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On March 21 2024, Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti became Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti - Healthy, Active, Connected.

The need for this change became apparent when developing our current Strategic Plan. It was recognised that our name, Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti no longer reflected accurately what we do and who we are. While sport continued to be a major focus other areas like health/hauora, nutrition, activity and play have become equally important and are core functions of our organisation.

So, after nearly three years in the making, we are now Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti. This name was born from several meetings involving our board and staff and engaging with a range of community members. "Whiti" is to shine/bring light, and "Ora" is wellbeing/health. Together, and for Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti, it is interpreted to mean 'radiate the joy of living'. To extend it even further, it's to 'radiate the joy of living through sport, active recreation, health and play'. This name allies far better towards our core functions, it enables funders to have a better understanding of what we do for our community.

I would like to thank Tracey Harkess and Libby Te Rauna for all their perseverance, time and effort to ensure our rebranding was successfully achieved. Thanks and appreciation are also extended to Tai and Rina Kerekere of KE Design who developed the brand and new logo.

As a trust we continue to go from strength to strength. We have once again received a very positive reviews from Sport NZ and the RST Stakeholders Survey. Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti is fortunate to have such a motivated and dedicated CEO in Stefan Pishief who leads a team that is committed to our vision of "expanding the horizons for an active, healthy, connected Te Tairāwhiti".

The landscape of sport, play and activity is changing rapidly and offers our trust plenty of challenges keeping our community active. People are spending an increasing amount of time tuned into their digital lives and becoming less active. Climate change is causing extreme weather events from heat waves to "rain bombs". The increase in the cost of living is causing financial strife for many whānau. These are all contributing to an adverse effect on participating in active recreation that we need find innovative ways to overcome this.

In closing, I have been very fortunate to chair a very stable board. It continues to be a privilege working with such a dedicated group of individuals who all play instrumental roles in leading our trust with their insights and unique expertise. I would like to once again thank my colleagues; Grant Bramwell (Deputy Chair), Andy Cranston, Naomi Whitewood, Walton Walker, Theo Akroyd, Lyall Evans, Alice Pettigrew, Belinda Mackay and Tui Babbington for their support and contributions throughout the year.

Flance!

Thank you Steve Berezowski





Tēnā koutou

The switch to Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti was a significant event in our proud history. The new name feels right for our organisation. It captures the essence of who we are, the communities we serve, and it allows us to embark on our mahi with confidence. I want to reiterate the gratitude shown by our Chairperson Steve to everyone who was involved with this mammoth effort. It has heralded a new era, and we are excited about what the future holds for us.

In another pleasing development, 13 regional sports trusts from across the country - including Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti - formed a national network with the support of Sport NZ. This network embraces our shared purpose of raising activity levels across our communities, and it will enable us to better support each other to do so. How? Through the delivery of our Te Tiriti obligations, the sharing of best practice and training programmes, and advocating as a combined and powerful voice at a national level.

Any support we can get nationally to help us be more effective is critical, because closer to home, we know it's been a tough few years for Te Tairāwhiti. Our region is still in recovery mode and that will last for some time. Many in our community are feeling a sense of anxiety and uncertainty around what the future holds. One critical part of the healing process is the ability for people to reconnect with one another through being active. We all know the massive benefits that come from sport, active recreation, and play, and how it contributes to our wider health and wellbeing.

Our sport and recreation codes and clubs, and our schools and kura, are to be commended for the continued services they have been providing to our communities during these challenging times. However, we also know many of these organisations are battling pressures such as changing memberships, financial sustainability, volunteer retention, and substandard facilities (to name but a few). We need to build upon the work carried out post Cyclone Gabrielle where the strengths of coming together as a sector were evident, and where innovation allowed obstacles to be overcome. As we enter a new year, we are committed to ensuring we have thriving sport and recreation sectors.

The last year also saw some great successes. The surge in activities and support being provided to the Coast has been very encouraging, including a large focus on healthy kai, and I applaud Darryl and his team for their work in this regard. The East Coast is a priority area for us given its isolation and lack of general amenities and services. Yet we also know it is an area rich in culture and history, and where many community champions are dedicated to bringing about a brighter future for our tamariki and rangatahi – they just need that additional support.

We are also seeing the increasing prominence of play right across our rohe. With the addition of a play advocate in Council, and our acquiring of a Tākaro Māori Play Lead role, we are enjoying a greater sharing of insights, and 2023-24 Annual Report 5

more coordinated regional planning to bring Neighbourhood Play Systems and other play initiatives to life. Let's not forget that play is the critical foundation required for all other activities.

The significant hauora audit we underwent last year required a lot of preparation, but the results were extremely pleasing, and the audit endorsed our changing approach where the team spend more time immersed in communities, and where they have increased the ability for people to self-refer to our services at a time that works best for them. A great result from our team!

I will close out my report by giving my sincere thanks to those who we couldn't do this without. We have many partners who bring about great outcomes for communities, and being able to work together makes us all much more effective at what we do. Thank you for your trust in us, and it is a privilege working alongside you. And I absolutely need to mention our fantastic team. Our people at Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti are not immune to the pressures being felt by people across our region. Yet they front up every day, determined to achieve great outcomes for our communities, and always willing to go that extra mile. I have never worked with a better group of people.

To our board chairperson Steve, thank you for your continued support, guidance and leadership, and your ability to always see the bigger picture with the work that we do. To the rest of the board, I greatly appreciate the passion you have for our communities and the mahi of Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti, and the valuable advice and perspectives you bring to the board table each time.

To those that fund us, we never take it for granted. We hope you saw the impact of our mahi last year and realised the vital role you played in making that happen. We are determined to share even more with you this year how your funding has changed the lives of many in Tairāwhiti.

