

Te Wao Reunion 2007 Meeting
Friday 13 October 2006
Severn Street, Island Bay, 7.20pm – 9.00pm
Deena/Peri/Karen

Start 7.20pm

A meeting between Peri, Deena and Karen about the whanau reunion. These discussions began in January 2003 between Aunty Lil, Aunty Kura and families. Over the past year, further discussions had taken place but nothing concrete had been placed to make a start. Tonight's meeting, instigated by the concern that another year will lapse with no result was to establish the first two objectives:

- A venue
- Start up a database of contact persons for each family

Peri: Since 2003, there has been discussions around 'where' this reunion will take place. What was raised then was the fact that if we held a reunion at either Rotoiti or Te Puke, that our immediate whanau will step back and allow our hapu to run the whole event – a typical scenario for this family. The concern was that the Te Wao whanau would not engage properly and be overshadowed. Therefore – the reason to look for a 'neutral' venue (raised by the aunts as well), would impose more effort by the entire Te Wao whanau to participate in their reunion. It was verbally agreed that a neutral venue would be a wise move considering this issue. That perhaps there are some whanau like Nanny Margaret, Ngatau, Bill, aunty Pauline, and others like them who have small whanau, who would be welcome to participate in our reunion as well. This will be further discussed as developments occur within this forum.

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

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.

1. Venue:

Peri put forward that his mum has 'offered' Tutanekai for this reunion as a neutral venue where we can do our own catering and hosting for the timeframe 23-27 (24, 25, 26 are actual reunion dates), December 2007. Should there be a tangi that has priority over all other gatherings, that another marae either Pikirangi or Ruamata, will be made available for this reunion at short notice. Aunty Marion, mum's sister, advised that early bookings are already coming in for Tutanekai for Xmas 2006 and 2008 and that she will hold this time open until confirmation but bookings are already opting for this timeframe as well. Therefore quick confirmation is advised to secure this marae, that has just been reopened and provides a kitchenette and toilet facilities for

kuia/kaumatua only. The ablutions block has been upgraded and work on the wharekai will be underway soon as well. The marae is sought after. As well, the initial booking fee for this marae (so far the amount is \$1,000 but could rise according to numbers attending that may exceed sleeping arrangements), that Peri and Karen have offered to pay this recorded amount for the duration 23-27 December 2007. Any excess to this cost will have to be negotiated within this forum. What urgently needs to happen is consensus by the aunties as approval to secure this marae booking.

2. Database of names and address of contact people of the Te Wao Whanau

Peri: There needs to be communication sent out to let whanau know about the reunion so they have plenty of time to save and arrange their time. Letting them know this side of Xmas allows whanau to make arrangements this Xmas so that next Xmas is freed up to attend this. A database is required of key contact people from each of the families – a person who will keep their whanau informed about this event. So Peri and Deena to set up an initial database and hopefully build on this database.

3. Peri: Panui needs to be sent out, a form of communication to send out the same messages and keep whanau informed about what and how we are going about things for this event.

TO DO:

- Deena to notify Aunties about the venue option and seek their action on this. Priority.
- Peri/Deena to set up database of each whanau to send our initial panui which should be out by end November 2006.
- Peri/Deena to allocate who will be contact person to which whanau: Deena will liaise with Kura, Lil, Beatrice and Pat. Peri will liaise with Pep, George, Charlotte.

End: 9pm