

Big forward steps for iwi future

The iwi of Uenuku is entering a new phase following a Hui-a-Iwi and the inaugural annual meeting of the tribal entity established at the direction of whanau and hapu.

Uenuku Charitable Trust was formed at the request of the iwi on February 1, 2014, to disestablish the Uenuku Tribal Authority (UTA) in favour of a new tribal entity in order to provide "a fresh start" for the iwi.

Since that date the pace had barely let up, Uenuku Charitable Trust chairman Aiden Gilbert said at Raetihi Pah in his report to the iwi at the trust's first annual general meeting on July 12.

Mr Gilbert summed up the work of the 17 months since February 2014 as "a mammoth effort".

An interim board, which included kaumātua, kuia and hau kainga, was formed to share the considerable workload involved in establishing an effective tribal entity and to begin efforts to progress iwi development.

The board of trustees is working through a demanding schedule of strategic planning, policy design, imbedding operational systems and engagement with whanau, hapu, marae, uri who live outside of the rohe, neighbouring iwi, central and local government, agencies and community organisations.

Mr Gilbert said every board member was conscious of the responsibility to make decisions in the best interests of tangata whenua. The majority of trustees live in the Waimarino district or Whanganui, but others travelled home from as far as Northland in order to contribute.

He congratulated project manager Steve Hirini on the milestones he had achieved in progressing Treaty settlement work on behalf of Uenuku. Mr

Hirini had been instrumental in helping UCT develop sound operational systems and infrastructure.

"We are privileged to have him on board," Mr Gilbert said.

He thanked kaumātua and kuia for their support, which he described as crucial to the well-

also ratified the appointment of the following new trustees, subject to compliance with the Uenuku Representation Protocol: Matiu Blackburn, Tina Wallace, Renee Wanikau, Sonny Tonihi, Kawana Wallace, Katrina Taura-Hiri.

An additional nine trustee nominations were received from the floor, and confirmation of their appointment is also subject to the Uenuku Representation Protocol. The full board

will be confirmed at a special general meeting on August 23 at Raetihi Pah.

UCT will continue to meet with tangata whenua and key stakeholders to progress iwi development and Treaty settlement work, and to discuss any issues required, Mr Gilbert said.

"Our focus as an iwi entity must also go toward implementing strategic goals to develop, uplift and advance our whanau and hapu, and playing our role as a major contributor to the cultural and economic strength of Uenuku."

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Aiden Gilbert, Uenuku Charitable Trust chairman.

being and health of Uenuku tangata whenua.

In accordance with the Uenuku Deed of Trust, all members of the interim board retired at the annual meeting. Retiring members were eligible for re-appointment.

The re-appointment of the following trustees was ratified by the annual meeting: Aiden Gilbert, Don Robinson, Lesley (Missy) Edmonds, Kaylene Crossan, Clive Te Iwimate, Kura Wanikau Turoa, Clyde Connell, Carolyn Heta, Mahanga Williams, Rayma Bryers and Moana Dawson. The meeting



ON THE ROAD: Whanau engage at the mandate hui at Hokonui Marae in Gore.

PHOTO/ SUPPLIED UENUKUSHOW.JPG



KEEPING IN TOUCH: The Uenuku roadshow reached Kihikihi Bowling Club earlier this month, and pictured are Karla and Howard Tukaioa-Williams, from Hamilton; Cynthia Kaurangi Anderson, "Aunty Tinch", from Raetihi; and Chris Tonihi, who lives in Te Puke. All four are descendants of Uenuku, Tamakana and Tamahaki and are supporters of the Uenuku Charitable Trust.

PHOTO/ SUPPLIED UENUKU_ROADSHOW.JPG



MAMMOTH EFFORT: UCT chairman Aiden Gilbert.

Aiden_Gilbert.JPG

Roadshow on Treaty talks

By Steve Hirini

Uenuku Treaty Project Manager

On Thursday, June 25, a team from Uenuku hit the road on a three-week mission to connect with whānau around Aotearoa.

The purpose was to provide information to uri of Tamakana, Tamahaki and Uenuku and seek a mandate to represent them in negotiations with the Crown for the comprehensive settlement of all historical Treaty claims in the central plateau.

The roadshow team comprised Uenuku Charitable Trust chairman Aiden Gilbert; kaumātua Kahu Takarangi; kuia Kaurangi Anderson; project manager Steve Hirini; wai claimant Boy Cribb; strategic adviser Mike Noho; and secretary Moana Dawson.

The first round of hui were held in Gore, Christchurch and Wellington. A year ago, Uenuku took roadshows around Aotearoa to ensure our people were informed. We promised we would return, and it was good to be able to describe our

progress.

Many whānau commented on feeling more connected after a 20-minute Uenuku audio-visual about home. It was great to see kaumātua, kuia, tamariki and mokopuna all enjoying the presentation.

In early July, Mahanga Williams, Don Robinson and Carolyn Heta joined the roadshow team in Hastings, Taumarunui, Kihikihi and Auckland. These hui were well attended with good kōrero. Several wai claimants expressed their disapproval of Crown process.

"But it was great to see the whakawhanaungatanga after each presentation," strategic adviser Mike Noho said. "This was a very positive aspect of every hui."

The final hui were in Whanganui on July 10 and Raetihi on July 12. Pipiriki was postponed because of flood damage, and although UCT extended the voting period by two weeks, whānau of Paraweka Marae in Pipiriki decided against a re-

scheduled mandate voting hui.

However, whānau from near and far came home to Raetihi Pah, with nearly 80 attending the roadshow, a Hui-ā-Iwi and Uenuku Charitable Trust's inaugural annual meeting.

"In the main, whānau were pleased with the clear presentation and UCT's intentions," Mr Noho said. "This was a great finish to a successful round of roadshows, with good numbers of whānau supporting the kaupapa."

Mandate voting closes on Friday, July 31, so if you are uri of Tamakana, Tamahaki or Uenuku, please take the time to have your say by calling the election helpline 0800 666030 and voting.

On behalf of the roadshow team and UCT trustees, thank you for attending our mandate voting hui, thank you for going online to register, thank you for calling the election helpline and, more importantly, thank you for voting. This is about you and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you.



Welcome to the world, Maruarua

Ku ora ai taku ao i a koe

Nau mai ki te ao kikokiko son. E te marea, ko Maruarua Jordan Cribb tenei. I whanake mai ia i te po tuaiwa o Hōngongoi, matawaa hei te 10.53pm, 8lbs 6oz tona rahi. Na tona kuikui a Retihia, na tona Nanny Pare, me ona whaene a Diana raua ko Miriama ia i pohiritia kia te ao nei. Mokori atu nga mihi ki koutou e whai whakaaro ana ki maua ko taku tama i tenei wa.

Ku hoki mai maua ki te kainga i tenei wa, hei whakataa, hei ohaoha ano ki ta maua whare, me ta maua whānau hoki. Nui te aroha! XX

Welcome to the world, son! Maruarua Jordan Cribb (above), born July 9, at 10.53pm, weighing 8lbs 6oz.

He was welcomed into the world by his Kuikui Retihia, his nanny Pare, and his aunts Diana and Miriama.