

SPRING 2023

# MĀI TĀMAKI

## ▲ COMING HOME

LIVING BACK ON THE WHENUA IS  
HEALING THE PĀNAPA WHĀNAU

## ▲ PROTECTING TAONGA

ANCIENT PĀ SITE DISCOVERED IN TĀMAKI

## ▲ COSY AS!

THE JOURNEY TO 2500 HEALTHY HOMES

## ▲ HĪKINA TĀMAKI

MEET SOME LOCAL HEROES AND ARTISTS

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GLEN INNES / POINT ENGLAND / PANMURE





**MEET THE HAVILI FAMILY ON PAGE 8**

Find out how this local whānau became home owners.

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**Editorial Team**



**SHILO KINO - WRITER**

Shilo is of Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāpuhi descent and is a writer and journalist who now leads the content team at Tāmaki Regeneration. Shilo loves getting to the heart of every story.



**SHARLEEN HAIMOTU - WRITER**

Sharleen hails from Niue (Mutalau) and Tonga (Nukunuku) and is all about whānau. With a huge, blended family, she’s always on the go! Shar has an extensive background in writing and loves getting out into the community. She is the senior media content specialist at TRC.



**JESSE MARSTERS - PHOTOGRAPHER**

Jesse was born and raised in Glen Innes and is of Cook Island descent. Jesse is a freelance photographer who founded his own business, Marsters Media in 2021.



**CHASE HAURAKI - PHOTOGRAPHER**

Chase come from the mighty Hokianga and has whakapapa back to Ngāpuhi and Ngāti Wai. When he’s not taking photos, you’ll find him designing posters and billboards that you’ve probably seen around the community! He is currently the Digital specialist at TRC.

**HAVE FEEDBACK OR A STORY TO SHARE?**

Contact us at [communications@tamakiregeneration.co.nz](mailto:communications@tamakiregeneration.co.nz)



# KŌRERO FROM THE CEO

I reckon Matariki is a good time to reflect on the past year, celebrate what is going on right now and think about our dreams and aspirations for the future... especially for our whānau.

When I reflect on the past year, there are a few stand out moments for me.

I had the privilege to be part of a rōpū of local Tāmaki whānau who came together to share kai and celebrate their journey to home ownership through our shared home ownership programme.

It was on this night I heard Rangikahiwi Panapa speak about his daughter pointing to Maungarei mountain and saying, “Pāpā, that’s my mountain,” without her being told. He spoke of his grandmother who was raised in Tāmaki but was kicked out decades ago. Their journey into home ownership via the shared home ownership programme is more than just owning a house. It is about coming home, returning to their whenua. We all shed tears collectively hearing these whānau stories – what an absolute taonga.

Our Affordable Housing campaign is building, and we will deliver hundreds of homes targeting locals across the coming years. I want to encourage local organisations such as churches, schools, sports clubs etc to get in contact with us to support your members into home ownership.

Another stand out moment for me this year was seeing Kiri Nathan coming home and establishing her business (Te Ahuri Mōwai), smack bang in the middle of GI. We were honoured in playing a small part in this, supporting Kiri with a community lease for the building. I am in total awe of Kiri, her energy, talent and achievements! Te Ahuru Mōwai will spark dreams and aspirations within the community, and we look forward to following Kiri’s awesome journey!



My last stand out moment is the privilege I have of seeing the huge mahi that our tenancy managers do every day, led by relationships and real heart. Here is a photo of myself, Papa Jo and Dawn.

That day Papa Jo let me tag along with himself and some of our tenancy managers as part of our fire safety campaign – important mahi to keep whānau safe in our Tāmaki Housing homes.

I also want to mention the mahi of Neil (our GM Housing), Greg (our Operations Manager), and Andy (Healthy Homes Advisor). In May this year the team completed their last upgrade for all our public homes to ensure they meet healthy homes standards.

It is a vast improvement in heating, insulation and ventilation in our older homes, but we know many of our whānau are still living in homes built in the 1940s which are not performing at the higher standards compared to our new homes.

I want to acknowledge the transitional housing opening we have had in the last year and mihi to the awesome community and our outcomes team, especially our GM of Outcomes Tara Moala (who was also made a member of the NZ Order of Merit – ka rawe e hoa) who have worked tirelessly to make this happen, to offer safe places for whānau.

So that’s some of my highlights. But I don’t want to gloss over how hard it is for whānau right at the moment.

Cyclone Gabrielle devastated many communities around the rohe and although we were not impacted massively by the flooding, I know that many of you will have whānau and friends who are still rebuilding from the devastation. We send you our aroha.

Petrol, bread, milk, veges and meat all just jumped up massively cost-wise also over the last year, putting way more pressure on providing the essentials for every home. If you are struggling to pay the rent e te whānau, keep in touch with your tenancy manager. We are here to support you.

Across the next year we are aiming to support whānau in the following areas:

- 39 public homes
- 11 shared ownership homes
- 87 market homes
- 150 locals employed
- 24 whānau into Shared Home ownership

I want to mihi to all our iwi partners. The mātauranga, tikanga and whakaaro rangatira that is shared with us is invaluable. Nei ngā kupu whakamiha ngā kupu mahana ngā kupu aroha ki a koutou me ā kotou mahi.

*Ki te kotahi te kakaho ka whati. Ki te kapuia e kore e whati.*

Alone we can be broken. Standing together we are invincible.

Ngā manaakitanga,  
Shelley



Shelley Katae hails from the mighty Te Rarawa and Ngāti Porou. She is the Chief Executive Officer at Tāmaki Regeneration and was the first wāhine Māori to be appointed in the CE role. She currently lives in Tāmaki Makaurau with her two sons and partner Nicky.



# COMING HOME

“It felt like my kuia and I were walking this journey together.”



The first time two-year-old Promise saw Maungarei, she knew straight away it was her maunga.

“We were in the car, and she pointed and said, ‘Pāpa, that’s my maunga’ without me even telling her,” Rangikahiwi Panapa says.

“My kuia is from Ngāti Pāoa so it was a real moment for us coming home, being back on our turangawaewae, our whenua.”

The Panapa whānau have been working towards home ownership for the past five years. Through the OWN IT Programme at Tāmaki Regeneration, they are now the proud owners of a

three-bedroom home in Glen Innes.

Moving back on the whenua has been healing for his whānau, Rangikahiwi says.

“My grandmother never talked about it, about where she came from,” he says.

“She had to move from the whenua and then by the late 1900s the land was already taken from us. She passed away a few years ago now but as Māori we know she’s always with us. When we were signing the papers for the house, when we saw the house for the first time, all of those moments, it felt like me and my kuia were walking this journey together. There’s no separation.”

Promise, who is now three years old, loves waking up and seeing her maunga every day.

“Pepeha is physical because we know it, we feel it, we see it,” says Rangikahiwi.

“We can’t really know our pepeha if we haven’t gone back to those places, they can just feel like words.







Now we see the maunga every day. It's a shadow of our everyday life. I get to hear the stories from the local kaumatua and hear ancient knowledge we had lost. I get to pass that knowledge down to my family."

Rangikahiwa is a registered teacher and key worker, teaching at Kedgley Intermediate, while his wife Salote is of Fijian descent and a lecturer at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa in Mangere.

