

HE PANUI

<p>In this issue...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman's message – working together • Farm Report - further lift in the dairy payout • AGM – now 30 November not 2 November 	<p style="text-align: right;">Spring Edition 2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological B2 – a quick once over • Kaumatua Grant – form to sign annually • Grants to Marae – Yes or No?
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Chairman's Message

Tena ra tatou e te whanau,

It's a pleasure to introduce the Spring Panui when the mild weather ushers in the change of seasons and bodes well for the lambing and calving season on our farms here at Te Uranga. The property is looking great with good pasture covers and our rivers and streams full to overflowing. Like all good farmers, over the winter season the Committee has completed an in-house review of our business and activities, resulting in a stronger strategic and business focus for all our farming operations – forestry, dairy and sheep+beef.

We've also looked at how we can work together with our whanaunga from other Maori Ahuwhenua trusts and incorporations. This has already started with an assessment of the dairy and the sheep+beef farms and we're pleased to say that there are some good results.

Again, this panui is packed with information and news about what we've been doing as a Committee, as a Farm Team and as a whanau so make a cup of tea, take a break and spend a few minutes to put your feet up. Nga mihi mahana.

Traci Houpapa, Chairman

Farm Report

What a turnaround!!! After the worst drought in 70 years we have now experienced one of the kindest winters on record with temperatures being warm, rainfall being minimal and therefore plenty of grass being grown. It has been a real delight to see the farms recover as they have done over the last four months and the effects of the drought are now a distant memory.

There has been plenty of press lately regarding the botulism scare with Fonterra. Thankfully this has been declared a "false alarm" and no harm came to anyone. It has presented some interesting discussion on the perception of New Zealand and the dairy industry. It shows just how vulnerable we can be when things don't go to plan.

Quite a number of farmers were up in arms over this as all dairy farms (Te Uranga's included) have very strict quality controls that they must adhere to before the milk leaves the farm. This is right down to the temperature that the milk must be at before the milk tanker can pick the milk up! If farmers do not meet these quality standards they are penalised heavily so there was disappointment that the checks once the milk had left the farm had failed. Hopefully this serves as a lesson that will further improve the quality of the processing beyond the farm gate.



*Photo:
Josh
Rakapai
milking in
Koromiko
40 a-side
cowshed.*

The recent announcement by Fonterra of a further lift in the dairy payout is exciting news. Even

though the farms are no longer supply Fonterra and all milk goes to Miraka, the payout is linked so good news on payout from Fonterra is good for Miraka and therefore Te Uranga B2. Of course the opposite is also true.

Spring time also sees lambing begin and we really hope the mild weather will continue for the next month at least so these lambs can get off to a strong start. The lamb and beef markets are looking strong for the year ahead which is great news.

The focus for the year will continue to be on ensuring that the farms can capitalise on these

strong market returns and we are all extremely hopeful that good prices and a good grass growing season can go hand in hand, something that has not been the case over the past few years. Did you know in a season – an average dairy cow will eat 20,000kg of food (mainly wet grass) and drink 18,000 litres of water to produce around 4,000 litres of milk.

Darren McNae, Farm Consultant, AgFirst

This year's AGM – Sat 30 November

Our Annual General Meeting is set for **10am-2pm, Saturday 30 November**. This year we're changing the format for the hui a tau combining a farm tour and our AGM reporting. We'll start with a mihi whakatau at Nga Kōhatu at the farm, have a brief morning tea and then head out on the farm so you can see the property from a first-hand view. Our Farm Manager Jack Valois and team will provide their report on Upoko, our sharemilkers Shannon and Luke Pepper will talk about dairying on Koromiko dairy unit, and Lucy and Dean Marshall will discuss their dairy operation on Paatara. Depending on the weather we'll have lunch out on the farm, and then head back to the Woolshed for the annual report. So the dress code is farm-wear with a reminder to be prepared! Of course, if the weather changes, we'll be ready with Plan B. We've achieved a lot of great things over the last 12 months so we're looking forward to seeing you all in November. Mauri ora!

Traci Houpapa, Chairman

Ecological Time Line

Te Uranga B2 is one of the leading Maori Authorities practicing Environmental Good Practice.

1993: Owners approved 105 ha of regenerating native bush being put under Nga Whenua Rahui (NWR) Kawenata.

1998: Ngarotata Bush (no 1) 46ha added to the NWR Kawenata.

1998: Te Uranga B2 & Horizons Environmental Plan developed. Riparian planting commenced on Koromiko dairy farm..

2000: Te Wharepapa Wetland planted out in Harakeke. 3.32ha added to the NWR Kawenata.

2006: 1998 Environmental Plan replaced with Horizons Sustainable Land Use Initiative Whole Farm Plan. (SLUI WFP)

2013: Application made to add the Ngarotata Bush (no2) 5ha to the NWR Kawenata - total hectares under NWR Kawenata is 159.

2013: Approx. 80% of waterways & wetlands are protected by riparian planting.

Vonda Houpapa, Committee of Management

Kaumatua Grants

Changes to the administration of these grants: Except for those already registered, a **Kaumatua Grant Registration** form must be completed by the applicant and available from

Patricia@balanceonline.co.nz PH: 07 895 3013

For those who have registered a **Kaumatua Grant Application** form will be sent out with the AGM Notice that must be signed and returned to the office within 7 days of the AGM.

The form can be handed in at the AGM. The grant will be paid about the same time as the dividend.

No signed form – no grant.

Up for debate at AGM – Marae Grants

Last year the matter of grants to Marae arose ... should they be made or not ... and if so, which Marae can apply.

Get working on your argument now ...

'Yes' or 'No' to a grant - and why?

Share Register Update Project

It's been an exciting and rewarding 12 months for this project which has seen a 20% reduction in the total amount of un-paid money held by Te Uranga B2. If you can prove you're entitled to any of the unclaimed monies contact Patricia Woitasek patricia@balanceonline.co.nz or need help call Alan Cockle - Mobile 02108115229

Contact: Send feedback, panui, photos to:

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TE URANGA B2^{INC.}

Te toto o te tangata, he kai, Te oranga o te tangata he whenua
Food supplied the blood of man; his welfare depends on the land

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