



Wi Pere®

Wi Pere Trust

Edition 42 - December 2021

## COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Tēnā koutou ki te whānau o Wi Pere. Greetings and welcome to this edition of Panui.

### OVERVIEW:

#### Wi Pere Whānau Claim Update

As indicated at the Annual General Meeting on 6 November 2021, the very favourable Tribunal Decision on the Mangatu Remedies Claim was released on 1 October 2021. Since then, the Crown have appealed the Tribunal Decision on 17 November 2021. Agreement by all Claimant parties on the Court timetable means our Claim will not be heard until after the middle of 2022. Therefore, final settlement could be late 2022 to 2023 on.

#### Christmas Updates

- *Agribusiness and Hortbusiness*

We provide positive updates on our businesses.

- *26 February 2022 Hort Farm Tour*

As announced at this year's Annual General Meeting, there will be a Hort Farm Tour next year. During these Covid times, we enclose particular information on the requirements and details for the day. We would like as many whānau to attend as possible.

- *Kōrero with Riaki Ruru, successful scholarship candidate*

The Trust Board congratulates Riaki on his success in achieving his degree and wish him well for the future. Enjoy his kōrero.

- *Te Rongopai Marae Update*

Te Rongopai Marae Trustees have provided an update on their excellent progress. Enjoy their report.

#### Conclusion

There are exciting ongoing activities happening on the Trust. Stay safe, warm and healthy during these Covid times.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact our Secretary, Chris Torrie at BDO Gisborne, P O Box 169, Gisborne, email [mbu@bdo.co.nz](mailto:mbu@bdo.co.nz) or telephone (06) 869 1400.

Mauriora,

Alan Haronga  
Chair - Wi Pere Trust Board

## Riparian planting programme



*Managtoria Valley*

We have fenced off a total of 14 kms of waterways.

There is a total of 30 hectares to plant, with Stage One seeing about 14 hectares planted.

Stage Two will be completed next planting season which is around May/June.

Spring has been very good. We nearly had a flood in early November with 180 mls over a period of four days.

The rain stopped just in the nick of time, but we have continued to receive showers of rain since.

As a consequence, we have been able to cut about 850 bales of silage.



*Silage bales on Repongaere flats*

Sheep weaning is nearly completed, and lamb survival rate has been very good. Calf marking has been completed. The cows are enjoying the good spring with plenty of feed available. Our water storage dam has also been lined, and it is now full of water. We have been irrigating during December.

### Prices

Prices are very positive for sheep and beef and the outlook also remains positive. The main risk however is COVID-19 and the disruption it may cause to processing and logistics.

Unfortunately, wool is still in the doldrums and subsequently there is nothing positive on the horizon.

Staff are all busy which is symbolic for this time of year - November and December being our busiest months. Everybody is looking forward to taking a nice break over Christmas with their respective families.

Ngā mihi,

**Tim Rhodes**

**General Manager - Agribusiness**

Wi Pere Trust Horticulture Operations Update

Kia ora koutou,



*Harvested blueberries ready for packing*

November and December are the two busiest months on the horticulture calendar for us.

Blueberry harvesting finished a couple of weeks earlier than last season, at the end of November.

We had a team of 15 pickers picking five to six days a week. The fruit was sent through to Te Puke for packing and then onto the local and export markets.

Our team have been busy completing the first stage of our Rokit apple development at Tangihanga.

The new orchard looks great, and we hope to show as many of our shareholders around the new plantings and our other orchards at the upcoming *Horticulture Field Day on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022*.



*Young Rokit apple trees at Tangihanga*



*New season kiwifruit growth*

Staff are also busy thinning and summer pruning in our kiwifruit and persimmon orchards.

Recent rain has been great for all our crops and fruit size at this early stage is ahead of 2020.

Our dam at Tangihanga is now full again which means we will have plenty of water for our crops over the summer.

Ngā mihi,

**Wayne Hall**  
General Manager - Horticulture

# Kōrero with Riaki Ruru

## Wi Pere Trust Scholarship Recipient



**Name:** Riaki Ruru

**City of Residence:** Gisborne will always be home to me - the sun, surf and my whānau. Whilst my university years were spent in Dunedin, I'm currently preparing myself for the next stage of my life journey when I relocate to Auckland in early December.

