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Thursday, March 17, 2016



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Vandals won't stop Tuhoe



□ The new visitor centre and tribal authority offices for Waikaremoana and Te Urewera are due for completion by the end of the year. Pictured in front of the \$6 million design are — Te Urewera Board trustee Lorna Taylor and whare manuhiri team member Mahaaki Rurehe Beattie.

During the build Tuhoe plan to source materials from within Te Urewera with trees that have fallen, and make their own earth bricks.

After Easter, the call goes out for everyone who would like to go there and help make the earth bricks which will help insulate the building. A lack of sunlight over the winter will limit the ability to use solar power.

“We want to have a living, breathing space that is a conducive environment for thinking, relaxing, working and engaging with the environment around us.

“It’s our space that will house taona which will be displayed.

“It will be a special space to welcome our manuhiri to Waikaremoana and to this part of Te

Urewera,” said Mrs Taylor.

“It is also where we will be able to engage and bring to life our tikanga around hosting and caring for those who come into Te Urewera.”

She sees the tribal authority offices at the back of the building as the engine rooms for developing ideas and bringing those ideas to fruition.

It will have the visitor and retail centre, and wananga, at the front of the building.

At the front desk, the whare manuhiri team of Mahaaki Beattie and Lovey Edmonds will greet visitors, taking bookings for the Great Walk and provide weather, road and track closure information.

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VANDALISM attacks at Te Urewera will not stop Tuhoe’s vision to develop a positive future.

This week vandals cut down the new Welcome to Te Urewera sign at Onepoto and attacked the Waimako Marae sign just out of Tuai.

Waikaremoana Tribal Authority chairman Lance Winitana and Te Urewera Board trustee Lorna Taylor believe it was a political and selfish act from people opposing and undermining them.

The attacks took place just as the new Te Urewera visitor centre at Home Bay is starting to take shape.

The foundation of Te Wharehou o Waikaremoana was laid this month with the distinctive curved roof due to go up next month.

Sited near the Waikaremoana

Holiday Park, the living building concept was designed by Wellington’s Tennent Brown Architects.

It is the second of two living buildings Ngai Tuhoe have built since their settlement in July 2014.

The multi-purpose Te Kura

The attacks on the signs are seen as a political and selfish act.

Whare was completed last year in Taneatua and is the head office for Tuhoe as well as a community hub, cafe and educational and resource centre.

The environmentally-green Waikaremoana building will provide information to visitors about Te Urewera and also

house the Waikaremoana Tribal Authority offices, one of four tribal authorities of Tuhoe, and house taona that have not been on display since the original visitor centre at Aniwanui was vacated in 2008.

Te Wharehou o Waikaremoana is expected to cost around \$6 million and be open at the end of the year.

Decorative whakairo embossed on concrete panels at each end of the deck will represent Tuhoe hapu — Te Whanau Pani, Nati Hinekura, Nati Tawhaki, Tamakaimoana, Te Urewera and the Tuhoe ancestor, Te Umuariki.

Te Urewera Board trustee and one of three directors in the Waikaremoana Tribal Authority, Lorna Taylor, said the building and design and concept came from ancestral history, the landscape and the environment they live in.

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'Let go the anger, move forward'

FROM PAGE 1

Recent vandalism of signs at Te Urewera is history repeating itself, according to Waikaremoana Tribal Authority chairman Lance Winitana.

Two signs were vandalised this week with the authority representatives determined not to let the attacks stop their progress.

Mr Winitana said the vandalism was generational and in the blood of the people who had fought against Tuhoe in the past.

There was a strong sense of sadness, anger and hurt expressed by those who picked up the felled sign on Tuesday.

Whare Manuhire team member, Mahaki Rurehe Beattie was devastated.

"How can they do this to our young people? This is Tuhoe creating the future for rangatahi."

Te Urewera Board trustee Lorna Taylor described it as the action of dissidents, out to sabotage Waikaremoana Tribal Authority's vision.

"These actions are a strong statement against Tuhoe and it's disgusting."

Mrs Taylor said the Waikaremoana Tribal Authority's vision and priorities were about bringing calm and prosperity going forward.

"This is a lot of work to bring about a community together so we can all prosper."

The Waimako sign was carved during an artists' wananga at Waimako in 2013, when artists from Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands carved the pou supporting the Waimako sign.

Rangatahi said they saw it as disrupting all the sacrifices and hard work that their ancestors had put into raising the sign up, the Treaty settlement and all the work that went behind it.

Te Uru Taumatua employee Here Titoko said: "It's time to let go — if you are going to hold on to that anger, you are not going to go anywhere and you will be stuck in the same place while the rest of us go forward."

"It's an act of desperation."

Team leader for Waikaremoana assets Tim Maule said as well as the disrespect factor, there was the unnecessary work to reinstate the signs, taking away resources and time from their core work.

Tuai senior police constable Tony Maultsaid said investigations were continuing into the incidents.

He said it appeared the vandals were disturbed during their attack on the second sign at Te Urewera because two posts were cut through but the third post was only partly cut and the sign was still standing.



An unhappy distraction and a huge disrespect was how Tuhoe people feel about the vandalism of two signs including this Te Urewera welcome sign. From left — Lorna Taylor, Here Titoko, Lance Winitana, bottom, Tim Maule, right, Kata Tamaki, Oriwia Taylor and Mahaki Rurehe Beattie.

Pa Haka among 24 community finalists

WAIROA Pa Haka is set to represent Wairoa at the Trustpower national community awards in Dunedin this weekend.

Te Wairoa Pa Haka Festival will be one of 24 entries from throughout the country competing for the national title.

The awards are run in 25 regions around New Zealand to recognise and reward the outstanding contribution voluntary groups and organisations make in their communities.

Te Paea Whakatope, from the Pa Haka Festival organising committee was humbled the festival won the Wairoa community awards and is a little nervous to represent Wairoa at the national awards.

"I've seen the judge's handbook, which has a description of all the projects up for consideration for the national title, and I'm really humbled that Pa Haka is being considered alongside some of these other awesome projects."

"We have to do an eight-minute presentation about our project and we've decided we will share the real stories about our participants, the whanau and the marae who make the Pa Haka festival a reality."

"They are the true reason why Pa Haka is so successful and it's their stories we will be taking with us."

"We had a practice and run-through of our presentation with Mayor Craig Little and what was really cool is local MP Stuart Nash dropped in unexpectedly to wish us luck," says Ms Whakatope.

Mr Nash said Wairoa could certainly be proud of the team going to Dunedin this weekend.

"After listening to their presentation, I know I am."

"Pa Haka is about building community resilience and strengthening whanau and marae."

"I really enjoyed listening to Te

Paea and Naomi and encouraged them to remember who they represent.

"They represent Wairoa, a

resilient and proud community, and they go with the best wishes of not only me, but the people of Wairoa", said Mr Nash.



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HEALTH awareness is part of an expo being presented by the Wairoa Rotary Club.

The expo will take place at the Wairoa War Memorial Hall on Friday from 10am to 1pm and from 10am to 2pm on Saturday.

Saturday will also see a walk/cycle leaving from the community centre at 9am.

There will be spot prizes for those who register with registration from 8.40am and the briefing at 8.55am.

Following the walk/cycle Mr David Mason MBChB, FRACS, DipObst will give a talk on Men's Health in the Supper Room at the War Memorial Hall from 1pm on Saturday.

This Sunday bowlers will compete in the Mills & Roberts trophy drawn game at the Wairoa Bowling Club.

Entries close at 3pm on Saturday.



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41 Judges Parade, Mahanga

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