Tilly Phily

Ngā mihi nui Stefan Pishief



OUR BOARD



STEVE BEREZOWSKI Chairperson



GRANT BRAMWELLDeputy Chairperson



TUI BABBINGTON Board Member



THEO AKROYD
Board Member



NAOMI WHITEWOOD
Board Member



LYALL EVANSBoard Member



ALICE PETTIGREW
Board Member



ANDY CRANSTONBoard Member



BELINDA MACKAY
Board Member



WALTON WALKER Board Member

OUR PEOPLE



STEFAN PISHIEF



WADE MANSON Community Lead



PIP THOMSON Office Manager



LIBBY TE RAUNA
Kaiwhitiki and Business
Advisor



TRACEY HARKESS
Engagement and
Intelligence Advisor



SUZI LUPMANClient Relationships &
Accounts



DARRYL CRAWFORD
East Coast Manager



SHLYA-DREW TAIAPA Manawakura Advisor



CASSIOPEIA HARRISON Manawakura Advisor



DEBBIE HUTCHINGSEvents Coordinator



CARL NEWMANTalent Lead



TAMERA NELSON Funding Advisor



ITI KAHURANGI
TAKURUA-KEELAN
Youth Development Advisor



ALANA KAREHANA Registered Nutritionist



KEENAN RURU-POHARAMA Manawakura Advisor



ANNA TOLICH
Regional Play Sytems Lead
and Manawakura Co-Lead



TÜHAKIA STEWART Kaihautū Rangatahi



JASMINE STEVENS Kia Pakari te Ora Kaiarahi

OUR PEOPLE



RENEE PAPUNI Mokopuna Mataara



MARINA KIRIKIRI Tākaro Māori Lead



COURTNEY STUBBINS
Manawakura Advisor



JACQUI LOGAN
Taupua Tairāwhiti Senior
Accountant



SKYE POMANA Kia Pakari te Ora Kaiarahi



KYRAH DEWES Kia Pakari te Ora Kaiarahi



RHONDA MILNER Manawakura Advisor



HOIA MONIKA Whaikaha Advisor

AT A GLANCE

≫ 354

Engaging in our Kia Pakari te Ora programme

> 10

Tairāwhiti Rising Legends

> 40

Early Childcare Centres, Te Kōhanga Reo, Te Puna Reo supported

≫ 32

Providers at Well Wähine Week (Town, and Coast)

⊳ 76

Sessions at Well Wähine Week (Town, and Coast)

> \$277,635.30

In Tū Manawa funding released including funding from Manaaki Tairāwhiti/MSD

> 1,269

Titirangi Mt. Everest participants

≫ 375

Quarter Marathon and Fun Run participants

> 136

Swim the Distance participants

> 1,527
Gymnastics participants
(Town and Coast)

> 15

Number of Taupua Tairāwhiti clients

> 2,218
WeetBix Challenge participants

(Town, rural and Coast)





For the last two years, we have been on a journey of creating a new name, brand and identity that reflects our organisation's focus on not only sport, but active recreation, play and the wider-wellbeing of the communities here in Te Tairāwhiti.

We wanted to ensure that the breadth of what we do as an organisation was better understood. We love sport and it will always be a critical part of what we do. However, it is only one part of what we do. We also wanted it to reflect the significant journey of change we have gone through in recent years.

Our vision as an organisation is

KA TOPA TE MANU KI TE RANGI

Expanding horizons for an active, healthy, connected Te Tairawhiti

We collaborated with our team, and board to create a name that resonated with us, our community, and that shows we support the people of Te Tairāwhiti to shine and be at their best. Designers Tai and Rine Kerekere then brought this vision to life.

We came up with Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti - healthy, active, connected.

Whiti is to shine/bring light, and Ora is wellbeing/health. Together, and for us, the new name means to 'radiate the joy of living'. To extend it even further, it's to radiate the joy of living through sport, active recreation, health and play.

We are so proud of our vision coming to life.

Our tohu/logo is reflective of everything around us - our values, our aspirations, our environments, how we work with our whānau and communities - our tohu symbolises everything we do, share and aim to achieve.

The manu/bird is the foundation of our tohu. It represents our values and moves into the horizon to share our messages and to also capture the voices of our communities.



The kōwhaiwhai design symbolises the voices of our whānau and communities. Kōwhaiwhai offers a platform for reaching and engaging with different approaches, enabling us to capture what is happening around us. Kōwhaiwhai is a Māori method of storytelling and communication through design, art and creativity. Kōwhaiwhai activates states of innovation and creativity for us to gather and share, to explore and innovate.



We are working in partnership with Eastern and Central Community Trust (ECCT) to better support community organisations across Te Tairāwhiti, and in particular, rural communities. The partnership allows ECCT to have a physical presence in Tairāwhiti.



Our shared vision is to create transformational change in Tairāwhiti. We want to connect Tūranganuia-Kiwa and coastal Not for Profit community groups that enhance equity, Māori aspirations, Kaitiakitanga and empower rangatahi, to funding opportunities.

ECCT's funding strategy is to support community groups, hapu and iwi who are working toward creating transformational change for future generations with a focus on the Tairāwhiti region. The funding pou that kaupapa must align with includes Tu Mai Māori, Kaitiakitanga, Housing, Collaborative partnerships with an overarching equity lens.

ECCT has several funding pathways available including the Community Support and Events Fund, and the Community Impact Fund. Support for youth-led projects and programmes is also available under its rōpū group, TiraRangatahi.

Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti supports this partnership by providing successful pathways and introductions to community groups through our networks and the connections held by our kaimahi.

