

# Tuhoe celebrates with

**Karla Akuhata**  
Staff reporter

MORE than 20,000 people flocked through the gates at Ruatoki over the weekend to take part in the biennial festival, Te Ahurei a Tuhoe.

Held to celebrate the unity among Tuhoe, the festival involves the tribal members taking part in competitions including kapa haka, rugby, netball and debating.

This year also saw the introduction of a golf competition with 72 players ignoring weather warnings and heading out to the Te Teko Golf Course

to tee-off.

The golf was eventually won by the Ngati Haka Patuheuheu.

The team from Te Hono won the A-grade netball competition with Ngati Haka Patuheuheu claiming the top spot in the B-grade final.

Te Ao Marama Nohotima was named as the best player of the netball tournament.

Te Karu took out the A-grade rugby competition and Waimana won the B-grade.

However most people attending the festival know that the real challenge is to take out the kapa haka and this

year the honour went to Te Karu, Ngati Haka Patuheuheu came in second and third place was claimed by Tawera Kaipuha.

A highlight of the festival was the introduction of Te Hokokura, which replaces the renowned Te Puru as the tribe's haka.

Te Puru was a metaphor used to describe the arrogance of colonial forces.

Te Hokokura will not only feature here at the biennial festival. In time descendants will perform the new haka at any future events involving Tuhoe.



**LEADING MAN:** Te Tira Hou's Henare Johnson struts his stuff out in front. D3459-426



**HIGH MOMENTS:** Waimana haka team cut imposing figures as they raise their taiaha at Te Ahurei a Tuhoe on the weekend. D3459-201



**FIERCE:** Teresa Mika, Pani White, Kerry Brown, Tanisha Kouka, Tui Rogers and Tira Ruru strike a pose for Waimana haka at the Te Ahurei a Tuhoe. D3459-211



**GROUP PERFORMANCE:** Waimana haka end their performance full of pride. D3459-381



**CROWDED HOUSE:** The Te Ahurei a Tuhoe venue starts to fill up on Saturday. D3459-506

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www.whakatanebeacon.co.nz | Wednesday, March 30, 2016 23

# massive festival



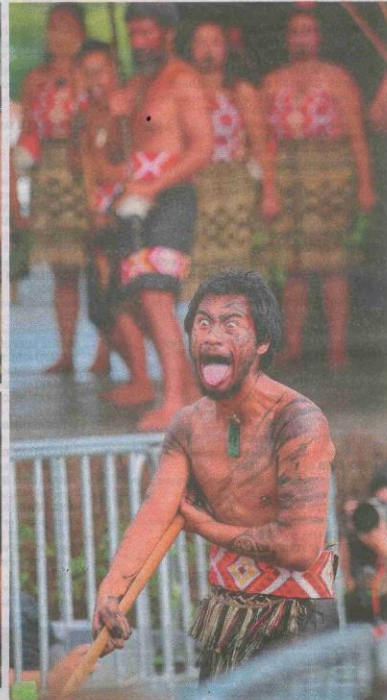
**IN SYNC:** Tuhoe ki Kawerau perform at Te Ahurei a Tuhoe festival on the weekend.  
Photos Louis Klaassen D3459-149



**DRESSED IN RED:** Tyler Pitau performs for Tuhoe ki Kawerau at Te Ahurei a Tuhoe festival in Ruatoki on Saturday.  
D3459-111



**SWEET MUSIC:** Ngaio Barrett, Jah Thompson, Desrae Te Moana, Atarangi Cook, Lyn Brown, Annie Te Urupiu Te Moana and Tracey Rangi perform for Te Tira Hou.  
D3459-465



**CHALLENGING MOMENT:** Rehua Timoti performs the wero for Waimana haka.  
D3459-235



**ON STAGE:** Ray Edwards and Rangimarle Tihema secure a comfortable seat to watch the kapa haka performances on the weekend.  
D3459-165



**SIGN OF STRENGTH:** Duane Fulmaono stands with Te Tira Hou at Te Ahurei a Tuhoe.  
D3459-436