

# Te Waiu Student Celebrates Double Victory

In many surveys speaking in public is voted as the number one thing that people are most afraid of. Second on the list is the fear of dying. Recently a Ruatoria kura kaupapa student not only mastered this common fear but he has also done it in two languages.

In May Campion College hosted the regional Manu Korero competition. Te Kura Kaupapa o Te Waiu o Ngati Porou student Apirana Daymond (age 14) came first in both the Junior Maori (Te Rawhiti Ihaka) and Junior English (Sir Turi Carrol) sections. Apirana has seven brothers and sisters who whakapapa to Te Rahui, Umariki, Porourangi and Te Aowera marae. The kaupapa for his winning English speech was, "My Inspiration" and he talked about how his teachers encouraged him to do well in his school work. It was his teachers whom he also acknowledged as inspiring him to enter the Nga Manu Korero competition last year. Their encouragement towards Apirana was rewarded when he walked away with the 2005 regional Sir Turi Carrol prize. He also came third in the 2005 national competition.

"Ma te Reo Maori. Ka rere te manu," was the kaupapa behind Apirana's winning te reo maori speech. Apirana used metaphor and allegory, the tools of the skilled orator, to create his korero. "Each iwi has their own distinctive reo which gives them their own cultural identity. If they don't have their own reo (the feathers) then the bird (the iwi) cannot fly."

Apirana says that he learnt his oratory skills from his elders, whanau and teachers. He credits his Dad for influencing him to be creative with language. "He uses words that have double meanings. I had to really think about what he was saying. The judges also liked that I used words with double meanings in my speeches. They said it was like the way the old people used words back in the day. Although I had a few jokes in my speeches, it still carried the message."

To prepare himself before his speeches Apirana tries to



keep calm by relaxing and having something to eat. His advice to people who are unconfident to get up and talk in front of others is they should try to be confident. "Don't let anyone put you down. If someone does, just block it out and concentrate on your goal." Apirana enjoys other interests such as; reading, carpentry and art. A possible career path Apirana is interested in is the media. Former Manu Korero finalists that have had successful careers in the media include Te Kaea presenter Julian Wilcox and Pukana presenter Matai Smith.

In September Apirana travels to Opunake in Taranaki to compete in the National competition. He will be joined by his former Te Waiu school mate Te Rangi Matanuku Parata, who is representing Lytton in the Senior Maori (Pei Te Hurinui Jones) section. Mereana Wharepapa, also from Lytton High, will be competing in the Senior English (Korimako) section.

He is an asset to his Ngati Porou and Ngati Mutunga Iwi.

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## Two Metre Giant Clam Found

A 90 million year old fossil has been discovered in a river bed in one of Ngati Porou Whanui Forests Ltd forest blocks (Mangaotane). It was found by an organisation called GNS science.

This fossil is a giant clam. It is believed to have grown up to 2 metres in height and one of the largest clams to ever live.

Two or three of these clams have been found prior to this one but this is the first one to be found in New Zealand.

After going through the appropriate channels GNS Science hopes to recover this fossil from the river bed.

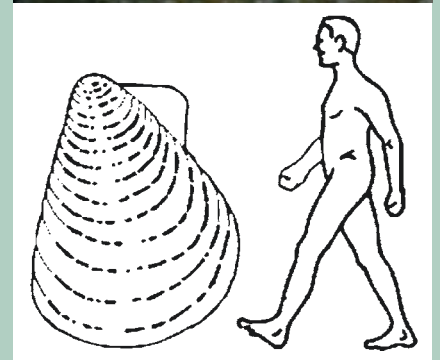


Photo shows clam imbedded in rock and a sketch of the clams height in comparison to man.