Ngā Hapori Mātua | Our Priority Communities



Kaitiakitanga

Environment

Tū Māori Mai

		FAST FUND
APPLICANT	\$\$\$	TO DELIVER
Comet Swimming Club	\$8,608.70	Comet Swimming Club have been working alongside, Te Wharau School, Waikirikiri School and Campion College to deliver group lessons to 15 students over the past 2 Terms. The students look forward to their weekly lessons. The schools require funding to support lessons for the remainder of 2024, without future funding these lessons would be impossible.
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Waiu o Ngāti Porou	\$9,500	Tamariki spoke about their barriers as not having a voice, not being heard – then comes shame and inability to participate effectively which leads to non participation. This kaupapa will attempt to remove those barriers by having a choice on what we will look at and what they want. The fact that no one has ever asked them before – appears to be a winning formula
Ngāti Porou Ki Te Ao	\$10,000	Through our mission to reconnect, inspire, educate, and uplift our people of Ngāti Porou via sport, this kaupapa will contribute to the region's economy by investing directly back into local business and whānau to support diverse, innovative, and resilient livelihoods.
Ruatoria Taekwondo Club Incorporation	\$8,695.65	This kaupapa is important because it enbles our tamariki and whānau to work together to apsire and encourage our tamariki to reach their goals . It allows our hapori to address the barriers they face, the isolation of coming from a small community, and low income.
Rangataua o Aotearoa	\$10,000	The kaupapa is centered on a Māori teaching and learning approach called Te Whare Hāpai Taua. This approach encourages positive and relevant learning experiences for facilitators and rangatahi alike.
Turanganui a Kiwa Touch Association	\$10,000	The aim is to provide pathways for all individuals to excel in touch as players, coaches, and referees, to provide opportunities to enhance local talent within the game of touch, to provide opportunities for all individuals to play touch at a regional, national and international level, and to increase player participation.
Cobham School	\$9,306.49	This kaupapa is important as it supports the wellbeing of students through play and physical activity. Within this wider picture it is important that we prioritise anything that supports the hauora of the tauira - providing them space for joy, new experiences, distraction, development and processing through free play.
Tairāwhiti Area and Secondary Schools Principals' Association (TASSPA)	\$3,837.39	This event is one of the only secondary events on the school calendar that sees town schools traveling up the coast to compete against their coast peers. While this is a traditional event hosted at Ngata Memorial College, the day gives rangatahi the opportunity to celebrate whakawhanaungatanga while being active and having fun and has seen an increase in participation.
Turanga Tangata Rite School	\$10,000	Most afternoons are dedicated to the tauira being out of the class room and for after school activities until they are comfortable within their new environment. We have spoken to our tauira and their whānau numerous times in terms of the opportunities they would like to participate in. This fund covers the costs involved to participate in these activities.
Lytton High School	\$10,000	41 out of 43 students identified they would like to have new experiences through an Outdoor Education Camp. This kaupapa is co-designed by the participants. Students are having their say as to what outdoor activities they would like to have included in the camp.
Matawai School	\$5,296.90	This kaupapa allows us to look into our tuakiritanga. We are searching for the meaning of our name, Matawai School. We would like to create a leadership programme that can be used each year to teach our school leaders our history and give them a physical reference to teach the younger students, staff and our school whanau about our kura and our history.
Ormond School	\$4,679.57	The Swim for Life program has been a part of the Ormond School curriculum for many years. A lot of our tamariki can't get to swimming lessons for reasons of transportation and the cost. The Swim for Life program offers our tamariki a chance at learning how to swim and be safe in the water. It's so important that our tamariki learn to swim so they can be safe in the water.

APPLICANT	\$\$\$	TO DELIVER
Tūranga Tangata Consultancy	\$10,000	He kaupapa whakapakari ākonga ki te whakatau i ngā whakapau kaha ākonga. He arataki i ngā kaupapa kapa haka, te whakatau reo māori, rangatiratanga me ngā uara hoki.
Pickleball Gisborne	\$8,185	We have been trialing a youth session and with little advertising sessions have had up to 40 children. Unfortunately, with a lack of equipment, we are finding it very difficult. Being able to provide the appropriate equipment will ensure participants have more opportunity to play, improve skills and have a positive, fun experience.
Longbush Ecological Trust	\$4,959.10	The Wild Lab Tiaki Taiao workshops create ideal learning conditions where students are inspired and motivated to participate and learn about the environment and about themselves. Our request for rain coats is in response to lower decile schools not attending if the weather looks like a chance of rain and the students did not possess suitable wet weather gear.
Te Kura o Māngātuna	\$6,900	When the whole kura engage with other whole kura, the enthusiasm for and wairua of the experience is very high. Additionally, the small kura often lack equipment to enjoy an activity on their own. This project will purchase equipment, and bring together 4 small kura over 4 days, delivering a variety of play, active rec, and sport experiences.
Northern Health School	\$480	Northern Health School is a Ministry of Education funded school set up with the aim of maintaining the education of students who are unable to attend their regular school due to their high health needs. If the student is too unwell to leave home, the Northern Health School teacher will visit the student at home.
Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu	\$5,273.80	We don't have our own facilities and sporting equipment, so students are missing out on opportunities for sport and recreation that they would get in a face-to-face (F2F) school. We aim to provide recreation and sporting opportunities where it it is not so imperative as to who turns up on any day. A gym membership is included in our project. This is to attract those who, at this stage, are not willing to participate in group activities.
Tiniroto School	\$10,000	Our students have limited gear currently. Old, broken gear or non-existent gear. Small, old shed (asbestos on outside) - A container (on top of this grant) would solve our problem of storage. It would also provide excellent security for all our new and old sports equipment.
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngā Uri a Maui	\$1,200	We are running umpiring sessions to upskill the students, and develop them to become future prospects of becoming umpires for their kura and community. Also, to improve the fitness of these kohine, work on their strength and agility, this will help with their netball during their 4 week wananga. This will also help consolodate the revelance of Te Aho Matua.
Raropaoa Ltd	\$9,950	Rugby is bringing us together despite every challenge our ancestors have had to overcome, for us to come together to represent and most importantly for our rangatahi to simply have fun. Many of our rangatahi experience barriers. The project has been shaped by our participants as rangatahi Maori living on the coast. As part of their fitness training they wanted to go hunting and fishing and learn about their taiao.
Surely Skate	\$8,000	Surely Skate is a skateboarding group in Gisborne that inspires and builds confidence in female-identifying and non-binary skaters. This project also provides a pathway of welcoming/safe competition on a world class park but who lack confidence to compete at nationals.
Eastern Whiu Link Ch Trust	\$10,000	This programme is designed to help participants understand that the bush is not off limits at night and help build their confidence and skills in the bush at night. It aims to teach our school leaders our history and give them a physical reference to teach the younger students, staff and our school whānau about our kura and our history.
Te Wharau School	\$9,310.44	There is an increase in students living on the autism spectrum. The project is holistic in nature, looking at the whole student's wellness. The sensory garden is intended to soothe those feelings and to allow them to find calm again and return to the classroom. The garden will also be a place of connection.

