

Chairman's Mihi

Rugby is Alive on the Coast - Let's Reflect on 2006



Bill Burdett.

On behalf of the East Coast Rugby Union it gives me great pleasure to extend greetings to Ngati Porou whanau at home and away and to the many supporters and sponsors of Ngati Porou East Coast rugby.

Ngati Porou East Coast rugby continues to be a source of pride for us all and I have no doubt that the majority of iwi where ever we reside look forward to the continued sight of the sky blue jerseys on rugby fields throughout the region and the country.

East Coast has a proud history and as a result of the efforts of many throughout the years we have survived the changing facets of rugby.

2006 has presented many challenges and we as an executive are certain we will continue to face many more in the years ahead.

Although the NPEC representative team didn't achieve a place in the top four of the Lochore Cup competition, this was a positive year in many respects;

- Increase in the number of registered players
- Two additional teenage teams- Introduction of a girls 10 A side Team
- Completion of the club and JAB rugby season
- Participation in the Te Tini a Maui and Koroneihana Tournaments
- Entering into an agreement with ACC to promote safe driving practices
- Retaining the Arthur Wickes Memorial Cup against West Coast.

On behalf of the Iwi and the ECRFU I would like to extend our thanks to the pre-season Management Team, players

and the 2006 AA Rewards Heartland Championship Management Team and squad.

The Heartland management team would especially like to publicly acknowledge and thank all members of the squad for their efforts and commitment in representing Ngati Porou when travelling throughout the region and the country this season.

Special note must also be given to senior loan players Marty Lloyd and Paul Symes who returned to assist the new young inexperienced players. Their assistance was invaluable and as players they can certainly take pride in the role they played in assisting the development of a new look Ngati Porou East Coast Squad.

Finally to those volunteers throughout the Coast from the clubs, sub unions, junior & teenage rugby, coaches, referees, administrators and all supporters without you rugby cannot survive.

The challenge for us all is to ask where and how can I help and be there.

MĀORI MEDIA AWARDS 2006

Venue: Gisborne Show Grounds Park Event Centre

Date: Saturday, April 14 2007 • Powhiri: 5pm

Cost per table of 10: \$1125.00 incl GST

Enquiries: Contact Turanga FM or Radio Ngati Porou

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Editorial

Innovative things are happening on and around marae, schools and land industries. That is evident as you read through some of the fascinating stories in this month's Nga Kohinga. Towards the end of 2006 we reflect upon the energy and commitment that has brought us forward over the years. In 2005 marae engaged in a 'policy development project' facilitated for TPK by the Runanga. "Te Wiwi Nati" marae cluster from across the Waiomatatini Valley prepared an 'Asset Mapping Toolkit'

for its marae, people and hapu development. That concept was well received and utilised as a local solution. It was sampled at a national organisation and workshopped by one of their Board members, Keri Kaa, in an Auckland based forum. "The Board was blown away, we forget the little things we do are an asset. My workshop audience had never talked so much before, they came up with some brilliant ideas"..... Suffice to say, Sir A. T. Ngata would be chuffed to see Te Wiwi Nati is alive and thinking.

Sharing a range of innovative ideas and energy, schools interfacing resources, preparing the new net to go fishing. Imagination!! It's a great thing, being aware of the future and your part in it. Dream of what is perfect then do what is practicable. That's Innovation! Whanau a Rua will celebrate Te Hokowhitu 75th Jubilee this Labour Weekend followed by the Hui Taurima Sunday. Have a great Labour Weekend and travel safely. Kia ora