The benefits of home ownership have been massive, he says. It has allowed the whānau to have food sovereignty and grow their own kai in the garden.

"We've got berry trees, avocado trees, lots of different vegetables and we're always giving our vegetables away. It's very Māori that when you have enough you give it to someone else," he says.

"We spent Matariki working in the mara and then giving kai away. I always let my kids take the bag and give so that they know what it feels like to give, to see the thankfulness on someone's face."

*"We need Māori and Pasifika families to believe home ownership is attainable."*

There are also other benefits of owning a home, such as future security.

"I don't have to worry that we will be told to move out in three or four weeks. I can establish my feet here and I can pass this house on to my kids," he says.

"It's a good feeling as parents to see your children enjoy something

and not worry about getting kicked out."

His advice for those working towards home ownership is to be resilient and look at the bigger picture.

"We need Māori and Pasifika families to believe home ownership is attainable," he says.

"There's a lot of hurdles and the most challenging part of the journey can be the physical paperwork. I think for a lot of people, that's a big turnoff. You're going to have to be resilient and just keep going. When you get fifty noes, remember you will get that one yes."

He also credits his wife, his faith in Jesus Christ and his Church leaders, and the TRC and community leaders for helping support his whānau towards their home ownership dream.



Rangikahiwa has felt his kuia, Eddierangiepeka Ruri (nee Anderson), throughout the journey of moving home.

Rangikahiwa Panapa and daughter Promise grow kai in their own backyard.



*The benefits of home ownership have been massive. It has allowed the whānau to have food sovereignty and grow their own kai in the garden.*



The Havili family outside their home in Point England.

# HOME OWNERSHIP SUCCESS FOR THE HAVILI FAMILY

The thought of owning their own home seemed like an unattainable dream for Samisoni and Mele Havili, but after taking part in the TRC OWN IT programme, they are proving that hard work, commitment, and perseverance really does pay off.

*“Our children were our main motivation and it felt good to do this for their future.”*

After completing TRC’s eight-week OWN IT programme online during the 2020 lockdown and participating in an additional financial literacy course, the couple were ecstatic to be offered a home only a year later.

The family of four settled in their new three-bedroom terrace house in Point England, and Mele says it still feels surreal.

“I still don’t believe it sometimes. We thought it would never be an option for us – especially with the current housing prices. Our children were our main motivation, and it felt good to do this for their future. If home ownership is something you really want, then it is definitely possible.”

The pair have been sharing their journey with family, friends, and church members to inspire others to utilise the home ownership sessions on offer.

“The programme changed the narrative for us, because we wanted to see results from our hard work. It’s a safe space to talk about debt, especially for Pasifika people,” Samisoni says.

“They will help you set realistic goals, to help get you from one stage to the next. At times it was a hard topic for us to discuss as a couple, to have the confidence to talk about money while still being conscious of our dreams.”

Samisoni and Mele say it was helpful for their journey to have mentors who regularly check in, and they encourage more local whānau to take that first step to reach out and learn for themselves.

“Coming across this programme was an eye-opening experience,” Mele says. “We learnt the importance of keeping track of our money and where we were spending it. Not just thinking about the present but thinking about the future as well. It isn’t easy, but it is achievable with the right support.”

“You have to be ready to make the commitment and take on the advice. Now we own our first home, and we’re over the moon! It’s the best feeling ever – up there with having our first child,” Samisoni says.

The OWN IT programme is available for everyone in Tāmaki. The workshops will help get you ready to apply for a mortgage, provide tools to help you buy your home, and equip you with skills to build a financial plan for your whānau (pay off debt and save for a deposit).

Visit [www.tamakiaffordablehomes.co.nz](http://www.tamakiaffordablehomes.co.nz) for more information.



## A MESSAGE FROM AFOA ABOUT OWN IT

Kia ora koutou and Talofa lava,

To date, we have helped 152 local whānau along the housing continuum in Tāmaki, with 69 placed into home ownership through the OWN IT shared home ownership programme supporting more Māori and Pasifika with strong community links to the Tāmaki area.

For most whānau, their journey begins with understanding their own financial and household circumstances. Whānau participate in the OWN IT financial capability workshops where they receive the tools to become mortgage ready, matching this to their own aspirations of owning a home.

In these workshops, whānau gather to share, learn, and gain the tools that will help them buy a home and keep it. For many of our Māori and Pasifika whānau, navigating the banking and legal requirements to buy a home can be tricky, but through the support of the team here at TRC and our delivery partners, we make this journey easier for them.

I am privileged to be part of a team that is committed to ensuring our local Tāmaki whānau, our Māori and Pasifika whānau, get to stay in their community and own their own home here.

Ia manuā.

Afoa Tevita Malolo  
General Manager Social  
Transformation

*“It’s a safe space to talk about debt, especially for Pasifika people.”*



# FOUR STEPS TO OWN IT

## HOW DOES OWN IT WORK?

**OWN IT** homes are for anyone who lives in or has a strong connection to Tāmaki. If you're working and have a total household income of up to \$130,000, talk to us.

We'd especially love to hear from Māori and Pasifika whānau. Follow our four steps to see how you can **OWN IT**.

## STEP ONE TALK TO OUR FRIENDLY TEAM

The first step is to come along to a free info session or talk to one of our team.

You'll find out:

- The best way to get ready to buy your own home in Tāmaki, depending on your situation.
- How to apply to get started on your **OWN IT** journey.

### Contact the team

At [homes@tamakiregeneration.co.nz](mailto:homes@tamakiregeneration.co.nz) or visit [tamakiaffordablehomes.co.nz](http://tamakiaffordablehomes.co.nz) to see when the next info session is.

## STEP TWO JOIN THE FREE OWN IT WORKSHOPS

*For everyone in Tāmaki - no matter what your household income is*

- Get yourself ready to apply for a mortgage.
- Learn about the financial help available to buy your home.
- Get the skills to build a financial plan for your whānau (pay off debt and save for a deposit).

## STEP THREE GET ON THE PATH TO OWN IT

There are **TWO PATHS** to buying an **OWN IT** home:

### 1. FOR TĀMAKI WHĀNAU WITH A HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF AROUND \$85,000-\$150,000

You can share the ownership of an **OWN IT** home with us first. This makes your loan payments lower so they're easier to afford. We'll also share any increase in the value of the house with you. As time goes on, you can buy our share until eventually you own the whole house.

### 2. For Tāmaki whānau with a combined household income of \$205,000

Whānau with multiple related family units living in the same household or larger whānau with six or more members can now combine their income to be eligible for the **OWN IT** programme. This path is ideal for families with adult children/close relatives in employment and living together. Whatever path you take, our friendly team will work with you at every step of the way, including signing you up, matching you with the right home, and helping you to apply for a mortgage.

## STEP FOUR OWN YOUR HOME FULLY

You eventually become the sole owner of your **OWN IT** home when you're ready to buy our share.

Don't worry if some of this seems a bit complicated. If you're a Tāmaki local, we can help you get ready to buy a home. Just get in touch with us today and we'll show you how it all works.