		V
APPLICANT	\$\$\$	TO DELIVER
Te Kura o Tūranga	\$10,000	Ko tāna whāinga matua, he tiaki i te whakatere ā-tawhito o te matataki ki ngā marae katoa o Tūranga mā te whakapakari, mā te whakaako hoki i ngā uri me ngā hononga o Tūranga mā te mātauranga i whakakotahi mai i a Irirangi Tiakiawa o Ngāti Rongomai me Ngāti Pikiao, te ākonga hoa rāua ko Kani Te Ua, he tohunga whakamanawa, he kaumatua anō hoki nā ngā iwi o Te Aitanga-a-Mahaki me Rongowhakaata.
Matawai School	\$2,994.60	This application is to ensure our isolation does not prevent our tamariki from accessing swimming instructors. This is a very important skill for our students because our awa runs right through our area.
Te Wharau School	\$1,320	Breaking down barriers for an activity that tamariki wouldn't otherwise experience, through the context of building team-work and resilience, so tamariki can feel supported in an alternative learning space. Initial hui with eight participants of Rimu Roopu to gather insights and ideas of what they wanted to have the opportunity to experience.
Riverdale School	\$10,000	This project is to help regulate our students through physical activity in a calming manner with an emphasis on health and mental wellbeing. Our students are also learning about sustainability and we are looking at planting Native plants around our sensory garden to raise the hauora of the students and teachers.
Sonrise School	\$8,973.73	We are about expanding more sporting options for our tamariki to experience in (Kia O Rahi for example) so that all our students are exposed to a wider range of sporting opportunities. Play day gathering insights from every class, hui with kaiako highlighted need for more play gear during class and break times.
Ormond School	\$3,220	This project is important for the school's tamariki because they will be learning valuable skills to keep them safe when at the beach and in the water, whilst also giving the tamariki an opportunity to learn to surf, which a majority of the children would never have had and won't have this opportunity.
Eastern Whiu Link Ch Trust	\$10,000	Gaining mātauranga māori, learning about our birds and trees, growing confidence, bringing people back into balance with themselves – and nature does that. We are looking to grow individuals into strong confident young people that are physically fit, confident in who they are and secure in the community and ecosystems they belong to.
Kaitipua Charitable Trust	\$10,000	This sport provides opportunity for our rangatahi to compete at the highest level; compete at local and international events; network with other clubs, trainers and athletes; gain self-confidence through mental discipline and physical activity.
Dancefit Studios	\$5,450	Through the successful application in 2023, the students were able to be involved and participate in regular dance classes removing the financial barrier on these families involved. Often the support required for these students to participate in larger group sizes is a further barrier so these sessions provided opportunity for all.
Te Kura o Hiruharama	\$9,990	Our students are exceptional learners, and all have such great strengths and qualities. As a school, based on student achievement information, we are able to identify our priority learners and their specific needs. We know our learners, where they are with their learning and their next learning steps.
Gisborne Girls High School Learning Support Unit	\$3,231.74	This project is designed to offer intermediate and high school whaikaha students in this region opportunities to participate in interschool activities. Some students in learning support classes face barriers to participation in sport.
TKKM o Kawakawamaitawhiti	\$10,000	Our kids have already missed out on a weekly sorts fixture in Gisborne due to lack of resources to travel and lack of coaches. Our Year 9 & 10 students had a wananga to look at the barriers for us getting to our destination Te wiki Hākinakina in Christchurch.

APPLICANT	\$\$\$	TO DELIVER
Hicks Bay Women's Rugby Club	\$8,192.17	Cyclone recovery.
Te Kura o Potaka	\$9,990	Our tamariki have asked for these resources so as to allow them to practice and improve their skills as well as play and host games. We have hosted coaching skills clinics with Ngati Porou East coast Rugby as well as Central Football which the tamariki were highly engaged and enthusiastic about.



Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti was selected to be part of Sport New Zealand's initiative, Active As. The initiative involves working with secondary schools and wharekura to provide quality active recreation and sport opportunities for rangatahi. We work with these schools and kura to help design and implement their own physical activity initiatives through to December 2026.

We have taken a different approach, instead of focusing on one school, we have created two clusters of kura to be part of the initiative.

In the Turanga cluster, Te Kura a Te Ahupoo:

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Horouta Wānanga

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Ngā Uri a Māui

Te Karaka Area School

Te Kura O Manutūke

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Whātātūtū

> Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Hawaiki Hou

Tūranga Tangata Rite

In the Ngati Porou cluster, Whakapaupakihi:

Te Kura kaupapa Māori o Kawakawa mai Tawhiti

Te Waha o Rerekohu Area School

Ngata Memorial College

Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Waiū o Ngati Porou

Tolaga Bay Area School Kahukuranui

One of our significant achievements for this kaupapa has been our comprehensive efforts in gathering insights from each kura.

