

URENUI PĀ WORKING BEE



Urenui Pa Trustees would like to thank and extend their gratitude to all Ngāti Mutunga uri that attended and contributed their time, sweat and aroha to this years working bee. It was a huge success due to your attendance, positive work ethics and aroha, he mihi mutunga kore kia koutou katoa!

We had a fantastic turnout of Ngāti Mutunga uri. Over 40 people turned up to support the kaupapa on the day from 9am-3pm. We had three generations all working together to get our Pa looking spic n span. The weather wasn't the best, however our men braved the wet and cold rain and gave every whare and window a thorough scrub.

- The butchery and chiller area was scrubbed from ceiling to floor with hot water and sanitiser.
- All cupboards, draws, walls, floors, doors, ovens, windows and surfaces in kitchen, pantry, both dining rooms, porch, laundry, pot and broom cupboards were completed to a high standard, including Te Aroha, Mahi Tamariki, office shed and both sets of toilets, top and bottom.
- Curtains have been removed for dry cleaning.
- The old dishwasher was also removed on the day with plans to add stainless steel bench and new sink bowls making dishwashing area more viable and hygienic in regards to rinsing, washing and drying of dishes.

Everyone brought something delicious for a shared lunch and we all enjoyed meeting new whānau and catching up with others while working together and/or during lunch. I would like to think that the strategic planning hui had a positive impact on whānau attendance at working bee. On reflection of the two hui I attended the words kotahitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga, aroha, respect, wairua, te reo Māori, whakapapa, kaumatua, mokopuna and the importance of caring for our Pa were all top discussion points and aspirations for many of our uri. I can truly say that all of the above could be seen in action during working bee. Everyone put their heart and soul into each task from greeting and meeting each other, working together, making connections, sharing and caring, working as one whānau striving to uphold the legacy and mana of our tupuna with passionate hearts, laughter and conversation.

We even had Anna Adcock drive up from Wellington. Anna is a whanaunga we met at the Wellington Strategic planning hui. She saw the tono on facebook, messaged to say she wanted to come up for working bee and guess what? She arrived Friday night and headed home after working bee Saturday early evening, he whakaaro miharo e te tuahine! Anna said she loved every minute being back home on her marae. Anna is a mokopuna of Ngatiki Te Aho and Richard Phillips.

'He mihi kau ana kia koutou katoa ngā ringa raupa o taua rā, ka mutu pea'!

“Kia ū ki tō marae, mā tō marae ka kīia koe he tangata.”

Noho ora mai

Na Tania Hodges-Paul on behalf of Urenui Pa Trustees

PS. we also had offers of money from whānau living out of Taranaki that wanted to give a koha as their contribution. They wanted the money to go toward cleaning agents, food for the workers or anything else we may have needed. I declined the koha at this time however it maybe something we can look at accepting in the near future once Trustees have had an opportunity to discuss and develop a plan for managing incoming koha for working bee purposes. Thank you for all offers of koha.





