



Tēnā koutou

Message from the Chair

Ko te reo tēnei nō te Kākāriki e totoro atu i ngā mihi ki a koutou e noho whānui i te motu. I runga i tōna karanga kia hui tahi tātou me te whakarongo ki ngā kōrero mō ngā mahi kua tutuki atu me kua whakaoti i roto i ngā marama kua taha ki muri, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou.

Ki a rātou kua whetūrangitia, e kemokemo mai rā i te rangi, kei te tika ngā kupu e kīia nei, 'He tātai tangata ki te whenua, ka ngaro. He tātai whetū ki te rangi, mau tonu, mau tonu'.

Nō reira moe mai koutou, okioki atu.

Ka hoki mai ki a tātou e noho nei i te ao mārama me te kī,

Tēnā koutou, tēnā rā tātou katoa.

Kia ora and welcome to Te Reo Kākāriki the Lake Taupō Forest Trust newsletter.

At the 2018 AGM back in January, we talked about wanting to improve the communications between the Trust and owners and beneficiaries. This newsletter is one of the results of that discussion.

In this newsletter we'll feature articles about people in the forest and in our community and upcoming news and events. If you have any news about our forest or community, please get in touch with us at general@lft.co.nz.

And the name for our newsletter – Te Reo Kākāriki? The 'voice of the Kākāriki', or parakeet, is here to keep you informed about what is going on in our forest and with the Forest Trust.

We hope you enjoy it and let us know what you think.

Binky Ellis
Chairperson



'Time to revamp the Comms!'

A new approach

Over the last year, there has been some discussion going on about how the Trust can improve its communication with owners and beneficiaries. A decision was made to bring in a communications consultant, Bill Young, from HUIA (NZ) Ltd in Wellington to review our situation and provide some recommendations.

As part of this work, Bill completed a series of interviews with LTFT Trustees, management and staff along with owners and beneficiaries and others associated with the Trust to gain some insights into people's opinions about how the trust operates and communicates.

Several themes emerged from the interviews. While most thought that the trust was doing a good job, there were thoughts that the Trust could be doing more:

- To let owners and beneficiaries know what is happening;
- To attract more people into forestry; and
- To work with and in the community.

Following on from this work, the Trust has made a number of changes which will be rolled out over the coming months. These include:

- This newsletter! The aim is to start publishing our newsletter again quarterly with all the latest news from Trust activities, forestry happenings and news from our owners, beneficiaries

and the community. If you have news, let us know at general@lft.co.nz.

- A new look website. There were many calls to refresh the look of the website and provide relevant information which can be found easily. We are aiming to publish the new website (with the same address!) before Christmas. We'll keep you posted.
 - Marae visits. There were several suggestions on how to improve getting feedback from owners and beneficiaries to the trustees and Trust meetings. One suggestion was to have LTFT staff and trustees visit the monthly marae meetings to listen, discuss and bring back any issues to the Trustees. This would also be an opportunity for staff and trustees to update owners and beneficiaries about any current Trust news and events. These visits will take some coordination between each marae. However, we'd like to get these underway as soon as reasonably practical.
 - Educational opportunities. The Trust continues to support the Lake Taupō Charitable Trust in developing the educational opportunities for rangatahi through the Forestry Management Programme. Recently renamed He Māhuri Toa (young trees of strength), the programme aims to help rangatahi through their schooling and into tertiary education and employment.
- The newsletters will be moving to electronic form only so if you would like to continue receiving them please make sure we have your email address.



He Māhuri Toa

Forest Management Programme renamed

The Lake Taupō Charitable Trust (LTCT) is pleased to announce that the Forestry Management Programme has been renamed to 'He Māhuri Toa' – a welcome sign of growth and reflecting the positive feedback that has been received so far about the programme.

He Māhuri Toa is designed to produce 'young trees of strength' and help ensure our tamariki and rangatahi get to participate in the many exciting opportunities that will help them succeed in today's world.

The programme has a number of strands involving several training providers and organisations so the teaching and support is tailored to our rangatahi. Providers include Mindlab, the specialist education provider that helps tamariki learn to work together on digital and robotic projects. (See Education Update in this issue). LTCT is currently leading an initiative to establish a Tūwharetoa Tech Centre by 2020 to host a range of these educational programmes.

LTCT is also establishing a secondary school support programme with Competenz to help rangatahi achieve their Level 2 and 3 qualifications. Following secondary school, there are a range of Trust education grants and scholarships which will help support them as they move into tertiary education at university or polytechnic.

Ngāti Tūwharetoa has large forestry interests and the Trustees of Lake Taupō and Lake Rotoaira forests are always keen to have their own people working in their forests. He Māhuri Toa will help ensure our rangatahi are well-placed to move into this area.

The three main routes to a forestry career are:

UNIVERSITY:

A four-year degree at the University of Canterbury can lead to management positions in forestry, including establishment and silviculture, harvesting, marketing, forest modelling, planning, GIS, and environmental management.

