



RANGATAHI RISING: EMPOWERING IDENTITY AND CONFIDENCE

Our rangatahi ventured on a Hōtoke Wānanga that wove together adventure, cultural learning, and connection through whakapapa.

Over three days, they travelled across Kaikōura and Hanmer Springs, embracing opportunities that strengthened their physical confidence and deepened their cultural connection.

The wānanga began with an overnight stay in Kaikōura, where the group took part in ziplining through native bush. For many, it was a first-time experience. It was an opportunity to challenge themselves, support one another, and build confidence in a setting that celebrated te taiao.

From there, the rōpū travelled to Hanmer Springs for two nights of whakawhanaungatanga and mātauranga. Between relaxing in the hot pools and sharing kai, our rangatahi immersed themselves in learning waiata,

haka, whakapapa, and pūrākau. These sessions created space for our rangatahi to explore their identity, connect with their cousins, and strengthen their role within our iwi.

Our rangatahi returned home with new skills, stronger connections, and a deeper sense of who they are and where they come from.

This wānanga reaffirmed the importance of creating spaces where rangatahi feel seen, heard, and valued. By stepping outside their comfort zones and engaging deeply with their culture, they not only strengthened their own sense of identity but also contributed to the collective wellbeing of our iwi. The memories made and lessons learned will continue to ripple outward, into their homes, their kura, and the generations to come.

Ngā mihi nui to our Kaikōkiri and pakeke who guided and supported the kaupapa. Your dedication ensures our rangatahi are inspired and empowered to carry our mātauranga forward.

TE TAPUWAETAHI O RANGITĀNE - PREPARATIONS CONTINUE FOR AHUREI



Rangitāne o Wairau whānau preparing to welcome our northern iwi whanaunga to Omaka Marae for the 2012 Ahurei.

As Labour Weekend draws near, preparations for Te Tapuwaetahi o Rangitāne are well underway. The excitement is building as we get ready to welcome our whanaunga from Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua, Wairarapa, and Manawatū. This festival is more than an event. It is a celebration of whakapapa, identity, and unity.

To ensure we stand strong in our pōwhiri, we will be holding a series of Haka Pōwhiri practices in the lead-up to the festival. These wānanga will be led by Wirihana de Thierry and are open to all who want to be part of this awesome kaupapa. Kai and refreshments will be provided.

These sessions are a chance to learn, connect, and prepare together. Whether you are new to haka or have stood in the front line before, your presence will strengthen our collective voice.

Waiata practices are also happening every Thursday at 5.30pm at Tuamātene Marae. These run for one hour and are open to everyone. Come along, bring your whānau, and learn Rangitāne waiata and mōteatea.

Te Tapuwaetahi o Rangitāne will begin with a pōwhiri at Omaka Marae, followed

Haka Pōwhiri Practice Details

Location: **Tuamātene Marae**

Time: **10.00am to 2.00pm**

Practice Dates:

Sunday 21 September

Sunday 5 October, Sunday 19 October

by registrations and merchandise collection at Ūkaipō. Kai mō te pō and whakawhanaungatanga will take place later that day. Hākinakina will be held at Marlborough Boys' College and St Mary's School, with categories and grades to be confirmed. That evening, the Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Awards Dinner will be held at the Marlborough Events Centre. The following day includes Te Hitori o Rangitāne o Wairau Hikoi, wānanga, whakapapa sessions, and evaluations at Ūkaipō. The poroporoaki will take place in the evening, followed by housie and quiz night at Ūkaipō, and a tamariki and rangatahi movie night at Event Cinemas Blenheim.

Registrations for the festival close on 20 September. If you have not yet registered, now is the time. Official merchandise orders have closed, but there will be plenty of ways to show your support at the ahurei.

LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS 2025

This year's local body elections are about more than just choosing councillors. They're about protecting representation that honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi and ensures Māori have a seat at the decision-making table. Across Aotearoa, binding polls will ask voters whether to keep or remove Māori Wards for future elections.

Māori Wards provide a direct pathway for tangata whenua to influence council decisions that affect our whenua, our wai, and our communities. They promote inclusion, equity, and recognition of the unique place of Māori in this country's governance.

Voting to keep Māori Wards is a vote for representation, for rangatiratanga, and for a future where Māori voices are heard and respected.

Voting runs from 9 September to 11 October 2025. Make sure you're enrolled, encourage your whānau to do the same, and cast your vote to keep Māori Wards.

DIALYSIS UNIT TO OPEN IN WAIRAU

We're pleased to share that a new four-chair dialysis unit will open in Wairau this October.

For those living with kidney disease, dialysis can be a long and difficult journey, often requiring hours of travel each week to access treatment in Whakatū Nelson. This new unit will ease some of that burden, allowing whānau to receive care closer to home.

It will also support those managing dialysis at home, with access to local clinical support and facilities when needed.

This development is the result of strong community partnership - Health NZ, Marlborough Primary Health, Te Piki Oranga, iwi and others coming together with a shared commitment to pae ora: healthy futures for our people. We mihi to everyone who's helped bring this service to our rohe. It will make a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

UPDATE ON BSTP DISCHARGE CONSENT AND PROJECT PROGRESS



The Blenheim Sewage Treatment Plant (BSTP) discharge consent has been formally lodged with Marlborough District Council. It is currently on hold while national wastewater standards are being finalised. These standards will determine how the consent is processed and what discharge limits will apply.

In the meantime, the Project Working Group (PWG) includes representatives from Rangitāne o Wairau, Ngāti Rārua, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira, supported by Troy Brockbank, MDC staff, and Beca as lead consultants. Together, they continue to advance key workstreams.