Email:  
[homes@tamakiregeneration.co.nz](mailto:homes@tamakiregeneration.co.nz)

More info:  
[tamakiaffordablehomes.co.nz](http://tamakiaffordablehomes.co.nz)







*"I don't see myself living anywhere else."*



## LOCAL WHĀNAU LAY DOWN PERMANENT ROOTS IN TĀMAKI

Grace Levi and Isaiah Tuiti joined OWN IT in 2021 and are now the proud owners of their first home – right in the heart of Tāmaki.

Grace was born and raised in Glen Innes and can't see herself living anywhere else.

Her family moved to Cook Islands from Aotearoa in the mid-1970s, where they lived in homes around Glen Innes and Point England. She has worked in and around Tāmaki and is currently based nearby at Tāmaki College as the Executive Assistant to the Principal.

When Grace and partner Isaiah received the keys to their new home, they say it was a moment they will never forget.

*"It really feels like our prayers have been answered. We were overwhelmed when we got the keys to our new home."*

"It really feels like our prayers have been answered. We were overwhelmed when we got the keys to our new home. We couldn't wait to tell our family and friends!"

The couple joined the OWN IT programme in 2021 and spent two years working hard towards their dream. They will be living with younger sister Hope, and daughter Alyssa.

"Home ownership wouldn't have been possible without the help and support of TRC and the Housing Foundation. Taking part in the OWN IT programme really helped us better understand what to expect when buying a house. We learnt the importance of budgeting, setting goals and putting a plan in place."

Living close to the Tāmaki Presbyterian Church has always been important to the whānau, so being able to buy a house locally and remain in the area has been a true blessing, says Grace. "I don't see myself living anywhere else."







# KIRI NATHAN OPENS HUB IN THE HEART OF GI

Renowned fashion designer and Glen Innes girl Kiri Nathan is smashing glass ceilings. This year Kiri will make history as the first Māori designer to open New Zealand Fashion Week.

Kiri is a third generation Glen Innes local who has whakapapa back to Ngāti Pāoa, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Hauā. She opened a local community hub called Te Āhuru Mōwai (meaning ‘safe place’) late last year, located across the road from the train station in Glen Innes.

The opening of Te Āhuru Mōwai was monumental with esteemed guests such as Kīngitanga and former Prime Minister Dame Jacinda Ardern in attendance.

Te Āhuru Mōwai is all about supporting the aspirations of Māori and Pasifika. The hub will be the home of community projects led by Kiri, such as the KN Rangatahi Enterprise programmes that Kiri hopes will run through local schools here in Tāmaki.

These programmes will see waste fabrics repurposed into products made by rangatahi, then sold through a basic enterprise model that teaches the next generation how to work sustainably and build their own incomes.

*“I love being back in the hood! Looking forward to working with rangatahi and creatives in Tāmaki.” - Kiri Nathan*

Follow Kiri Nathan on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date.



*“Ka ara ake tētahi, ka ara ake te katoa. One lifts, we all lift.”*

# CELEBRATE AOTEAROA – A TAONGA FOR ALL

Proud Tāmaki local Czarina Wilson has returned to her roots and set up a unique gift shop, Celebrate Aotearoa, in the heart of Glen Innes.

Located at 3/260 Apirana Ave across from the train station and next door to her mate Kiri Nathan’s hub Āhuru Mōwai, Celebrate Aotearoa is a perfect one-stop shop for Māori and Pasifika-inspired gifts and homeware, all made by talented kiwi artists and artisans from around the country. They stock a diverse range of Aotearoa-themed artwork, jewellery, homeware, books and more.

*Celebrate Aotearoa is a perfect one-stop shop for Māori and Pasifika-inspired gifts and homeware.*

After operating for four years in South Auckland, Czarina who is of Tongan and Scottish descent, felt the pull to come back home and feels proud to serve the community she holds close to her heart.

“Even though the area is changing and growing I think it is important for us to be able to hold onto and tell our stories from those who are no longer here or with us, to the people that are,” she says

Czarina says she has been overwhelmed by the support from the community since opening.

“Even though this started as a small business journey, returning has almost been a healing one as well through the arts, with new conversations and connections being made in this space.”

With a background in fashion, wearable arts and contemporary weaving, Czarina hopes to use her experience to create a hub at the space to inspire locals to share their own stories through creative forms. She has already hosted a few small networking events and plans to activate more pop-up sessions and workshops for aspiring creatives of all ages.

“I’m looking forward to growing this space, and I’m grateful for those who have helped me get it off the ground. We have well-established creatives on hand offering advice to grassroots Māori and Pasifika businesses, and that’s what it’s all about.”

**Celebrate Aotearoa is open on Monday - Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-3pm.**

**Visit Czarina at 3/260 Apirana Avenue, Glen Innes, Auckland.**



Czarina Wilson returns home and opens local business





# HEALTHY HOMES PROGRAMME ACHIEVES 100%

We are pleased to announce our Healthy Homes programme has met its 100% target! We would like to thank our partners and friends at Tāmaki Regeneration Company and Spencers, and all the suppliers and tradies who helped us reach our ambitious goal.

For the past few months our THA team has been out and about in the neighbourhood completing home visits. We use this opportunity to ensure all houses remain warm and dry, and everything is in working order. A huge thank you to tenants for taking the time to see us! Feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns.

You may have visited our Tenancy Managers at one of our pop-up offices out in the neighbourhood. We enjoyed meeting to answer some of your questions and to hear your feedback. Our team look forward to setting up future pop-up events for the community – hopefully when the weather is much warmer!

If you are thinking of buying a home and you have adult children living with you, we encourage you to get in touch with Selina Patia from the OWN IT team to sign up for the OWN IT programme as an intergenerational whānau. Selina can offer non-judgemental advice and assist with the registration process to help your household become mortgage ready.

Contact your Tenancy Manager to put you in touch with the OWN IT team or email [ownit@tamakiregeneration.co.nz](mailto:ownit@tamakiregeneration.co.nz).

Ngā mihi,  
Daphne Amosa  
Tāmaki Housing Area Manager

Healthy Homes Advisor Andy Sao-Ama checking a heat pump.



# A WARM HOME IS LIFE-CHANGING FOR WHĀNAU

With the installation of a heat pump and other upgrades, living in a warm home has been life-changing for Cass and her two kids, Delilah (six) and London (one).

Cassandra Mears can’t stop smiling. Her daughter London is bouncing with energy inside their cosy Panmure whare.

“I remember one winter, I was constantly going to the doctors with the kids,” she says. “They would be at home more than at school. It didn’t make me feel the best knowing I wasn’t providing the best for them.”

The Healthy Homes upgrade, Cass says, has made a huge difference to the kids’ health and the family’s overall happiness.

“In the winter, we have the heat pump on nearly every day so it’s really convenient,” she says.

“We set a timer for it to switch on at 5.30am so by the time we are up at quarter past six the whole house is nice and warm, and Delilah is in here with a blanket. It heats up the whole house,” she says.

“We used to have heaters in every room and a dehumidifier, so it was costing us a lot of money. Some people might see a heat pump as something little, but my kids are warm and happy now.”

*Cass estimates they save around \$60 a week on power, freeing up more money for other important essential items.*

“It used to cost us about \$105-\$100 a week in power. Honestly, try it out and if you’re really worried, wait for your next power bill to see the difference. You’ll be surprised.”

Cass grew up in Panmure with her grandparents and is a registered early childhood teacher. She’s lived in her whare for more than six years and has big dreams for her whānau.