POLYTECHNIC:

Six-month, one-year and two-year courses. Particularly at Toi Ohomai in Rotorua, can lead to middle management

levels such as operational planning, quality control, supply chain logistics, inventory work, work supervision and mapping.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING:

Starting as a labourer with silvicultural or harvesting gangs and working your way up through experience remains a valid and successful way of getting involved in the forest industry. Our contractors are often seeking new workers (See Zac Te Ahuru article in this issue).



GEORGE ORMSBY

You can find out more about He Māhuri Toa and the grants and scholarships through the Lake Taupō Charitable Trust's website: www.ltct.co.nz

Living Wage Employer

We believe everyone should be paid a fair wage without having to go hand in cap to government agencies for meeting the basics of day to day living. Earlier this year we registered to become an accredited 'Living Wage Employer'. This is a voluntary stance taken by the Trustees and one adopted by more 100 other employers across NZ. It is also

consistent with two of the four cornerstones of our strategy – Pou Tikanga and Pou Tahua.

Unlike the minimum wage, the Living Wage is set by the New Zealand Family Centre Social Policy Unit. The rate is currently \$20.55 per hour. This is at least \$4.05 more an hour than the Government's Minimum wage rate of \$16.50.

Our long-term objective is to implement the policy across all sectors of Trust business so all our whānau employed in any Trust business is adequately paid.

Annual General Meeting

Please note the 2019 AGM for Lake Taupō Forest Trust has been deferred until the New Year. When the date is confirmed, all registered owners will be notified by post, so if you haven't already registered, register now. Contact Shanyn or Mihi in our Owners' Services team, email general@lft.co.nz

We'll also be celebrating 50 years of the Trust's Lease Agreement with the Crown.

LAKE TAUPŌ FOREST TRUST STRATEGY

The Trustees spent some time this year fine-tuning their strategic plan to cater for a future of change, particularly as we near the exit of Lease Agreement with the Crown in 2021. The change to our vision allows us to transition from a leader in forestry production to a sustainable global land and asset manager. This stretches us to look at other opportunities other than just forestry while at the same time making sure that any such land-based opportunities are sustainable for the benefit of future generations.

OUR VISION

Kia ū ki te Whenua Tū tangata ki te Ao

To be a diversified and sustainable global land and asset manager centred in Aotearoa, while being a responsible investor for the wellbeing of our people.

OUR MISSION

Ki te hoe tonu i te waka moemoeā o rātou kua ngaro, kia whai hua hoki ngā wawata o ngā uri whenua

To realise the dreams of those who have gone before us by fulfilling their expectations to build a competitive business, respect their customary values, and protect their lands and assets in order to deliver real benefits to their descendants.

STRATEGY 2018–2023

POU TIKANGA

The way we do things is led by our Tūwharetoa tikanga

- We will understand our Tikanga
- We will live by our Tikanga

POU TANGATA

Enabling meaningful benefits for our people

- Engagement with our people
- Delivery of benefits
- Knowing our people

POU WHENUA

We are enabling sustainable land use that is consistent with our tikanga

- Knowing our natural taonga
- Pursuing excellence in land management
- Being active kaitiaki

POU TAHUA

We are an organisation that is fit for purpose and has a team to enable the business to grow

- Investment
- Our teams
- Our culture
- Manaakitanga

Education Update

The Forest Management Programme run by Lake Taupō Charitable Trust completed another successful trip away for 20 lucky students to the Mindlab in Gisborne for a week in October.

Mindlab is the innovative programme that is the next stage in education, designed to get tamariki into problem-solving and working together using the latest digital technology and robotics.

And most of all, it's designed to be fun! The next intake will be in 2019. The programme is subsidised to allow as many tamariki to attend as possible.

For more information, contact the Lake Taupō Charitable Trust office on 07 386 6843.



Forest Access Hours

We have around 200 people operating in our forest on any typical working day and around 100 logging trucks on average using our forest roads, not to mention the dozens of other vehicles that transport forest workers or heavy machinery to and from various work sites. All up, that's a lot of people and lots of vehicles and machinery operating on our land. Naturally, we want to keep all users of our lands safe including owners who use the lands for recreational purposes like hunting and food gathering.

The introduction of new Health and Safety regulations in 2015 prompted us to take a serious look at just how vulnerable our owners and workers are to harm, injury, and even death when using forest lands during forestry operating hours.

For the reasons mentioned above, we changed the access rules in December last year to minimise the risk of injury and death to users. These rules apply to both Lake Taupō and Lake Rotoaira Forests:

- After 4pm on week days; and
- Normal times (daylight hours) on week-ends and public holidays

We understand these changes don't suit some owners, particularly our hunting whānau. But we remain steadfast in that decision until we can find safer and practical solutions that will keep everyone safe during forest operations.

The Trustees have met with a local hunting and food gathering owners' group to undertake a review of the access policies. The review is carried out annually, so it is timely that it should be carried out now.

