

Te Wao Reunion 2007 Meeting
Friday 16 February 2007
Severn Street, Island Bay, 8.00pm – 10.00pm
Deena, Peri, Karen

A meeting at Deena's whare. We needed to feedback (face to face) the outcome of our efforts to find consensus from the aunties and uncles as to whether a reunion was an option or if we were wasting our time and efforts.

The sending out of a letter to the aunties and uncles in January asking if they were keen on the idea or other. Ideally this letter was meant to have been distributed before Xmas but we had received no feedback in time to do so. We had initially agreed that anything we did was to be passed through elders before action was to be taken but this proved timely. Unfortunately no return letters overall at the time of this meeting, however, have had three verbal replies:

- Aunty Kura – yes
- Aunty Lil – not to worry about seeking indication, just go ahead and that the event be for three days
- Aunty Pep - yes

On the advice to 'go ahead' regardless – the organising members (those attended) – then were required to:

- Decide whether it was feasible to embark on this event

The decision was made to go ahead despite no replies via post.

Considering been given the go ahead to get this event underway – Deena, Peri and Karen set about the core elements of an event as such and discussions took place around:

1. Confirmation of dates ie: 24, 25 & 26 December 2007
2. Price set. After much discussion, a registration fee was set. Adults – 17yrs \$20 per day; 16 – 7yrs \$10 per day; 0-6yrs Free. We discussed kaumatua and felt that we needed to discuss this further.
3. Numbers attending: Attendance is a vital requirement for any event and we would have to guestimate everything we do due to low connection and communication at this stage. We guessed that the amount of Whanau within each family would amount at a guess to around 500. We divided the three ages groups at (a) Adults = 250 x \$20 x 3days, (b) young adults = 150 x \$10 x 3days, (c) babies = 100 Free. We estimated at the prices set for each group, a total amount of \$19,500 rounded to \$20,000 based on total attendance. If we halved the total attendance = \$10,000
4. Payment: We were aware of the option of fundraising and decided this would be a barrier for Whanau if given this option. So we decided on a payment scheme instead
 - a. : Adults at \$2 per week starting 2 April to 28 Oct.
 - b. Young Adults at \$1 per week starting 2 April to 28 Oct.
5. Communication: It is important that Deena and Peri deliver these key messages and it was decided that by the February 28th – both Deena and Peri communicate with the aunties and uncles this information: Deena to contact

Kura, Lil, Beatrice, Pat. Peri to contact Charlotte, George, Pep. The messages conveyed will be: Date of Reunion, Venue, Price, Payment options and asking for key keen Whanau members to be Whanau Reps between organisers and their Whanau.

6. Continued Communication: It was decided that as the plans progress that we would keep a link with each Whanau with the key contact people in each Whanau. Several key contact persons would be ideal and this would allow us to gather information as well as keep a record so that we had some sort of numbers to work with.

That it is important to understand that this first reunion be specifically for the children of Peri and Pareheuea Te Wao. As well, it is important to understand that 'after' this reunion has taken place, that any whanau who are interested in forming a working group, and perhaps combine with our larger whanau nets ie: Dinsdale, Hohepa whanau, to engage in another reunion that includes our wider hapu (a positive option).

The importance of this particular 'smaller' reunion is to meet and establish ourselves as one whanau and to share our whakapapa and hopefully unite whanau. It is a concern that many mokopuna are unaware of their cousins and even their whakapapa. This reunion is an important gathering for everyone. Once we have established, then we can engage in bigger reunion with our hapu in Rotoiti and Te Puke.

TO DO:

- Deena and Peri set up a sheet of details to be communicated between us and each Whanau – the reason for the sheet is to ensure the same messages are communicated to everyone.
- Deena and Peri to communicate with those Whanau members to communicate these details at this particular stage
- Deena and Peri to establish a contact person or persons for each Whanau in which to link into the Whanau and into this reunion
- Deena and Peri to express clearly the way in which to fund this reunion through registration fee for each day (reasonably cheap) and how the Whanau could save and part pay (30 week scheme) this well before reunion date. That fundraising will only be an option considered between each Whanau themselves if they should want to do so.
- That we start building our database and think about the next stages at the next meeting to be held in March

Meeting finished at 10.00pm