Ko tenei te wa o te tau hou Māori, ko Puanga tera. No reira, nga mihi ki nga whetu kei runga, hei tiaho te maramatanga, nga mata o nga Ariki. Tena Tatou Katoa.

Ko tenei te panui tua toru e rere atu ki a koutou, ko nga korero me nga whakaahu e pa ana ki nga mahi katoa o Te Atawhāi o te Ao

Ka nui te ora kia tatou!
Koro Hemi Takarangi

Hikohiko te uira, papa te whatatiri, pokare te moana, wheke ana te rakau, ko te tohu ra o nga aitua!
Ko tenei te reo poroporoaki ki ratou ma, kua wehe atu ki te po hoki wairua atu ra ki a ratou ma haere, moe mai, Kati.

Ka huri te mihi ki a tatou te hunga ora tihei mauri ora!
Ki a Ranginui e tu nei, ki a Papatuanuku e takoto nei, tena korua. He mihi hoki tenei ki ou korua uri. Tena koutou nga atua o nga mea katoa.
He mihi ki ā kui ma, ā koro ma o nga hau e wha o Aotearoa, Tena Kautau Katoa.

Ki a tatou katoa nga tangata whenua o tenei ao kia kaha kia maia kia manawanui.
Tena tatou ano te whanau whanui e tautoko ana i te Kaupapa o Te Atawhai o te Ao.

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E Hemi, ko koe te manukura o te paepae o Putiki Wharanui a Tamatea Pokai Whenua. Ma te tini me te mano tō mātua e pumautia ki te ngakau. Kaore e taea ki te warewaretia to menēmēne atu. E koro, piatāta mai ra i te Rangi!

Ma wai ra e whakakii o tapuwhae
Ma to Iwi
Whaterotero ki te Rangi, pukanakana ki te mata o te whenua, whatorotoro ki nga tangata.

Apiti hono tatai hono, te hunga mate ki a ratou, apiti hono tatai hono, te hunga ora ki a tatou katoa.
Tihei Mauri Ora!

Ka huri ki te hunga ora.
It's been a busy year at the Institute. Our kaupapa is clear, we are here to provide support and research to Maori communities in the areas of health and the environment.

Our core staff remains the same, apart from the departure of two key people, Justin Gush who is now working for Family Planning and Tanima Bernard who has emigrated to Piopio. In their place we welcome Nathanael Scurr (Te Atihaunui a Paparangi) who is now our multimedia person and Debs Tongotea (Ngapuhi, Ngati Maniapoto) who has taken over care of Eriapa.

Within the magazine you will see our many highlights to the year in our three projects, the Fertility Project, the Hua Parakore Project and the Grandparents Raising Mokopuna study. It's been an honour to work with our communities both within the rohe of Whanganui and further afield to Te Tai Rawhiti, Taranaki, Te Wai Pounamu, Te Tai Tokerau, Tauranga Moana, Tamaki Makaurau. Over the year we have worked with about 30 community researchers from all over the motu. Our networks extend far and wide but we particularly acknowledge the support of the volunteers who sit on our Whanau, Governance and Ethics Boards and Te Wananga o Awanuiarangi, the Health Research Council, Nga Pae o te Maramatanga, MAIA, Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism for your support.
As Māori New Year starts with the new moon of the first month of the cold season, Pipiri (June). Puanga (Rigel) part of the Orion constellation is celebrated, as it features in the sky just prior to Matariki. Traditionally Puanga starts the year with the fruiting of the miro tree which ensures that the kererū become large ready to be caught. Then conclude when the Piharau run is completed in August.

There are 13 months in a traditional Māori year, measured by a lunar cycle. Māori also measure by nights rather than by days with a simple example being: āpōpō literally meaning after the night – i.e: tomorrow. The Māori New Year starts with the new moon of the first month of the cold season, Pipiri. Pipiri being the month when people started to come together or to piri back at the main settlement after living in the various food gathering sites during summer and autumn in preparation for the cold months ahead.

Puanga is commonly known for the following whakataukī:

Puanga kai rau
An abundance of food at Puanga
Ka hua ai ngā pua, koia ko Puanga

This whakataukī literally means the time when the pua (blossoms) become hua (fruit) – ka hua ai ngā pua. This is directly connected to the abundance of food in the autumn months and to ensure that the cold season is seen in a positive light. This statement also acknowledges the key indicators of the summer gathering of resources like flax to process ready for weaving in the winter months. Added to this is the gathering of food during autumn to ensure that the storage pits are full for the cold months ahead.