Recognising the importance of understanding the needs and preferences of our target audience, Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti undertook a series of detailed surveys, focus groups, and hui. These activities were designed to capture a broad spectrum of perspectives, ensuring that the voices of the rangatahi were heard and represented. The insights gained have been invaluable in shaping our programs and strategies, making them more relevant and effective.

Through these engagements, we identified key barriers to physical activity, such as lack of access to facilities, time constraints, and motivational challenges. Additionally, we discovered strong community interest and strong relationships with other originations in cultural activities that resonate and connect participants to the whenua and ngahere, in line with the teachings of our ancestors Ruapani and Whakapaupakihi.

This feedback has not only highlighted areas for improvement but has also provided a rich foundation for developing tailored interventions that honor our cultural heritage while promoting health and wellness. These insights are guiding our future efforts to create a more inclusive and impactful initiative.



CREATIVE LEARNING

Ensuring our rangatahi can be the best version of themselves is a kaupapa we're dedicated to. This year saw our organisation enter into a new partnership with the Ministry of Education. The Ministry recognised that some tauira in our secondary schools were becoming disengaged from their learning, particularly given the disruptions caused by the recent cyclones and extreme weather events.

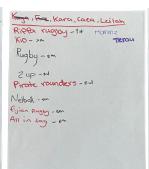
Creative Learning is a community-based intervention. It seeks to build rangatiratanga (leadership) amongst selected rangatahi, by exposing them to physical activity opportunities that resonate with who they are, and that will support them to become more engaged with their school or kura - ensuring they are in a better position to achieve NCEA credits. Vital to the success of this kaupapa is the building of whanaungatanga (relationships) and manaakitanga (respect) between the tauira involved in the initiative as well as with our kaimahi and key school staff.

Creative Learning was one of the driving forces behind Te Huinga, a three-day gathering of all kura kaupapa in our rohe that was based on the East Coast. This was a chance for the tauira involved to connect with whakapapa, celebrate their identity, form new relationships, embrace the use of te reo and tikanga, all whilst being exposed to a range of physical activities, many of which occurred in the taiao (natural environment). The hardest challenge was the scaling of Mt Hikurangi to hear the pūrākau (stories) behind the nine pou from Ngarimu Parata.

We want our rangatahi to be active and healthy and the best versions of themselves. Creative Learning provides an important opportunity for those outcomes to be realised.













European Handen!
Rules can't move bith the bull
can't go Paus the hulf Circle (by the gon
if you don't the ball its not a hand or
hulf the class anythms.

TAUPUA TAIRĀWHITI

Taupua Tairawhiti's aim is to set up practical systems and processes, so that clubs, marae and notfor-profit organisations in Tairawhiti can capture and process their transactions and better manage their finances.

We understand that each organisation has their own unique starting-point and the length of engagement differs. We have clients that arrive having never reported and who require assistance to catch-up on compliance and move forward with improved financial management plans. We also have clients that have grown large or have multiple funding streams and require better, more efficient systems, controls and reporting.

Because we are funded, we can set our fees below market-rates and because we are not-for-profit, our ultimate measure of success is seeing our clients successfully managing their own bookkeeping and financial obligations. Our intention is to fix and hand-over as much of the daily processing as possible. Of course, the level of hand-over depends on the clients' resources. A client with a well-trained treasurer is likely to call on our team only periodically for ad-hoc support and advice; where-as an organisation that has no treasurer or complex activities may request a full suite of services for an extended period. Each client is unique in this respect.

Client A needed solutions to help them manage a complex integration between Xero and their online membership & booking systems. They needed to tidy-up services to ensure they received an unqualified audit review, as well as a monthly management report pack, funding accountability reports, and new processes to move forward with. In addition, their volunteer treasurer wished to step back from their role, but with no replacement this was proving difficult. Our Taupua Tairawhiti team now performs approximately 80% of the book-keeping, 90% compliance and 95% reporting duties, and continues to streamline the integration between Xero and their online booking systems. We are committed to doing so until such a time that Client A remains a voluntary non-profit organisation. As sport moves into a more professional era, we will be supporting Client A in this era of change.

In contrast, *Client B* wanted help with multiple organisations that were not overly complex. They wanted their Marae set-up and trained in Xero and brought up to date with year-end reporting. 80% of these Marae are now compliant and operating independently. They each have their own set of practical processes, that work for them, have received their training and now require very little assistance with their daily book-keeping.

THROUGH ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH RONGOWHAKAATA IWI TRUST, TAUPUA TAIRĀWHITI SERVICES HAVE SUPPORTED TE KURI A TUATAI MARAE TRUSTEES TO SET UP OUR OWN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, PROVIDE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THAT SYSTEM AND CAPABILITY WITHIN THE MARAE TRUSTEES GROUP TO SUPPORT FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY. THEY PROVIDE EXPERT SERVICE AT LOWER RATES AND HAVE SUPPORTED US WITH THE COMPLETION OF OUR ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Petra Hape Marae Trustee and Treasurer Te Kuri a Tuatai Marae

GIZZY LOCAL IS SO GRATEFUL TO TAUPUA TAIRĀWHITI FOR TAKING US ON AND COMPLETING THE FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR OUR END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS...NOT ONLY DID THEY MAKE THE PROCESS A PAINLESS ONE, THEY ALSO HELPED US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND SOME OF THE ASPECTS OF OUR BOOKKEEPING PROCESSES, AND THEIR USEFULNESS IN TRACKING OUR ORGANISATION'S ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS.

- Sarah Cleave Gizzy Local

THE RELATIONSHIP WITH TAUPUA HAS ALSO PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAIN OUR OWN FINANCIAL OFFICER THAT THEY CAN MANAGE THE MAINTENANCE OF OUR ACCOUNTS WITHOUT ABSOLUTE RELIANCE ON TAUPUA'S SERVICES. WHILST, SELF-SUFFICIENCY IS THE ULTIMATE OUTCOME OF THIS RELATIONSHIP, THE EXPERIENCED GUIDANCE OF TAUPUA IS STILL CRITICAL TO OUR ON-GOING OBLIGATIONS AND PERFORMANCE.

