



TE MATAKŌRERO TE MATATINI



Maruera Maraki of Taranaki attending a mihi whakatau to welcome new Te Matatini staff.

NAU MAI HOKI MAI KI TE MATAKŌRERO PĀNUI 01 2024

This month: we pay tribute to kapa haka stalwart, Ngamoni Huata, we gear up for the senior regional competitions and confirm the dates and venues, Aunty Kahu leaves the Tāmaki regional committee after nearly 50 years, and meet out new Te Matatini staff..

HE MAIMAI AROHA

Last month, the kapa haka world lost one of our most beloved poi experts with the passing of Ngamoni Huata.

A former Te Matatini judge, published expert, tutor and performer, Ngamoni was farewelled at her home marae, Te Pakira at Whakarewarewa in Rotorua.

From Te Arawa and Mataatua, Ngamoni's iwi are Ngāti Whare, Te Whakatohea, Te Whānau a Apanui, Ngāti Rangiwewehi, Ngāti Rangiteaorere and Tūhourangi Ngāti Wāhiao.

Her book, *The Rhythm and Life of Poi*, was published in 2000 and revealed a comprehensive history of the use, performance and spiritual significance of poi.

Te Matatini Te Arawa delegate, Dan Vaka, pays tribute to a true trailblazer.



“Kua tū te wani o te poi, te piu o te poi, te tīwhaiwhai o te poi! E te Kahurangi Ariki o Tūhourangi Ngāti Wāhiao, e pehu ana ngā ngāwhā o Te Whakarewarewa.

Waihape atu rā ki ngā kāwau pū o te pō, ki te āmenetanga o te wehi, ki te hunanga o te tangata hokinga kore ki muri! Kua tā mokohia ngā paetara o te whare tapere o te motu ki ngā akoranga ōu, ki ngā mātauranga ōu, ki ngā whakaaro nui ōu, e te pūtake o tā te poi rere, haere, haere, okioki atu rā!”

REGIONALS BEGIN

Whānau across Aotearoa, and Australia, are set to embark on their senior regional competitions – vying for a spot at Te Matatini in Taranaki 2025!

Te Matatini Chairman, Ta Selwyn

Parata, says through their performances, roopu will be sharing important stories on stage that will inspire the many fans who love kapa haka.

“It’s where the passion, dedication, and innovation begin to create unforgettable performances that have a connection.”



LONG SERVICE

Kahu "Aunty Kahu" Pou has held various roles within the Tāmaki Makaurau Senior Kapa Haka Society since 1975.

She retired from the society last year as treasurer. We thank Aunty Kahu for her service and helping to support and develop kapa haka for nearly fifty years!



REGIONAL DATES AND VENUES

23-24 February 2024, Mātaatua, Tōrere, Te One, Ōpōtiki
 24 February 2024, Te Taihu, Trafalgar Centre, Nelson
 24 February 2024, Ngāti Kahungunu, A&P Showgrounds, Dannevirke
 8-9 March 2024, Te Arawa, Rotorua Events Centre, Rotorua
 8-9 March 2024, Te Kāhui Maunga, Te Whare o Ruapūtahanga, Hāwera
 23 March 2024, Te Whanganui a Tara, Michael Fowler, Wellington
 23 March 2024, Te Tai Tokerau, McKay Stadium, Whangārei
 6-7 April 2024, Tairāwhiti, Houhoupiko, Gisborne
 20 April 2024, Rangitāne, Fly Arena, Palmerston North
 19-20 April 2024, Te Whenua Moemoeā, Gold Coast
 27 April 2024, Waitaha, Wolfbrook Arena, Christchurch
 27 April 2024, Tainui, Claudelands Event Centre, Hamilton
 11-12 May 2024, Tāmaki Makaurau, Spark Arena, Auckland

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI

Five new people joined our Te Matatini whanāu at the beginning of this year.

On January 8th, we held a mihi whakatau at the Te Puni Kokiri offices in Wellington to welcome our new staff.

They will work in the head office and across the motu to help grow and develop the love of kapa haka.

Our new kaimahi are:

Hera Te Kurapa - Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa (Project Manager)

Nathan Peka - Kaiwhakahaere Pūnaha Hangarau Mōhiotanga (IT Systems Administrator)

Cheryl Luke-Maraki - Pou Takawaenga o Te Kāhui Maunga

Melissa Barnett - Pou Takawaenga o Te Taihu o Te Waka

Nuwyne Mohi - Pou Takawaenga o Rangitāne

Our new Te Matatini kaimahi; From Left, Melissa Barnett, Hera Te Kurapa, Nathan Peka, Nuwyne Mohi, Cheryl Luke-Maraki.



Iwi: Ngāti Kahungunu, Rakaipaaka, Ngāti Rangi, Rongowhakaata and Ngatangiia/Rarotongan

Terina worked in the Education Team and Discovery Centres at Te Papa Tongarewa followed by 20 years providing executive administration support at Careers New Zealand, Te Tumu Paeroa & Tertiary Education Commission.

Her favourite Te Matatini moment happened in Ngaruawahia in 1992, seeing Ngamoni Huata performing with Tuhourangi Ngāti Wahiao during the haka.

"She came through from the back to the front of the stage as the bird woman, Kurangaituku. Her pukana and presence on stage will forever bring the fierceness to my kapa haka heart," she says.

Born and raised in Strathmore, Wellington. Terina now resides in Takapūwahia with her husband, Wayne, a former Black Sox player, and their five children and two dogs.

She's a former student of St Joseph's Māori Girls College in Napier.

MEET TERINA!

We will be getting to know some of our Te Matatini staff members. This month we say Kia ora to Terina Laulu, Executive Officer to Chief Executive, Carl Ross.

21 DAYS AND 12 MONTHS TILL TE MATATINI 2025!