Puanga is the star Rigel, part of the Orion constellation. Puanga features in the sky just prior to Matariki and is seen as a precursor to Matariki for the tribes that can see Matariki.

Most Māori would call this celebration Matariki though throughout the Whanganui and Taranaki region it is called Puanga. Puanga is celebrated as you are unable to view Matariki on this section of the West Coast of the North Island. With a direct connection to another Pacific culture, the Japanese name for Matariki, Subaru, brings a close connection between the Whanganui sister city, Nagaisumi-cho, Shizuoka, Japan.

The celebration
The customary practices relating to Puanga/Matariki are significant to Aotearoa, New Zealand and the tangata whenua of the Whanganui region. The traditional context of observing the rise of the star constellation Matariki (Pleiades) or Puanga (Rigel) connects Māori to land and sea, food-harvesting and weather patterns, gathered to share hospitality and kai and to entertain and learn. It is a time to reflect on the past, acknowledging those who have passed on whilst looking towards the future and the up coming new season.

Many of these aspects of Matariki have gained momentum in recent years and this philosophy have inspired for Iwi, Hapū and whānau to gather for Matariki events with many other aspects of traditional Māori culture to be shared and celebrated with their wider community. National recognition of this special time is growing with events occurring regionally with great success.
Following up after the filming of Maori Veterans and recording their stories on film, Justin and Cherryl headed off and held hui with the Veterans and whanau to update everyone on where the project had finished. Hui were held in Whanganui, Auckland and in Kaitaia. Hosted by local Veterans the above photos were taken in Kaitaia. The kaimoana was amazing including the koura. We were so spoilt. Whakawatea were done for the films in each rohe and we were also able to do a presentation and give Veterans a magazine that we printed for them about the project. It was great to meet with whanau and I hope that the Veterans are showing their whanau their DVD’s which we have given to them. Thank you to Nga Pae o te Maramatanga for assistance with this mahi.

More than 60 years after WWII soldiers from the Maori Battalion were first welcomed home at Putiki Marae, Whanganui, the veterans were embraced again at the same marae.

Twenty-eight veterans and more than 500 whanau and supporters gathered for the 28th Maori Battalion annual reunion over the weekend of the 20th February 2009. The weekend included outings, entertainment, catching up with old friends, and formal events to honour the Veterans.

The veterans took a trip up the Whanganui River and visited the 28th Maori Battalion Museum in Palmerston North, among other activities. The last day was a very special day where Veterans, whanau and supporters held a memorial service to remember those who have passed on, and then an honours parade at Moutoa Gardens.

A final report for this Health Research Council funded project was completed in December 2008 and submitted to the HRC. There are some key findings coming out of this project. From people we have spoken to we know some Maori are greatly affected by chemicals/toxins because they are working with them, or live in an environment that is contaminated by them, which also has an impact on kai harvested from local rivers, streams, bush and sea. Across the groups that we spoke to there were severe health impacts on whanau, including high rates of miscarriage, and early death from cancers for example. The health impacts are also intergenerational, affecting children and mokopuna.

As well as monitoring and focusing on whanau health impacts, Sawmill workers, through the work of SWAP and matua Joe Harawira, are now moving toward hapu remediation measures in areas contaminated by toxins.

Vietnam veterans have finally received government acknowledgment of their contribution overseas with a whakanoa ceremony that was held in Wellington last year. The government has made some efforts in bringing together compensation and health packages for veterans and their whanau but too little, too late.

Locally, a new environmental course through Te Wananga o Raukawa is being developed by Wai Southen to be run on a marae up the Awa.

Currently, we are looking at how best to get this information out to those who have contributed to the project and to key communities and organizations. We are very grateful to all those who have helped in this research project, including: Maori Vietnam veterans and whanau we interviewed, sawmill workers and their whanau, whanau living alongside Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui, and Lou Gallagher, Mere Takoko, Wai Southen, and Grant Huwyler. We also acknowledge all those who have contributed in various ways and who have now passed on during the writing of this report.
HUA PARAKORE
A research collaboration between Te Atawhai o Te Ao and Te Waka Kai Ora National Maori Organic Organization

Hua Parakore is an exciting new collaborative project between the national Maori organic organization, Te Waka Kai Ora, and Te Atawhai o te Ao. Our team includes representatives who are from a variety of Maori community, hapu and iwi organizations, organic farmers, researchers, and business, including OANZ and Te Waka Kai Ora. We are spread out right across the country with Percy Tipene from Kaitaia, Dr John Reid and Tremaine Barr from Kaitahu, Hinga Marsh from Rotorua, Dr Jessica Hutchings from Wellington, Gretta Carney (Project Manager) from Hawkesbay, and Drs Cherryl Smith and Paul Reynolds from Whanganui.