“I want my kids to be happy and successful,” she says. “I love living in Tāmaki. There’s waka ama, netball, sport. I’m down the road from my grandparents. I love the community. It’s home. I feel safe here.”





Andy Sao- Ama says the installation of heat pumps has improved the health of whānau

*Over 701 working days, 2532 homes were certified as being compliant and over 2445 heat pumps were installed.*

## THE JOURNEY TO 2500 HEALTHY HOMES FOR TĀMAKI

Tāmaki Housing has completed its three-year programme to ensure all properties met the healthy homes regulations, ahead of schedule. Here's how Tāmaki Housing managed to deliver these upgrades across all its homes.

The Government passed the Healthy Homes Guarantee Act in 2017, with the healthy homes standards starting from mid-2019. These standards would not only ensure renters in Aotearoa have the right to live in a warm and dry rental home, but it also set deadlines for when all rental homes needed to be compliant by. The original completion date for Tāmaki Housing homes was June 2023.

"I remember standing in the office on Queens Rd and doing a quick calculation of how many houses we needed to complete over the next three years," says Neil Porteous, General Manager of Tāmaki Housing. "Two thousand, five hundred houses in three years. I thought, man, how are we going to do this?"

Property Maintenance Company, Spencers came on board, and together with TRC developed a programme that focused on the tenants' needs.

"Getting access to every property at the right time was a potential roadblock in maintaining that pace, so we needed someone who could literally get through the door," Neil says. "Andy was that person."

### We are all part of the village

Andy Sao-Ama was previously a Tenancy Manager at Tāmaki Housing and was hired to be the Healthy Homes Advisor, a full-time role supporting the upgrade programme.

He is from the villages of Lotofagā and Lau'i and says being from the same culture and background as many of the Pasifika and Māori tenants made a difference.

"I went in knowing we are all part of the village," Andy says. "You don't go in guns blazing. Trust starts with respect, and you need to build that relationship."

Many of the tenants were reluctant to have a heat pump installed for a number of reasons. Some were concerned about the use of electricity; some didn't know how to use a heat pump.

"Our elders are used to a fireplace in order to keep warm, or the 'old school' way of just adding more blankets, more layers of clothes," he says.

"You greet them respectfully, as if it's your own elders in your village. You sit down, you don't have a rebuttal, you just listen, you absorb. And then you portray your message as respectfully as you can."

"I was able to sit and talk with them about how heat pumps cost half as much to run as a wall heater but are significantly more efficient. This was for the benefit of their family."

Tāmaki Housing also produced videos in multiple languages to show tenants the best way to use a heat pump, and other tips on how to keep their home healthy.

Over 701 working days, 2532 homes were certified as being compliant and over 2445 heat pumps were installed. The changes, Andy says, have been amazing to witness.

"One whānau had kids with respiratory illnesses, so we got Healthy Homes underway as soon as possible. A month or two later I followed up and there was improvement in the health of the children," he says. "It always makes me feel grateful to improve the livelihood of whānau. It's why I want to be in this space. The most important thing is helping our families."

### A fantastic outcome

"From the beginning we were very deliberate about doing this work in a way that focused on whānau and their needs," Neil says.

"The team and our partners have managed a massive piece of work across 2500 homes while always staying true to that vision. It's a fantastic outcome and we're proud of the team – across Tāmaki Regeneration Company, Spencers, and all the suppliers and tradies that contributed – for all of their hard work."





# PROTECTING TAONGA

When it was discovered that a piece of land was once an ancient pā site, TRC and Mana Whenua worked together to create one of the country's first whare kōiwi.

Archaeologist Hans-Dieter Bader discovered evidence that a piece of land on Armein Road in Panmure was once a pā site – the first fortified pā site discovered in 150 years. TRC made the decision to forego plans for development and consulted with Mana Whenua about what to do with the land.

*“We don’t want to just put them in a box, we want to treat them with the mana they deserve.”*

TRC worked with Rikki Solomon (Ngāti Kahungunu) to establish one of the country's first whare kōiwi – a purpose-built facility for the temporary housing of kōiwi (or human bones) – that had been discovered on the whenua.

“The most important thing we can do is whakamana (give prestige to) the kōiwi. They’ve been sitting there for hundreds of years, maybe more,” says Rikki. “We don’t want to just put them in a box, we want to treat them with the mana they deserve and that’s why we make harakeke for them, whariki (mats), uku props, uku kōiwi so they go into uku (pottery). We wanted to create a specific space under the maunga and we are just humbled to be able to assist Mana Whenua.”

*A story on the whare kōiwi and the discovery of a pā site on Armein road was featured on Ohinga, a te reo Māori series by Re: News.*

[www.renews.co.nz/undocumented-pa-site-discovered-in-auckland-during-building-works/](http://www.renews.co.nz/undocumented-pa-site-discovered-in-auckland-during-building-works/)

Rikki Solomon (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa) has opened a whare kōiwi in Tāmaki – a place specially designed to preserve kōiwi or human remains.



COMMUNITY AND  
AIGA HONOUR  
BELOVED REVEREND



Setefano family matriach, Lealofisa Setefano, pictured with Reverend Elama Maea who conducted the special day.

*The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; The Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalms 118:22-24.*

A new street in Point England has been named in honour of the late and much-loved Reverend Elder Leiite Setefano, who served the community for more than 46 years – 36 of those spent leading the PIPC Tāmaki Church.

*“He leaves behind a wonderful legacy and will forever be remembered for his love for the people of Tāmaki.”*

Family, friends, Auckland City councillors, Local Board representatives and community members gathered to celebrate the opening of Leiite Setefano Way, led by close friend and Reverend Elama Maea, six years to the day after the Reverend’s passing.

The day was made extra special as it was also the birthday of Reverend Setefano’s wife, Lealofisa Setefano, who beamed with pride surrounded by her aiga (family) and loved ones.

Afoa Tevita Malolo of TRC, Councillor Josephine Bartley, Nicolas Giraldo from Housing Foundation and Adam Johnstone from Kāinga Ora shared touching words on the significance of the occasion and spoke of their own memories and interactions with the late Reverend.

The Setefano aiga were grateful for all the love and support from the community and shared a heartfelt message.

“Viia le Atua - To God be all glory, honour and praise! It was a very proud moment to see the road sign being unveiled and the road blessed by Rev. Elama Maea, not only for our mother and the children, but also a proud moment for our aiga potopoto (extended family), our church family (Tāmaki Pacific Islanders’ Presbyterian Church) and the Glen Innes community.”

“On behalf of our mother Lealofisa and our Setefano aiga, we express our gratitude and thanks to Shelley Katae and the team at TRC for all your kindness, aroha and support provided to our family. The contribution made the day and occasion both special, and memorable.”

“The ultimate blessing will be the people that have come to know our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ through our father’s Ministry.”

Rev Setefano was named a recipient of the Samoa College Old Pupils Association (S.C.O.P.A) New Zealand Lifetime Achievement Award for his service to religion in New Zealand and awarded the Queen’s Service Medal for Community Service (QSM).

He leaves behind a wonderful legacy and will forever be remembered for his love for the people of Tāmaki and his decades of service to the community.



Setefano aiga gather below the new sign.