One of the most significant initiatives is the establishment of a Kaitiaki Forum. This forum, led by iwi representatives, will develop a monitoring programme to assess the cultural health of Waikārapī (Wairau Lagoons) and evaluate the impact of the BSTP on the awa.

Other ongoing work includes the creation of an Environmental Enhancement Fund (EEF), installation of signage at the Wairau Bar, and planning for future upgrades to the treatment plant. There have been recent personnel changes, with MDC Engineer Stuart Donaldson retiring and Beca Project Manager Mark Crooke returning to the UK.

The next PWG hui will provide updates on proposed plant upgrades, outline future workstreams, and include a briefing on the implications of the Water Services Bill.

Looking ahead, new legislation may result in the consent process being automatically paused for up to two years. This will depend on confirmation once the final provisions are enacted. If the consent is publicly notified, processing could take an additional 12 to 18 months.

Draft consent conditions have been agreed upon, outlining a staged approach over the next 15 years. Rangitāne continues to advocate for a 10-year term. The plan includes feasibility studies for upgrades, exploration of alternative discharge options such as vineyard irrigation, and a long-term strategy for relocating the plant. Regular monitoring, annual reporting, and five-yearly environmental reviews are built into the framework.

Rangitāne remain central to this kaupapa, ensuring that the mauri of Te Pokohiwi-o-Kupe and the Wairau Estuary is upheld. Updates will continue to be shared as the mahi progresses.

TE AROPIPI - OUR COMMITMENT AS KAITIAKI

We are set to unveil our Taiao Strategy and Iwi Environmental Management Plan, Te Aropipi, a landmark strategy that reaffirms our enduring connection to te taiao and our role as kaitiaki across Te Taihū.

Described by Kaiwhakahaere Matua Corey Hebbard as “an assertion of our mana,” Te Aropipi is more than a technical document. It is a living expression of whakapapa, mātauranga Māori, and ahi kā.

Developed with the insights and aspirations of our whānau, the plan outlines a comprehensive framework for environmental protection, cultural restoration, and climate resilience, grounded in ancestral obligations and contemporary leadership.

Key objectives include:

- Restoring the mauri of Te Pokohiwi-o-Kupe, Waikārapī (Wairau Lagoons), and Wairau River
- Advocating for sustainable practices in the Marlborough Sounds
- Preparing for climate change through intergenerational knowledge and modern tools
- Upholding customary rights in fisheries and planning processes
- Empowering whānau, hapū, and uri as active environmental leaders

The strategy also gives practical effect to commitments made in our Treaty Settlement and the Crown Apology, reinforcing mutual obligations between the iwi and the Crown.

“Te Aropipi is a blueprint for how we engage with the whenua, moana and wai of our rohe,” Hebbard said. “It centres people, place, and whakapapa, and invites all those working in our rohe to walk alongside us with integrity, respect, and openness.”

UPCOMING TRUSTEE ELECTION: HERE'S WHAT WHĀNAU NEED TO KNOW

We're preparing for the upcoming Trustee Election and have refreshed our website to help whānau stay informed, connected and ready to vote.

How Voting Will Work This Year

- Voting packs will be posted and emailed to iwi members aged 60 and over
- Voting details will be emailed to iwi members aged 18 to 59

To receive your voting information, we need your correct contact details. If multiple whānau members are registered under the same email address, the primary email holder will receive separate voting emails for each member aged 18 and over.

If you've recently turned 18, you're now eligible to vote, make sure your email address is up to date so you don't miss out.

Update Your Details Online

Visit rangitane.org.nz to explore our refreshed site, including a members-only area where you can check and update your contact details. The site is mobile-friendly and easy to navigate.

To access the members-only area, enter your name and email address and you'll receive a confirmation email. From there, you can view and update your details. We'll be adding more content to this space over time, so get your login sorted and stay connected.

Check Your Details and Win

We're running a competition to encourage whānau to update their information. To enter:

- Check and update your details via the members-only area on our website. If your details are already correct, that counts too!
- Then email admin@rangitane.org.nz or call the office to confirm your entry.

We've got some awesome giveaways lined up, including **home game tickets to the Mako match at Lansdowne Park on 20 September**, and Prezzy cards up for grabs. Don't miss your chance to win!

Who Can Vote

All registered Rangitāne iwi members aged 18 and over are eligible. If you're unsure about your registration, contact our office. Your vote helps shape the future of our iwi. Your voice matters.

Key dates

Nominations open: **22 October**
Nominations close: **24 November**
Voting opens: **11 December**
Postal & online voting close:
30 January
AGM Day: **31 January**

CALENDAR DATES

Haka Pōwhiri Practices

Tuamātene Marae | 10am-2pm

Sunday 21 September 2025

Sunday, 5 October 2025

Sunday, 19 October 2025

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

14-20 September 2025

Te Tapuwaetahi o Rangitāne

Labour Weekend | Wairau

24-26 October 2025

Omaka Marae 40th

Anniversary

Labour Weekend 2025

Poroiwi Education Grant

Opens 1 November 2025

Rangitāne General Scholarship

Opens 1 November 2025

AGM & Hākari 2026

Wairau | Saturday 31 January 2026

**Stronger
representation.
Better decisions.**

When councils include Māori voices,
we all benefit. Our communities are
stronger when they reflect us all.

Vote YES to keep Māori wards.

**Te Rūnanga a
Rangitāne o Wairau**

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Open 9am-5pm Monday - Friday