Five community researchers joined the project coming from Mahia, Raukawa, Whangarei, Wairaraki and Timaru. The researchers have already interviewed a variety of Maori growers from all over New Zealand, including organic farmers, kaumatua, and others who have a home garden. Wade Osbourne, one of the community researchers for the project, has traveled around the country to conduct interviews and build a database of names of Maori growers. Percy and Gretta have also been attending various hui to promote Hua Parakore and Maori organic kai, including Parihaka Peace Festival, Field-days to name a few, with Gretta and Jessica attending an International Organics hui in Italy.

This project is being supported by the Foundation for Research, Science & Technology, Organics Aotearoa NZ, Te Punanokiri, Te Waka Kai Ora & Te Atawhai o te Ao.

The kaupapa of the project is all about strengthening our health, our relationship with Papatuanuku and our self-sufficiency and tino rangatiratanga. It is an exciting project to be working on at this time because there is just so much support and good will out there for this kaupapa.

It is a real privilege to be working with such a peaceful and humble whanau as Te Atawhai who have such a deep commitment to hauora Maori and such wealth of research experience. It is also awesome to be working so closely with the wider research team, our community researchers and the Te Waka Kai Ora whanau, again so many people carrying this kaupapa so strongly. I have had to learn lots since I started in the role but am beginning to find my feet and relax into the mahi and I am really looking forward to all the activities we have planned for the coming year - Gretta.

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Calling together Maori organic farmers and gardeners to enjoy korero and organic kai in the winterless north

including:

Hua Parakore (kaupapa Maori framework for farming and gardening)
Growers Hui

Plus inspirational successful Maori business speakers

Celebration of the young gardeners who participated in the TOPS Te Manawhenua challenge

Italian inspiration in the wharekai with celebratory international Slow Food chef Maria Pia

Enjoy pure traditional kai, cooked the way it ought to be

Roma Marae, Ahipara Powhiri Friday 5th June 10am - midday Sunday 7th June
www.huamaori.com

Registration details:
Pounamu Skelton pounamu1@ihug.co.nz 021 373 519
For more information see www.huamaori.com

AHIPARA
Maori organics wananga

Early June 2009 saw the Te Atawhai whanau head north to Ahipara. Two van loads drove up to the Te Waka Kai Ora Maori Organics Wananga. First night was at Waioimo hosted by Percy Tipene and whanau, the second day we headed up to Ahipara where we were well looked after by Rueben Porter and whanau.

The hui was great with many people coming from throughout the country - growers, exporters, and organic reps. The highlight was the Mana Whenua award given to rangatahi organic growers. Organics is a huge growth area so come on whanau, get growing!

Best pies in Aotearoa at Raetihi

2008 winners of the Manawhenua award

Percy Tipene, Rueben Porter & friends
Our wonderful team have been busy over the last year. Not only has our team grown in size, but we’ve increased our skills as we have welcomed our research team, advisory group and community researchers to work alongside us and our communities. From the Far North to Te Wai Pounamu, our community researchers were invited to come to Whanganui to find out more about the project. Over a 2-day hui we talked about the increasing number of whanau struggling to have children of their own, the increasing number of technologies becoming available to help whanau conceive and how each of us can gather the important korero whanau have to share relating to this kaupapa.

As well as gathering korero, we have also been gathering literature from the past to now, relating to Maori, fertility, reproduction and technologies. There is a lot to find out, not only about our tupuna and the fertility korero depicted in our stories and waiata of past but from the current trends of whanau life and how we are engaging with ethical and social implications of new technologies.

Guided by the advice and support from our advisory board and research team, we are starting to weave together the knowledge being gathered. Over the next year we hope to identify and bring forward key issues of importance to whanau relating to fertility and reproduction. We will ensure that the korero shared willingly will be disseminated more widely, so that whanau, friends, health providers and others are able to learn and support the needs of our people. This project is looking at the essence of whanau, whakapapa and the future faces of our mokopuna and we are humbled to be able to bring this together.

Advisory Group Hui
We have annual hui with our advisory group to meet kanohi-ki-te-kanohi, to spend time renewing our connections and discuss potential issues of consideration in relation to whanau research, fertility issues and project planning.

Our second hui was held in February 2009, and as we read through some of the first korero shared by whanau themes began appearing, such as the impact of colonization, non-Maori having important korero to share that relates also to Maori and our different understandings of whangai and whakapa-pa. This hui gave us an opportunity to look at what we are doing, and how we can work together to carry out quality kaupapa Maori research.