# COMMUNITY GRANTS

## AN UPDATE FROM OUR COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE CHAIR

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It fills me with pride to be writing the first Community Liaison Committee Chair report.

I would like to begin by acknowledging the recent flooding in Tāmaki and the exceptional response demonstrated by our community as they rallied together to provide support and assistance to those affected. This collaborative effort is a testament to the invaluable role that community-based services play in times of crisis.

Secondly, I want to acknowledge our partnership with Tāmaki Regeneration Company (TRC). In 2015, the CLC was established to provide a community voice to the way TRC works, and since then we have consistently collaborated to deliver on outcomes for Tāmaki.

In late 2022, we worked together to develop a community-led grant distribution programme which supported three tertiary students into higher education and provided funds to many more community projects. Creating equitable outcomes lay at the heart of these grants so we were elated to see so many strong applications from our Pasifika and Māori community. We are excited to announce that the community grants will be reopening later this year.

Growing the governance capabilities in Tāmaki is a priority for the CLC. Over 2022 and 2023, the CLC and TRC contracted KPMG to deliver a series of Governance 101 workshops to community leaders in Tāmaki. Attendees learnt about governance roles and responsibilities, strategy, leadership, and financial analysis from governance specialists, Matthew Mudford and Carlos Talataina.

I also want to congratulate Barry Bublitz, board director of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, who is the first sponsor of the CLC and TRC partnership to complete the Institute of Director’s Company Directors course. Finally, good luck to the four other community and Mana Whenua members attending the company directors’ course later this year.

In closing, I want to thank Shelley Katae, the TRC senior leadership team, and my fellow committee members for their dedication to our kaupapa and the wider Tāmaki community.

Nāku nā,

Maria Meredith  
Community Liaison Committee Chair



## NEW CLINIC IS A SAFE SPACE FOR MĀORI AND PASIFIKA

Glen Innes local Anne-Marie Erick (Alofi/Hakupu Niue) is giving back to the place closest to her heart.

Anne-Marie has set up her own private practice in Glen Innes, the Taula Clinic – a safe space to provide therapy to women and young people who have lived through trauma and experienced domestic violence.

*“There is a great need out in the community, so I’m glad to be able to offer my help.”*

As one of four recipients awarded the CLC grant for Social Innovation, Anne-Marie wants to remove the negative stigma that is often connected to people seeking professional help.

She has been working with a number of clients referred from healthcare providers who otherwise would have no access to this type of specialised counselling.

“Since setting up my practice, I realised that there is a significant need for services to heal individuals from the symptoms and emotional distress that are the result of extreme negative life experiences – especially Māori and Pasifika people,” she says.

“When this clinic is fully functioning, I will be able to provide further counselling and psychological services to more families, women and young people who have difficulty accessing this type of therapy. There is a great need out in the community, so I’m glad to be able to offer my help.”

The proud Mum used the support to further her professional development in Trauma Informed Therapy – specifically Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing Therapy.

In partnership with Tāmaki Regeneration (TRC), the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) launched several CLC Community Grants to provide funding opportunities that tautoko (support) the delivery of local projects and initiatives in the area.

“The CLC grants will provide opportunities for our community to grow stronger and add value, through funding education, business development and environmental initiatives,” says Anne-Marie.

You can follow Anne-Marie and the Taula Clinic on [www.facebook.com/TaulaClinicNZ](https://www.facebook.com/TaulaClinicNZ)



Anne-Marie Erick creates a safe space in Glen Innes.





Local hero Tara Moala.

# WAHINE TOA HONoured FOR SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Environmental hero and Glen Innes local Tara Moala says she is humbled to be made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in the King's Birthday and Coronation Honours 2023.

Tara (Waikato-Tainui, Ngāti Māhanga Hourua, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Paoa, Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa, Ngā Rauru) was honoured for her contribution to the community and the environment through 20 years of service.

"It is humbling to have been nominated by my community and to receive this prestigious honour, there are so many others in the community who work so hard for us all that are just as deserving," Tara says.

*"I'm most proud of any project or activity that I can walk away from, where I helped create local leaders who step up and lead for themselves."*

The māmā of three began work as a Youth and Social Worker and founded Rākau Tautoko, which has supported 20 Community Development Practitioners over the years to engage and empower communities. She takes on the role as tuakana (big sister) and ensures all community projects are for the community and remain within the community.

She has worked on creating environmental projects including Hub Zero, supporting waste-based social enterprises and Tāmaki WRAP which now operates as an independent trust educating communities on ways to reduce waste.

"I'm most proud of any project or activity that I can walk away from, where I helped create local leaders who step up and lead for themselves," she says.

"It's important to back the community to grow and hold their own, and to equip them with tools they need to thrive and succeed. Sometimes, people just need a small spark to help them get off the ground."

Tara was awarded an Atlantic Fellowship for Social Equity in 2022 and the Lifekeepers Award in 2018, and recently completed a master's degree in social change leadership with a focus on indigenising regeneration.

As the new General Manager of Outcomes at Tāmaki Regeneration Company, she is using her mātauranga (knowledge) to push for equity outcomes for whānau Māori and Pasifika in Tāmaki. She designed a system for repurposing old housing stock destined for landfill and worked on building up local Māori and Pacific entities to create sustainable projects, products, and services.

Tara feels excited about what the future holds and is keen to continue building networks to create more opportunities for others.

"I'm really excited about TRC's direction. We're working on more ways to continue helping and supporting community members to run and lead their own initiatives."



# MEET OUR ENGAGEMENT TEAM

You might have seen these four wāhine out and about in the neighbourhoods – they are keen to listen to your feedback so we can shape Tāmaki together.



**KRISTIN WINIATA**  
(Ngai Tamarawaho o Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Kahungunu, and Ngā Puhi)

**Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Engagement Lead**

As the Lead Engagement with Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau, Kristin Winiata is passionate about connecting communities within Tāmaki and draws inspiration from her Ngai Tamarawaho o Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Kahungunu, and Ngā Puhi roots.

Through her dedicated role working closely with infrastructure and development planning, she advocates as a voice for local iwi within Glen Innes, Pt England, and Panmure.

Before TRC, she spent seven years working in South Auckland as a Tenancy Manager at Kāinga Ora and continues to utilise those skills and expertise to create positive engagement opportunities throughout Tāmaki.

“I’m driven by initiatives that create equitable change for all, so I look forward to learning more by walking alongside Mana Whenua.”



**TAMMY ELISARA**  
(Satuimalufilufi Upolu, Vaegā/ Satupaitea Savaii Samoa)

**Senior Development Engagement Lead**

As the Senior Development Lead in the Engagement Team, Tammy Elisara’s top priority is to share information with the community about upcoming developments in Tāmaki so the community knows what is happening and can provide input. With a degree as a Town Planner and almost 10 years at TRC under her belt, she values the connections held with TRC partners and local stakeholders.

“I have spent the last 10 years working for TRC in different capacities. Having the degree has helped me understand the ‘why and why not’ aspects of planning. We don’t always get it right, but we are doing our best for our whānau and for the future of Tāmaki.”

Originally a Mt Wellington/Glen Innes local, Tammy now lives in South Auckland and is happily married with an 11-year-old daughter.