- Walton Walker

FACILITIES

The pinnacle event of the year was the rally held in support of an indoor centre. This saw hundreds of community members pack the YMCA in a show of solidarity – displaying their passion and creating plenty of noise over the need for an indoor centre to be developed. Driving the advocacy for an indoor centre was a key focus for Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti during the year, as attempts have been made to progress the project for decades, and it was a central piece of the business case that was submitted to the Government in 2022.

The need to galvanise community support was identified due to the other key facility projects in the business case being allocated funding from Trust Tairāwhiti, but the indoor centre was at risk of being overlooked. Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti formed the Tairāwhiti Indoor Centre Advocacy Group, initiated the need for a feasibility study, (that is now being led by council), and provided representation for the Steering Group overseeing the work. A crucial achievement was the successful lobbying of the Council to include funding in its Three-Year Plan for the indoor centre, resulting in an allocation of \$2.5 million – vital seed funding when it comes to approaching other funders.

Other key facility projects continued their progression, although it became evident just how complex and challenging it can be to bring these projects to fruition. We continued our financial contribution to the salary costs of the Community Facilities Advisor role based in Council, as we recognised the need for additional support to be provided to several community groups involved with facilities mahi. Towards the end of the year, we welcomed Patrick Ferry and Jo Haughey into the facilities world as they provided cover for Abbe Banks as she went on maternity leave. We also provided representation on the Victoria Sport and Recreation Hub Committee, as this is a crucial facility site that has secured limited funding.

The opening of the Kiwa pools was a great community spectacle, and we were proud of the contribution we made in getting that project successfully over the line. We are hoping the next year will bring further victories, such as the long awaited developed of storage facilities for our waka ama clubs.

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SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION SECTOR REOCOVERY REPORT

Sport and active recreation are integral ways of life in Te Tairāwhiti. No other activity sees the mobilisation of thousands of people each week from across our rohe – either taking part in sport or recreation activities, coaching and managing teams, or supporting participants from the sidelines as passionate whānau members.

Sport and recreation activities have helped to define our identity, brought communities together, connected us with te taiao, inspired us, and provided lifelong opportunities for our tamariki and rangatahi. These benefits are over-and-above the significant and proven physical and mental well-being benefits derived from being active.

Yet the sport and recreation sectors remain extremely vulnerable with limited support mechanisms in place. The ongoing continuation of sporting and recreation services and offerings can be taken for granted, yet significant challenges exist, with the scale of these challenges increasing, particularly in the post-COVID and Cyclone Hale and Gabrielle era.

Therefore, it was important that we investigated the impact that Cyclone Gabrielle had on the sector in the region.

"OUR ARENA, STABLES AND EQUIPMENT SHED WERE ALL FULLY DAMAGED. BEYOND THAT OUR HOUSE FLOODED/SILT AND FARM ALSO DECIMATED. WE MANAGED TO SAVE OUR HORSES BUT COULDN'T SAVE OUR SHEEP (THOUGH WE TRIED). OUR PADDOCKS ARE FULL OF SILT. OUR BORE WAS TAKEN OUT. NOW THE SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE WATER. WE HAVE TO SHIP IN WATER WEEKLY TO OPERATE. IT'S AN ADDED EXPENSE. SILT GOT INTO ALL OUR EQUIPMENT, VERY LITTLE OF IT WAS SALVAGED."

The findings from this report came from communications with codes, clubs and community organisations/members, insights gathered from interviews with rangatahi across a number of schools and all kura kaupapa in the region, and observations from Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti staff with their involvement with sport and recreation codes and clubs, and schools and kura post Cyclone Gabrielle.

Key areas that were looked at were:

- The impact Cyclone Gabrielle had on the environment, continuity of activity and the effects on people
- What worked well immediately after the cyclone. This included community support, innovation, and funding assistance
- What the sport and recreation sectors priorities are for the future; environmental, facilities, governance and management

A significant finding was that many in our community needed to reconnect with one another after the cyclone through the sporting and recreation activities that they love.

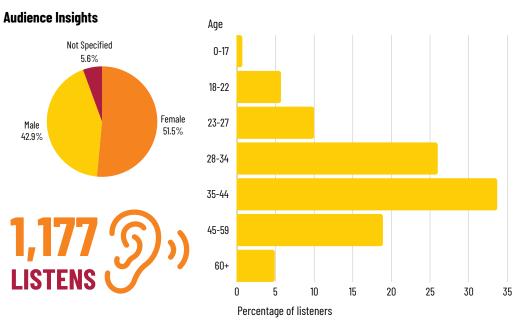
The issues that were raised in this report have no easy solutions. There are, however, a huge number of community champions involved with these sectors whose voices need to be heard, and who are willing to work collaboratively and embrace innovation to bring about a better future for all communities here in our beautiful region of Tairāwhiti.

SPORT DEVELOPMENT

THE SIDELINE YAK

The Sideline Yak podcast is an impactful initiative aimed at enhancing development opportunities for coaches, involving rangatahi in sports, and promoting Balance is Better principles. As part of broader efforts to engage the sporting community, this podcast serves as a platform for sharing insights, stories, and best practices from various stakeholders in the sports sector. Featuring interviews with coaches, athletes, parents, and sports administrators, it highlights the challenges and successes in strengthening a supportive and effective sporting environment.

One of the key strengths of The Sideline Yak is its ability to reach a wide audience, offering valuable content accessible to coaches, athletes, and parents. Covering topics such as effective coaching techniques, athlete development, and maintaining a balanced approach to youth sports, the podcast provides practical advice and inspiring stories. These discussions help listeners create inclusive and supportive environments for young athletes, aligning with broader efforts to prioritise their well-being and development.