Community Researchers Training Hui
Two training hui were held in Whanganui for our community researchers in preparation for the tasks ahead – to return home to gather kōrero. Since the initial training, they have been interviewing within their communities and have been sharing their stories with us. In March of this year, our community researchers came back together to share their experiences and those of their communities. Each of our researchers has their own skills and way of doing things and it has been a learning experience for all of us - listening to the approaches each have taken and the kōrero that is being shared. We look forward to sharing some of these with you.

Research Team Hui
Our research team are an extremely busy bunch who have a number of roles and responsibilities within this project, but also within their other research mahi and whanau. With a project such as this, we have a number of key milestones to achieve each year, and the advice and practical support offered by the research team is greatly needed and appreciated.

As well as conducting a number of interviews, our research team work on specific areas such as reviewing relevant literature, analyzing korero, reviewing the project and helping with writing a report of our findings. A large part of this project is reading the korero that has been gathered and identifying key themes that emerge for whanau. As skilled kaupapa Maori researchers, we are lucky to have the support and valuable insight this team brings to the overall research.
Over the year there has been lots more media attention on the grandparents and I have been involved in a range of documentaries including a Maori TV doco, a Radio NZ doco. A number of other researchers are doing work in the area of grandparents such as the NZ Families Commission. Two Australian research teams have also made contact with me.

One of the key things coming out of the research is the need for more SUPPORT for the grandparents in all areas, such as from schools, courts, government agencies, all health and social service providers in the communities. I just think that people do not realise how many grandparents are raising their grandchildren.

In Whanganui I spoke to 30 grandparents raising 85 moko about one year ago and have now met at least twice that number and these are the Maori numbers just in Whanganui town.

The literature review is coming along. I have now compiled two key pieces: What are the factors that break down the whanau? How are Maori strengthening whanau? Other sections include traditio- nal Maori grandparenting, elderly Maori and Maori parenting and a summary of what international literature can tell us about likely health impacts.

Overseas research verifies that there are impacts on the grandparents, on their physical, mental and spiritual health. The Advisory Group with John Abraham, Mihi Rurawhe and Chris Cresswell continue to provide wonderful support and valuable contributions to the project.

Locally one of the highlights of our year has been the trip on the Whanganui river that SKIP organised for the grandparents raising their grandchildren. It was so good to have a great morning with all the other grandparents and see the kids enjoying themselves.
Maori Academic Awards

Each year the University of Waikato organises Te Amorangi National Māori Academic Excellence Awards. This year they were held on the 3rd April 2009 at Tūrangawaewae Marae, Ngāruawahia (Kimiora). 28 recipients received the award including Dr Takirirangi Smith and Dr Jenny Lee, (3rd from the right). One Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Carmen Kirkwood of Ngai Tai, Ngāti Te Ata and Ngāti Tamaoho descent. A long-time director of the Huakina Development Trust, she has worked tirelessly to protect and restore the waters of the Waikato and Manukau. It was a great night with Ruia Aperahama, renowned violinist Elena and local kapa haka Te Pou o Mangatawhiri providing the evening’s entertainment. The Pro VC’s Maori office headed by Dr Linda Smith organises this event and they did a great job.

Congratulations to Dr Debra Harry who graduated from the University of Auckland in May. Debra and her family who are Northern Paiute traveled from their turangawaewae in Nevada to attend the marae graduation at the University of Auckland. Debra is on the international board for Te Atawhai O Te Ao.

Waipapa Graduation

Dr Leonie Pihama and Dr Debra Harry

Congratulations to Dr Debra Harry who graduated from the University of Auckland in May. Debra and her family who are Northern Paiute traveled from their turangawaewae in Nevada to attend the marae graduation at the University of Auckland. Debra is on the international board for Te Atawhai O Te Ao.

Wananga Graduation 09

On the 23rd of April Te Atawhai o Te Ao attended the 2009 Te Wananga o Aotearoa graduation ceremony at the Whanganui Memorial hall. Jacinda graduated with her level 1 Certificate Te Ara Reo and Justin Gush graduated with a Certificate in Small Business Management. The ceremony was entertaining to say the least and the huge number of whanau present is a reflection of the support for the hard work tauira are putting toward their study.

Leanne has just started Raranga through Te Wananga o Aotearoa. Lisa Mareikura is Raranga Kaiako. Jacinda is now studying Level 2 Te Ara Reo. Congratulations to Jacinda, Justin and all the graduates. Kia Inoi Kia Mahi!
PAKAITORE DAY | 28th of February

Each year on the 28th Feb, Whanganui iwi celebrate Pakaitore Day. It is the day of remembering the 79 day occupation which started on 28 February 1995.