“I enjoy serving the community of Tāmaki; a thrilling rollercoaster ride is how I would describe it. My aiga and faith drives me to do my best no matter what situation I’m put in.”



**MELANIE MAGELE**  
(Iva, Ga’utavai Savaii Samoa)

**Engagement Lead**

TRC Engagement Lead, Melanie Magele is the newest member of the team and brings with her a background in audiology, working with the elderly and hearing impaired.

Her busy role at TRC includes developing engagement plans for neighbourhood projects and gathering feedback to drive community initiatives.

As a single parent to two beautiful babies, Mel credits her faith, Samoan heritage, and supportive parents for giving her the drive to do her best for Tāmaki.

“I am so proud to work with an organisation that is committed to achieving better outcomes for Māori and Pasifika. I love the fact that I am putting my hand to something that will bring generational change, and I love the connections I have made with colleagues who are just as passionate. I’m choosing a path that not only I can be proud of, but my daughters can be proud of, too!”



**SAMANTHA ATASANI**  
(Tamakautoga, Alofi Niue)

**Engagement Coordinator**

Hofihofi atu e tau fakaalofa ki mutolu oti. Ko e higoa haaku ko Samantha Atasani Vesikula. Fanau au i Okalana nei moe nofo atu kehe tama maaga tose ko Glen Innes.

Samantha Atasani Vesikula’s journey at TRC started within the Tāmaki Housing whānau before moving into the marketing division. She is now with the Engagement team as a coordinator.

Born and raised in Glen Innes, Sammy credits her late father, Huki Atasani, as the inspiration behind her drive for change in Tāmaki.

“My Dad’s encouragements still follow me through all that I set out to conquer and achieve. My husband and family also drive me on a daily basis.

“It has always been a passion of mine to be able to work in my community, for my community, whether it be by utilising my creative background in Art and Design or just being able to support the community in any way possible.”

Being able to stay connected with the neighbourhood is important to Sammy, and she values the dedication of her team who are out and about working in our neighbourhoods.



**DEBORAH MISIUEPA**  
(Waikato-Tainui, Niue)

**General Manager of Engagement and Communications**

Tēnē tātou katoa. Fakaalofa lahi atu ki a mutolu oti. It is a privilege to serve as the new Tumu Maiaka – General Manager of Engagement and Communications. I am of Waikato-Tainui descent and the Rock of Polynesia, Niue. I am a product of this community, was schooled here, continue to live here and now work at Tāmaki Regeneration Company.

I sit on the Ruapōtaka Marae Board and the Vaka Manu’kau Niue Community Trust Board. I am the Te Uru Karaka-Director and a member of the Manukau & Tamaki Outrigger Canoe Clubs and NZ Council and the Pacific Womens’ International Network.

Something you might not know about me is I spent one month paddling down the Congo-Zaire River and covered over 1000 kilometres. It made me appreciate and come to the realisation that my parents worked really hard so that we would not go without. I took this for granted and this was a real learning.

The vision and potential to reflect the aspirations of this community is lofty. But in the words of Tā Heemi Henare, “We’ve come too far to not go further, we’ve done too much to not do more” and therein lies the opportunity and the challenge. I’m looking forward to working alongside a diverse, knowledgeable, and creative leadership team.





Raade Brown (right) in action behind the camera at Warner Bros.

# RANGATAHI LAND DREAM JOBS IN TV

Raade Brown has launched his career in the film and television industry, an opportunity he never thought possible – all thanks to Tāmaki Jobs and Skills Hub.

*“These opportunities open doors to industries that would never have been possible.”*

Raade Brown’s dreams are coming true.

The proud Samoan and Cook Islander has landed his dream job interning as Lead Camera Assist at Warner Bros NZ, an international TV production company.

The 24-year-old grew up in Mt Wellington and initially approached Tāmaki Jobs & Skills Hub for help with getting his driver’s license, which led to the opportunity at Warner Bros.

“I’m grateful to the hub for opening the door to this

incredible opportunity for me to follow my dream,” Raade says.

“I didn’t know that without formal training I would still be able to have a career in TV production, so I’m very thankful to the team at the hub for putting me forward for this role.”

Through her contact with the Glen Innes-based hub, Angela Fa’apoi, who is from Tonga, also works as the Office Personal Assistant at Warner Bros NZ. She wants to encourage other Māori and Pasifika rangatahi to chase their dreams.

“Don’t ever be afraid to back yourself and go hard for what you believe in,” Angela says. “The challenges I encounter are always different, especially when problem-solving in a white dominated industry. Diversity is important.”

Following this success, a pilot initiative, Square One, was created by Warner Bros NZ, Tāmaki Jobs & Skills Hub and other collectives to continue building pathways for Māori and Pasifika to enter the film and television industry.

*“Square One was designed to intentionally remove the barriers that make it hard for young Māori and Pasifika people to get into the screen industry,”*

Farah Jacobs is a proud Tāmaki local and Head of Commercial Development at Warner Bros.

“Square One was designed to intentionally remove the barriers that make it hard for young Māori and Pasifika people to get into the screen industry,” Farah says.

“I saw a chance to help our local rangatahi into this organisation. We aim to offer production roles every year, and creating this pathway will enable us to tell more rich, diverse, and authentic stories that represent the multicultural society that is Aotearoa today.”

Overall, 16 applicants were selected to participate in the project, which began with an intensive two-day workshop providing an overview of the industry.

From the workshop, four rangatahi were chosen for paid roles with mentoring and support provided by experienced crew to support the new recruits’ success.

All participants become part of a Square

One alumni network, staying connected and receiving information about upcoming opportunities.

Tāmaki Jobs & Skills Hub Manager Alice Taupau is excited about the programme’s success so far and encourages more support from organisations in the community.

“Partnerships like this create amazing opportunities for Māori and Pasifika that would otherwise not be accessible to them,” she says. “These opportunities open doors to industries that would never have been possible.”





## TWO NEW TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SITES OPEN

TRC was honoured to support the opening of two more Transitional Housing sites in Panmure – one on the corner of Pilkington Road and Erima Avenue and the latest addition on Coates Crescent.

The new units come fully furnished to welcome whānau into short-term accommodation until a long-term home becomes available for them.

Te Huruhi Trust and Te Pera Mahi Oranga Trust will be managing each complex and providing valuable wrap-around services to support each whānau to succeed.

TRC would like to thank our valued partners, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and Tāmaki Kāinga Haumarū Collective, and we acknowledge Hon Dr Megan Woods, who approved the funding for the Tāmaki transitional housing programme. Thanks also to Marama Davidson and Jenny Salesa for their continuous support as we deliver this important kaupapa for Tāmaki.



## DEVELOPMENT IN NEW CONCORD NEIGHBOURHOOD UNDERWAY

The Concord Development sits close to the Glen Innes Leisure Centre with strong links to the Tāmaki River, Ōmaru Creek and Point England Reserve. There are plans to build around 70-80 new homes for local whānau here.

While working closely with Ngāti Pāoa, land remediation/development works are currently being carried out in preparation.

If you have been wondering about the progress of the project, see below for a list of frequently asked questions. Alternatively, you can visit the Concord Social Pinpoint link at [trc.mysocialpinpoint.com/concord-glen-innes](https://trc.mysocialpinpoint.com/concord-glen-innes) to leave feedback.



