.com](mailto:karen.fitzwater@gmail.com)

### Men's Health Week

THIS week is Men's Health Week - June 9-15. New Zealand men are noted for not being proactive about their health and wellbeing so organisers are promoting seven simple steps. They are - pay a visit to your GP; measure your blood pressure, exercise regularly, eat healthily, adopt healthy thinking; stop smoking and maintain healthy relationships. For more information, visit the website - [menshealthweek.co.nz](http://menshealthweek.co.nz)

### NAIT inspections

NATIONWIDE farm inspections by Ministry for Primary Industries inspectors under the NAIT Act 2012 are now underway. The inspections are to check the level of farmers' and their staff's understanding of their NAIT scheme obligations. The visits are part of a broader effort with NAIT staff checking truck movement records by conducting random transit stop spot checks throughout the country.



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