Each year the iwi gathers to remember the day. Tariana Turia, Maori Party MP who was part of the occupation says that the day is an important day for iwi. “Pakaitore Day is always about building relationships between hapu, strengthening the sense of community, and reflecting on our status as iwi within Whanganui” “It is a time for wananga, for education, for whakawhanaunga-tanga”.

Pakaitore is a significant site for iwi. Pakaitore was the site of a pa, and a traditional place for trade and for meeting.

Tamatea-pókai-whenua, captain of the Tākitimu canoe and explorer of the Whanganui River when entering the river sent his servant ashore to find flax for a topknot (pūtiki). The place where flax was found became known as Te Pūtiki-wharanui-a-Tamatea-pókai-whenua. Turi came to visit Tamatea, and his daughter Tāneroa fell in love and married Tamatea’s brother, Uenga-āriki. Tamatea then built a canoe, and left his servant at the mouth of the river, while he explored upriver. According to some, this event gave rise to its name, Whanganui (from ‘whanga nui’, meaning ‘long wait’). Others say the name came from Haunui-a-Pāpārangi, and meant ‘great harbour’.
Te Atawhai O Te Ao has completed a short 5 minute film titled “Grandparents Raising Mokopuna”. The film captures a busy morning for two grandmothers as they are preparing their mokopuna at home for a regular school day. The film would not be possible without the whanau’s willingness to be involved and open their homes to what is usually a private whanau space. The film will be available for viewing on our website later in the year. Cherryl will also be presenting the film in support of the Grandparents raising mokopuna research project.

Young Rangatahi were asked to take part in workshops which exposed them to composing songs, production processes, marketing, promotion and performance. As a collaborative project, “Young … the life of” is about making music. But more importantly, providing alternative activities to some of the risk-taking behaviour our rangatahi sometimes find themselves engaging in. It is a chance for young people to be involved in something positive that could touch other rangatahi. The tracks are positively motivated and true to our youth. A 10 track album was distributed to Iwi for free at Pakaitore day 2009 with an album performance.

Justin Gush has filmed an advert for Te Reo Irirangi o Whanganui, your interactive tribal connection, Awa Fm. The advert can be viewed at the Embassy 3 cinema.

As part of Awa Fm “Young… the life of” project, Justin shot, edited & produced the music video “Young Ones” which is a single off the album. The video was shot in one day and night at various locations around Whanganui and features those who were involved in the project including friends, whanau and sponsors of the album project. view @ www.youtube.com/maori1
The aim of the album was to capture, promote and preserve the dialect of Whanganui in a musical medium. Manutioriori featured on Te Riu Papara include Parata Reweti, Te Whanau Kawau, Aurora Mareikura, Charnao, Tania (tiny) Gilsenen & Te Reo o Nga Manu. Te Riu Papara was produced at Awafm studio by Sacha Keating with the help of Charles Ranginui on additional guitar. Nate designed the cover and CD booklet.

In April 2009 Justin & Nate appeared on TV One’s Marae with local Maori health workers and rangatahi involved in the “Young... the life of” album. The story focussed on the youth initiative, the processes involved in working with our rangatahi and the positive outcomes.

Marae | showcases YOUNG...the life of

Websites | Te Atawhai O Te Ao

The Te Atawhai o te Ao website is in the process of being created by Nate. A panui will be sent to all our whanau and friends as soon as we are online. The website will provide an overview of who we are and what we do as an independent maori research institute. It will also feature information on past and current research projects and we will have a section dedicated to film created by Te Atawhai O Te Ao.

He Taonga Whakairo | Carving from Wai Southen

The Taonga was given to us at our whanau board hui Christmas 2008, this is Wai’s korero around it…

The left hand side represents Maori. The right hand side represents non Maori.

The middle represents eternal life, working together and the eternal flows of the awa.

Little man, Triple M carved this taonga.

To be placed above the mahau – entrance to a whare.

Max Takuira (Maori bishop) blessed the carving.

Because it has been blessed, whoever enters the whare will be cleansed and cleared and able to do the mahi and be on the kaupapa of the day.

Thankyou to Wai and Tripple M for gifting Te Atawhai o te Ao this Taonga. Nga mihi ki a korua!

“Ko au te taupa kihai i puawai aku moemoea.” - I am the only obstacle to the fruition of my dreams.
He mihi aroha ki a Teresa Reihana
mo ou mahi tino atahua tenei!

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