Proposed view into Concord Place from within the new JOAL (jointly owned access lot)

### FAQS

#### When is the Concord Development scheduled to start?

The building consent design work is estimated for December 2023. The date to start civil work is estimated for April 2024.

#### How many homes will be built? How many bedrooms?

There will be 84 dwellings in total, a mixture of 1-6 bedroom homes in different types (i.e. the majority will be 1 and 2-bedroom apartment units)

#### Will the homes be built for public housing only?

Roughly 57% will be for public housing (48 homes, including apartments). The remaining 43% (36 homes) will be offered via shared home ownership (Affordable Housing).

#### What will happen in the shared communal space?

This is currently designed as an adaptable area for play and other uses for whānau, connecting from Concord Place through the park walkway. Tell us what you think – we are open to ideas on how you want to use this space.

#### Will there be access to the reserve?

There is a path network which allows access near the Ōmaru creek Auckland Council has plans to upgrade the access and we are seeking to partner with them to improve this connection to the reserve.

#### How high will the apartments or homes be?

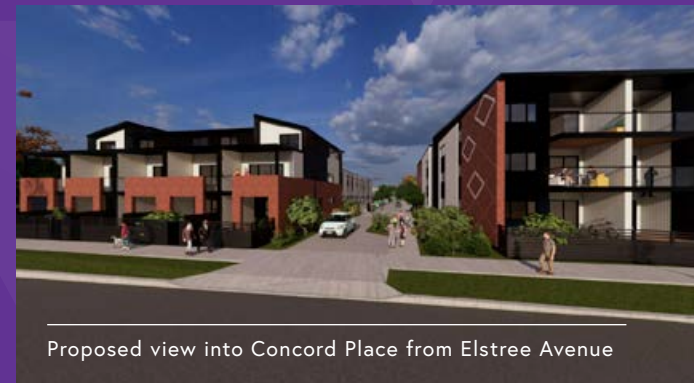
All homes will be either two or three levels, so the maximum height is three storeys.

#### Will there be homes built with wheelchair access?

Yes, 33 of the homes will be mobility friendly.

#### Who will maintain the creek?

TRC is exploring partnerships with Auckland Council and Healthy Waters to enhance water quality results, involving different treatment approaches and suitable vegetation planting. Currently, Auckland Council and Healthy Waters are in charge of planning the stream's maintenance, including ongoing monitoring of water quality and erosion control. The project aims to contribute to this goal by implementing appropriate vegetation planting.



Proposed view into Concord Place from Elstree Avenue



Proposed view within Concord Place of JOAL communal area



# BRADLEY LANE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

As Auckland's longest-running street art festival, 2022 marked the 10th annual Bradley Lane Project, sharing local art with the community.

TGTB Charitable Trust is the main driving force behind the Bradley Lane Project, and with the support from local organisations such as Tāmaki Regeneration Company, Maungakiekie Tāmaki Local Board, and Glen Innes Business Association, the outdoor mural festival grows from strength to strength, weaving a tapestry of colours, stories, and inspiration that captures the hearts of locals and visitors alike.

Throughout the decade, 39 artists have painted 49 outdoor murals – with 39 on display throughout the Glen Innes town centre. Every year, new artists are invited to add to the existing murals during the festival, which also includes an exciting event programme featuring a mixture of live painting, an art exhibition, street art tours, workshops, art activities, live music, and more.

To celebrate its tenth year, the traditional three-day festival was replaced with an innovative programme that spanned five months, with one new mural painted every month from October until February.

In January, our Sunday Session event included free live music and performances, a free BBQ, face-painting and a bouncy castle for kids, a 3x3 youth basketball tournament organised by GI Eagles, and the opening of our annual Bradley Lane Project art exhibition, hosted by The Good The Bad Gallery and Te Oro. The laneway was packed as hundreds of people came to take part.

The new TGTB Charitable Trust Director and artist, Claudine Mailei, was born and raised in Glen Innes and first joined the Bradley Lane project in 2016 as a youth artist assistant.

“When I first joined the Bradley Lane project, I started off as a mural assistant, then helped with odd jobs like running social media accounts, graphic design and gallery assistant. Then in 2019 I was asked to be a featured artist, and now my mural is behind the Salvation Army.”

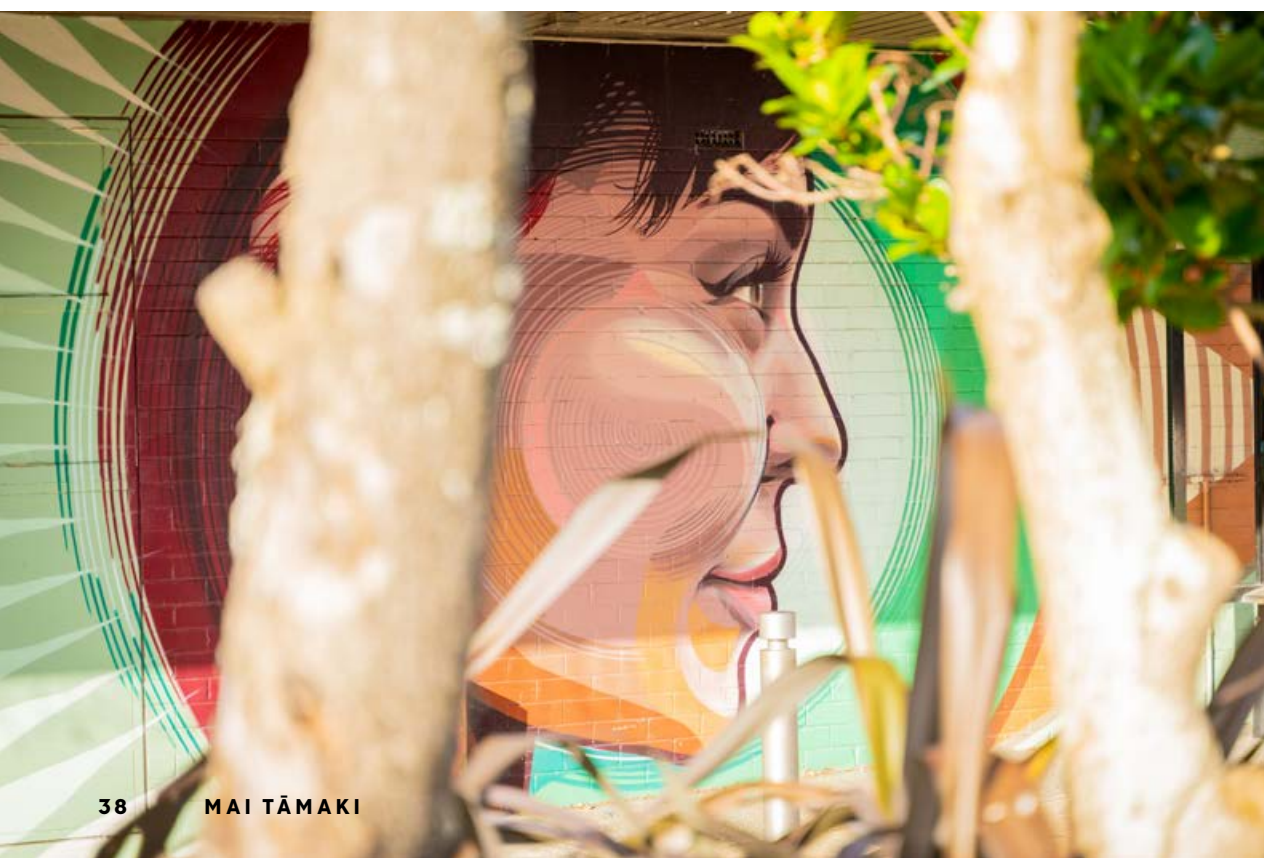
This year the festival will take place for three months from October to December.