MANAWAKURA

KAI AND NUTRITION

Tairāwhiti has shown a continued high interest in learning about kai and nutrition. With the support of Te Puni Kokiri, we utilised the KaiVara, a vehicle specifically modified to take nutrition equipment on the road, to the end of 2023, which helped us reach our most isolated communities, allowing them to cook and share kai together. This initiative enabled us to deliver educational sessions across all age groups.

Nutrition and practical kai sessions were held at kohanga, kura, primary, intermediate, and high schools. The audience included sports clubs, community hauora groups, exercise participants attending classes for preventing chronic diseases, school students, and kaimahi at kohanga. Our main goal was to convey nutritional messages that align with the Manawakura mindful eating guidelines, Heart Foundation NZ, and the Ministry of Health, along with tips for overall hauora and wellbeing. We also provided valuable tools and experiences on how to eat kai on a budget and how to cook kai that people had hunted and grown, especially targeting the younger generations.

Our nutritionist has collaborated across teams at Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti to ensure a wide range of opportunities in Tairāwhiti to learn about health, sports nutrition, and chronic disease prevention.



MANAWAKURA

MANAAKI MATAKAOA KAI WORKSHOPS

This collaboration was organised by Manaaki Matakaoa. They were running a challenge for their whānau in Te Araroa and Hicks Bay. The kaimahi from Manaaki Matakaoa ran a six-week Hauora challenge where participants attended sports and different exercise classes, aiming to follow a low carbohydrate programme. We met the community, and we combined our ideas to create a dish that was low-cost, using meat hunted and supplied by them, canned legumes, and seasonal vegetables. The 'Keto Nachos' were adapted to contain low-fat, heart-healthy alternatives, using wholegrain low carbohydrate tortillas instead of Doritos. The fat from the pork mince was drained, and spices were added. Whānau were open to adding legumes and appreciated the opportunity to try new foods.

The workshop included recipes and tips for lifestyle (stress, sleep, hydration, alcohol consumption, exercise) and nutrition. Whānau expressed an interest in learning how to lower cholesterol levels and healthy swaps for type 2 diabetes. The information most well-received was around behavior change. While the wāhine were already knowledgeable about many of the topics, they enjoyed the helpful reminders, especially for their whānau challenge.

As a collective, they lost over 23 kilograms together over the six-week period and significantly changed their habits. One mama switched from drinking Coke and Coke Zero to plain water.

Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti looks forward to collaborating again when the rōpū gets together for another whānau challenge. A highlight for our staff was being back on the marae and having the participants from the community cook together.



MANAWAKURA

NGATI POROU SURF COMPETITION

The Ngati Porou Surf Competition has been running on the East Coast for two years, thanks to the collaborative efforts of Flo Bub from the Gisborne Boardriders and Whiti Ora Tairāwhiti. Surfing and being in Tangaroa emerged as a popular topic during discussions with tamariki and rangatahi on the coast. Barriers identified included the need for coaching and resources such as surfboards and wetsuits. To address these, the Gisborne Boardriders applied to the Tū Manawa Fund, securing new equipment and a fully equipped storage container now based in Wharekahika.

Over the past two years, we have worked with all 15 primary schools on the East Coast, teaching 11 of them the basics of surfing and water safety. Emphasising the importance of knowing and practicing tikanga in Tangaroa, we have supported Flo to hold coaching clinics during the warmer seasons to upskill parents and whānau in the basics of surfing. These clinics have attracted whānau from as far as Maraenui, about 1.5 hours north of Wharekahika. Our goal is to have as many whānau as possible playing and connecting with our taiao, benefiting holistic hauora.

The NPEC Surf Competition is now a staple event in the NPEC Sports Calendar. Running for two years, the level of surfing has improved annually, with more tamariki participating. This kaupapa allows tamariki from diverse backgrounds to participate comfortably, and we have witnessed tamariki whaikaha blossom and thrive in the moana. Every participant exits the moana with a smile.

Liz Whakataka and the Uawa ? Wellness Tourney

In 2023, Kia Pakari te Ora (Green Prescription) facilitated Noho fit and Aho fit programs designed to support our kaumatua, individuals needing physical rehabiliation, and inactive whānau of all ages. Noho fit and Aho fit aspired to promote safe exercise practices, community connection, and overall wellness in the Uawa (Tolaga Bay) community. From these programs, a small but spirited group from Uawa was formed and their wellness journey began.

Liz Whakataka's leadership was pivotal in this promoting these initiatives, fostering a culture of shared learning around physical activity. As participants grew more knowledgeable about fitness, they began to teach each other. Liz, in particular, encouraged everyone to share their own wellness tips and by March 2024, Liz, Nanny Rangi and whānau had evolved into an autonomous collective. Their weekly sessions at Nanny Rangi's whare became a cornerstone of their community, nurturing a sense of unity and commitment. Liz ensured that everyone, regardless of age or fitness level, had access to the benefits of being physically active.

"EXERCISING IS SOO IMPORTANT. IT HELPS BRING OUR PEOPLE BACK TOGETHER (AFTER CYCLONE GABRIELLE AND COVID), BECAUSE WHĀNAU ARE STILL ISOLATING THEMSELVES. IF THEY SEE ME DOING IT, THEN THEY CAN DO IT TOO"

One of the most remarkable developments has been their commitment to joining the Primal Pod in Gisborne once a week. Despite the 40-minute journey from Uawa, Liz and whānau travel together to participate in our fitness classes, car-pooling to cut costs of travel and promoting whakawhanaungatanga and kotahitanga, removing huge barriers to exercise. These trips were made despite the poor conditions of State Highway 35 post the Cyclone and flooding. The Primal Pod offers new challenges and opportunities for growth, and Liz's leadership ensures that the group remains engaged and motivated.