To find out more about how to obtain a permit, visit our website: www.ltft.co.nz



Protecting Taonga Tuku Iho

Pest control is an important component of forest management and land management and is critical to saving our bush and birds.

The trustees have an obligation to protect the taonga tuku iho, and this means they need to protect the trees, both indigenous and plantation, and the native birds and other species that dwell upon the lands.

To do this, we need to reduce the numbers of possums, stoats, weasels, ferrets and rats which kill and eat birds and bird's eggs as well as killing trees by nibbling on the growing shoots of young trees. For example, the kākārīki is no longer found on mainland New Zealand due to these vermin.

These pests need to be kept at very low levels that enable the native ecosystem to be sustained, and ideally to levels that help the ecosystem to recover.

Currently, aerial 1080 operations are the only way to seriously reduce their numbers. The Trust is always looking at alternatives to 1080 that are as effective. We want to be more transparent and open about these decisions and welcome feedback and suggestions from owners on how you can help. Please e-mail us directly at general@ltft.co.nz.

Zac Te Ahuru

Working with the good guys

Zac Te Ahuru runs his own forestry silviculture company, RADS Forestry, and currently runs two crews who work in several forests around the North Island including the Lake Taupō Forest.

Known for running a good outfit, Zac has had to work to where he has got to.

‘I was brought up to work hard. My grandparents brought me up on the farm and it was always work came first and school came second.’

Leaving school, he went to work in forestry, and although he has worked in other industries including a Wattie’s factory and fruit picking, he has always come back to forestry. However, he was in his late-twenties when a major obstacle was thrown into his path.

‘In the early 2000s, I was working with Carter Holt Harvey as a crew boss there and we all got laid off. This was about 2004 and there wasn’t much else to do in Taumarunui, so I rang round the guys in my crew and put an ad in the paper looking for work scrub-cutting. From that, a whole lot of work came available clearing land for farmers. Then, Greenplan Forestry in Te Kuiti had some work so I put in for their thinning to waste programme, and then they had a big pruning programme and it all went on from there. It was an opportunity that came up so I just jumped at it.’

‘I was brought up to work hard. My grandparents brought me up on the farm and it was always work came first and school came second.’

And the best part of his job now?

‘Being my own boss I definitely enjoy, but I just like working with the guys - they’re good guys. I’ve found guys in the bush can be a bit quieter or more humble than

PROFILE



ZAC TE AHURU

We do have a few young guys with us – Mike Sagato is one. We could use more like him. We’re always looking for more.

others, and they’re hard workers too and I know what that means.

So what for the future?

‘It’s getting tougher to find young people who want to work in the bush. There used to be more opportunities for young people growing up to get outside and go into the bush but times have changed. It’s more difficult to get into the bush now and there’s competition from things like Playstation and social media. We do have a few young guys with us – Mike Sagato is one. He’s been working in the forest since he left school seven years ago and has been working with us for the last year - we could use more like him. We’re always looking for more. If they like being in the outdoors and not in an office and want to work and have fun as part of a team, then this is pretty good’.

‘As for me, I don’t plan to change what I’m doing’, says Zac. ‘I enjoy it and I like the people I work with.’



MIKE SAGATO

Do you know these people or their uri?

The owners below are owed significant funds of unclaimed monies. If you know these people or their uri, we'd really appreciate knowing their whereabouts, so we can get them registered and have their monies paid.

AMOROA	Eruini
HARETE	Te Rou
HAUAURU	Te Ranginui
HAUMIHIATA	Kanara
KAHURANGI	Teo
KATENE	Wi
KUMEROA	Joseph Whakaruhanaga
MANIHERA	Taiwhakarere
MATENGA	Hare
MOHOPAPA	Tiria
NGAIRO	Kato
NGATAKUAHI	Tamehana
NGAWAKA	Pirihita
NOHOPAPA	Te Pehi
PAREKAHURANGI	Te Aitu
TAKIRI	Peti
TAKIRI	Riria
TARAPAKIA	Ihaka
TAUNAHA	Harai
TE AHURU	Peter Mahue Joseph
TE POKE	Hiria
TE ROHU	Te Wharenuui
TE WARENA	Rihipeti
TE WHAKARATO	Rawinia
TE WHATA	Te Aranga
TOKOAHU	Tauri
TUROA	Pekamu
WETINI	Harata

7 good reasons why you and your whānau should register

1. Pūtea Aroha grants currently valued at \$2,000
2. Permits to access trust lands for recreational purposes
3. Know what's happening on your lands and in your business. All we need is your email address or mobile phone number
4. Annual dividend distributions, so long as we have a valid bank account
5. Vote on any matter requiring an owner's decision
6. Be a Trustee and make a difference
7. Education grants and other benefits.

Come on Whānau! If you have a sibling or other Whānau member who has not yet registered, tell them to get registered and to contact our team general@ltft.co.nz




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