For more info on the Bradley Lane Project and to view the murals online, visit [www.project.bradleylane.nz](http://www.project.bradleylane.nz)



*Throughout the decade, 39 artists have painted 49 outdoor murals  
– with 39 on display throughout the Glen Innes town centre.*







# USING DIFFERENCES TO HIS ADVANTAGE

A young artist with autism says art has got him through some challenging times.

With his bubbly nature and outgoing personality, it would be hard to miss Haz Crawford (Ngāi Tahu), even in a large crowd. The 22-year-old local artist expresses himself by creating unique pieces of art, influenced by his own experiences of growing up with autism.

With the support of his good friend and mentor, The Good The Bad Gallery Director Gary Silipa, Haz was inspired to create an exhibition at the Glen Innes studio to showcase the talents of other creatives on the autism spectrum.

The Good The Bad Gallery is a community arts initiative that works in conjunction with Tāmaki Regeneration Company to highlight local Tāmaki artists.

Haz was diagnosed with autism at 17 months old, and later with ADHD at 15 years of age. In the years to follow he also experienced episodes of depression and anxiety. Despite these obstacles, Haz is proud to be different and chooses to use his experiences to encourage others who may need support.

“I used to struggle a lot, but being involved with art and taking up other hobbies has helped me to get through some challenging times. Now, I use my differences to my advantage – especially with my Māori heritage and as a proud member of the LGBTQBT community. I want to continue to be a voice for everyone on the spectrum, and to inspire people who are still struggling with their own mental health.”

Belinda Johnston is proud of her son’s achievements and has been his number one supporter since day one. “Haz’s father and I are super proud of his passion to give back to others and to support other neuro-diverse people to express themselves through the arts. He loves living in Glen Innes so it was very important for Haz that the exhibition be at a venue in the heart of his community,” she says.

The event aligned with the World Autism Awareness Day and each piece of work on display shared a small glimpse into the world of the artists living with autism.

The exhibition had its very own special opening and featured several performances and guest speakers which included the Minister for Disability Issues, Hon Priyanca Radhakrishna, and Tamara Grant from the Xabilities organisation.

When he’s not being creative, Haz enjoys playing golf and is currently a member of the New Zealand Mini Golf Federation. He has competed in tournaments at a national level and is currently taking professional PGA lessons with the hopes of representing New Zealand at the Special Olympics and to work towards a professional career.

Wishing you all the best Haz!



Haz Crawford in Bradley Lane.



# VOICES OF OUR RANGATAHI

Whakarongo ki te Reo Mātātahi.  
Writing and artwork from the young people of Glen Innes.

As Project Manager at Te Hononga Akoranga COMET, Dr Will Flavell is passionate about ensuring there is support for educational and employment opportunities for local rangatahi.

Dr Flavell has worked with year 7 and 8 students at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Puau Te Moana Nui a Kiwa and Glen Innes School to create a book to highlight issues that are important to the tamariki and their whānau.

The stories cover a wide range of subjects and real-life experiences such as the environment, racism, bullying, discrimination, COVID-19 effects, the future of te reo Māori and the allocation of resources to communities.

“The idea is that we use this book to elevate their voices,” says Dr Will Flavell. “Our tamariki should play an essential role in contributing to issues that affect them.”



Will Flavell with talented rangatahi.

They are creative, eager, and bright, and their voices matter. We need to continue to provide the skills and platform to allow them to speak for themselves, to build confidence with encouragement wherever possible.”

TRC provided funding support for the initiative and will be sharing the talents of local rangatahi in the form of poems, creative writing, and art pieces in future issues of Mai Tāmaki, beginning with the excerpts below taken from the COMET book.

Watch this space for future writers, authors and artists from Tāmaki!

To view the online book, visit [www.cometauckland.org.nz/our-campaigns/current-campaigns/education-m%C4%81ori](http://www.cometauckland.org.nz/our-campaigns/current-campaigns/education-m%C4%81ori)



Artwork by Tumannako Rakai.



Artwork by Tevita Arthur.

## LIVING IN GLEN INNES

By Nia-Jaye Witika

Glen Innes is a suburb in Tāmaki Makaurau. It has a population of around 4,410 people. The local iwi here is Ngāti Pāoa and the local marae is Ruapōtaka. It is a family friendly community with free family events but it also has many takeaway stores, dirty sidewalks and old shops.

If we travel further to the east, other suburbs such as Howick and Botany Downs are much bigger “superb” communities with clean streets and many tidy coffee stores. This could be that more resources are put into places like Howick because of the rich locals and the bigger population.

If locals do their part in Glen Innes, we can make our space a better place to live. A more beautiful community can be more inviting for outsiders who are curious about what is going on in our community and we can gain more customers in local stores. The money can be used to renovate the stores and that can be a start to a better community.

Cleaning out our streams like Omaru Creek will help because plants grow better near water. Our creek and its walkway will improve and it can also encourage people to walk more. This will help with people’s wellbeing especially during Covid-19 lockdowns. Not long ago, the streams here were perfect to swim in and then they got polluted. If we had swimmable streams, it would be great for our community and in the summer because of the hot weather. If we look after the environment, the environment will look after us.

There is so much potential here in Glen Innes and I believe that younger people should have a bigger say on how to make Glen Innes a better place to live.

## POVERTY IN AOTEAROA

By Storm Tamariki

Poverty is when a person, people or a community lack the financial resources and essentials for a minimum standard of living. Poverty means that the income level from employment is too low. There are about 682,500 people that are experiencing poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand. There are people on benefits that struggle.

If you’re on the minimum wage, you will get \$21.20 per hour. That is \$169.60 for eight hours in the day.

If you’re starting out, you will get paid \$16.96 an hour and that is \$135.68 for eight hours in the day. Is that enough to live on?

Houses are expensive to rent and buy in Aotearoa. In Glen Innes, we see a lot of houses being built. My question is, who can rent or buy these houses? Another question is, why is it cheaper to buy unhealthy kai than healthy kai?





# MAI TĀMAKI

Mai Tāmaki is produced for the people of Tāmaki about the people of Tāmaki.  
The magazine is published by Tāmaki Regeneration Company.

The proposed Tāmaki Regeneration as depicted in this publication is indicative only and is intended to give an idea of what the final Tāmaki Regeneration might be like. Some parts of the development are still at an early planning stage and the final development therefore may differ materially from that shown in this publication. Some applicable regulatory consents and approvals are yet to be obtained. Some of the photographs and artwork in this publication are included for artistic purposes only and may not be accurate representations or reproductions of actual places or facilities at or in the vicinity of the proposed Tāmaki Regeneration.

SPRING 2023  
[maitamaki.co.nz](http://maitamaki.co.nz)