The story of Liz Whakataka and the Uawa whānau is a beautiful example of how leadership, commitment and connection can lead to profound community transformation. Their journey from Noho fit and Aho Fit, to Nanny Rangi's whare, and then again to the Primal Pod in Gisborne is not just a commitment to physical health but a celebration of their shared achievements and a step towards greater community integration.

As Liz and her group continue to thrive, their journey serves as an inspiring reminder of the positive changes that can occur when people come together with a shared purpose and a commitment to supporting one another's well-being.



EAST COAST

TE HUNIGA

Te Huinga was born out of the original kaupapa called Hui Tōpū, which was an event for kura kaupapa to come together. The last event was in 2021 at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori (TKKM) Hawaiki Hou in Tūranga. The next host was set as TKKM o Kawakawa Mai Tawhiti in Wharekahika.

We gathered insights from TKKM o Kawakawa Mai Tawhiti at the beginning of 2022 and found that Hui Tōpū was of interest, and how the kura held the mauri to host the next kaupapa. Te Huinga o Ngā Kura Kaupapa o Te Tairāwhiti was the name the students came up with. We worked with rangatahi of the kura to plan, shape, and bring Te Huinga to fruition.

Te Huinga is a kaupapa that includes every wharekura Te Aho Matua ki te Tairāwhiti, schools that are guided by Te Aho Matua. The kura that took part were TKKM o Kawakawa Mai Tawhiti, TKKM o Te Waiū, Ngā Uri a Māui, Hawaiki Hou, Horouta Wānanga and TKKM o Whātātutu.

Te Huinga gave kura kaupapa Māori students the opportunity to connect with others and aspects of te ao Māori through different activities over three days. Tauira played a range of sports including ki o rahi, touch, netball, basketball, pickle ball and volleyball.

Instead of the sport being competitive, it was based around whakawhanaungatanga, using te reo Māori and teams were made up of students from different kura so it wasn't kura vs. kura.

Rangatahi were also able to connect with the taiao through surfing and a hikoi up maunga Hikurangi.

Te Huinga is created around the dreams and ideas of the rangatahi, it's aim is to continue to engage and inspire our rangatahi. The mauri has been passed on to Horouta Wānanga to host the next Te Huinga.



HE ORANGA POUTAMA

Sport New Zealand's He Oranga Poutama investment is strongly centred on Māori ways of being and knowing. It's about supporting and growing community leadership and participation in play, active recreation and sport as Māori. It looks different in each region and through working with our Ngati Porou whānau and communities we integrate our approach into our Healthy Active Learning, Kia Pakari te Ora (Green Prescription), Tamaiti Mataara and Mokopuna Mataara mahi.

Over the last year, we have been working to establish an entity to support our sporting codes and groups in Ngati Porou; The Ngati Porou Collective. There are passionate people on the coast who are motivated by their pure love of their sport, people and community. This initiative will help the collective with their governance, structure, coordination and a clear direction forward.

Another initiative developed under He Oranga Poutama is our Maui Tinihanga Scholarship. Each year, two recipients from each of the five secondary schools and Wharekura in Ngati Porou will be awarded a scholarship of \$1,000 towards supporting their sport or passion, whether that passion is in relation to a connection to the Taiao, or Kapa Haka.





Over the past year, we have continued to turn playtime into an exciting adventure, bringing joy and creativity to communities across the rohe. A highlight this year was the creation of Play Passports during Play Week. In collaboration with our regional Sunshine Cluster group, these passports encouraged tamariki and whānau to explore and document their favourite play locations, from the maunga to the moana. This initiative not only promoted outdoor play but also strengthened family and community bonds.

Our inaugural Play Street event, in partnership with the Gisborne District Council, transformed Edward Street into a vibrant, safe play area. By temporarily restricting traffic, we created a haven where around 20 tamariki and whānau could enjoy a variety of play activities, fostering community spirit and joy. This successful pilot paves the way for more neighbourhoods to host their own Play Streets in 2024.

We also enhanced play resources and community resilience by delivering Civil Defence play packs to coastal marae and kura. These packs expanded play opportunities, ensuring that even remote communities can benefit from our initiatives.

We were lucky to be able to host Tākaro Māori expert Harko Brown, who led local kaiako through traditional kemu and pūrakau. While Nina, our Tākaro Māori Lead, is just beginning her role, her upcoming work in restoring traditional Māori games in Te Tairāwhiti is highly anticipated.

Our achievements over the past year have not only enhanced equitable play opportunities but also built stronger, more connected communities through the joy of play.





We were invited by Ormond School to begin the Neighbourhood Play System (NPS) journey with them after their Board read about the success of the Cobham School NPS. We kicked off our insights gathering at an epic Pet Day, which the Principal said was always the biggest whānau day of the year. We received great feedback from whānau on play memories, barriers to play, and aspirations. We quickly learned that this initiative will focus on creating a welcoming community space at the school for the rural community and tackling the lack of safe active transport routes through the town.

We gathered insights interviewing all 90 students! Many of these students were impacted by the cyclones, making their play insights particularly powerful. We then walked around the neighbourhood with the 18 students who live in the township to understand where they like to play, the barriers they face, and their play aspirations.

One of the main concerns of the tamariki and their whānau was the traffic speeding past their school, making safe play in the neighbourhood impossible. So, we called in the Community Police and the Gisborne District Council Journeys Team. The Police brought out their speed radar guns, and with a high-speed limit of 70km past the school, the tamariki took turns gathering data on the passing traffic. Despite the Police car being clearly parked on the road, every tamariki caught someone exceeding the speed limit, with one car going 94km and another 106km. The Council Journeys advisor worked with the tamariki to create signs to slow down the traffic, which will be made into real signs to be installed in the future. The Police are now keen to increase patrols in the area, and our Council advisor is exploring ways to lower the speed limit and improve crossing opportunities.



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IHI AOTEAROA

