**Wi Pere whānau whakapapa connection:** My parents are Ian Ruru and Simone Shivnan. My grandfather was Potatutatu Bill Ruru, who was the son of Mirianata Edwards.

Mirianata was the daughter of Mana Moanaroa (nee Pere) and Pani Edwards. Mana is the daughter of Riria Winiata Kaihote and Moanaroa Pere. Moanaroa Pere is the youngest son of Wi Pere.

**Education:** I'm so proud to say that I am a Gizzy boy through and through. I was educated at Wainui Beach School during my primary years before heading to Ilminster Intermediate for years 7 & 8. Once I reached high school age, I attended Gisborne Boys High, following in the footsteps of my father Ian and grandfather Bill. I have also recently completed a Bachelor of Environmental Science degree at the University of Otago.

**Key Work/Life Experiences:** As a young person growing up, I didn't have a true understanding of the type of mahi both my grandfather and father were involved in. The significance it has for both our people and wider community in creating a sustainable future for the next generation.

This realisation in my late teens has had a profound effect on me and has certainly influenced the career direction I have taken. My grandfather has been my greatest inspiration. Even though he has now passed, he has left such an amazing legacy and along with my father, they have laid the foundations for me. I just want to lead by their example and keep making a real difference.

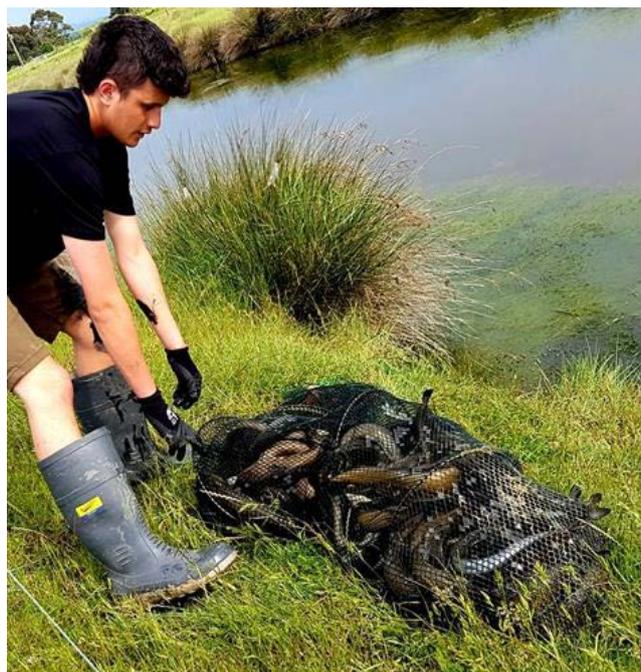
**Passion/Interests:** I have a real love of all sports, but surfing without a doubt, is my greatest passion. Surfing is so different from all other sports - and for me it provides the opportunity to connect with Tangaroa, and to appreciate the beauty and uniqueness of the ocean and the environment around me. We live in paradise here in Tairāwhiti, and are pretty blessed to have such close access to some stunning coastlines.

**Current Work:** I have recently secured a graduate role as an environmental scientist at Morphum Environmental based in Auckland. It has been increasingly difficult in this Covid environment for graduates to find employment post their studies. To have been granted this opportunity and be potentially involved in key projects that align with my personal values and Te Ao Māori - means a great deal to me.

**Particular skills/talents:** In 2017 when I was appointed Head Prefect at Gisborne Boys High School, the different tasks I was exposed to in this leadership role played an influential part in shaping me into the person I am today. Being able to easily relate to a diverse range of people across all ages, gender and ethnic backgrounds were key, along with good communication skills and the ability to build trusting relationships.

**Any interesting life-changing experiences?** Travelling to different parts of the world have taught me many life lessons that have resonated strongly. On a whānau trip to Indonesia, I was truly humbled by this entire experience and the chance to take in the beauty and manaakitanga of another culture and way of life. It made me stop and appreciate the little things that at times we may all take for granted at some point in life. These people had very little, but they were so content with what they had and also sharing with others, going out of their way to ensure we were well looked after.

**Goals and aspirations for the future:** To uphold what is right and to keep striving to make a difference in this world.



**Words of wisdom for other Wi Pere rangatahi considering different educational pathways?** Never give up, stay true to your heart and follow your passions. It's incredible what life can throw at you, but with an open mind, be prepared to take different pathways in order to achieve your goals.