

# Penu Whānau Survey – January 2024

Ahead of a marae planning hui scheduled for 20 January, an online survey for whānau affiliated to Te Pa o Penu was organised by a group of whānau members – Johnson McKay, Sarai Morris, Miria Koia, Tarsh Koia, Kui Wano. Manu Caddie collated the responses and summarised them in this report.

## Who Participated?

The survey was open for three weeks over the holiday period and 33 participants provided responses. This is a small sample group but respondents represented the diversity of whānau connected to Penu – from some who have never visited the marae to those who reside at the pa. Nearly half of respondents visit Penu at least once a year, the other half visit at least every five years or less frequently, including at least 5 (15%) who have never visited Penu.

Nearly 60% of whānau responding have shares in Totaranui A1D2B2B, the land block that the marae reservation was created from. 12% of respondents don't think their whānau has shares and 30% were not sure.

We did not collect information on respondents' age, gender or where they usually live – at one response was from a whānau member living in Australia.

It is great to have such a good range of connections involved in the short survey. Thanks to everyone who found the time to provide feedback.

## Communication Preferences

Most (82%) respondents said they would prefer to engage with marae and land issues by email – this was closely followed by the Facebook page, Facebook Messenger and Zoom/online calls. In person events, phone and Instagram were least preferred, though 1/3 said they would prefer in-person engagement.

## Biggest Issues & Concerns for Attention at the Pa/Marae

Survey responses highlight various issues and improvement suggestions related to Penu Pa. The main points include the need for renovation and attention to the ablutions block and wharekai. Sustainability is emphasised, with a focus on future-proofing against weather events and rising energy and water costs. Land loss and climate change impacts were identified, along with a desire to foster cultural learning without overwhelming the hau kāinga (local community).

Consistent maintenance is reported as lacking, and some facilities, such as the kitchen and ablution blocks, are described as outdated. Land erosion by the river is a concern. Other responses mention uncertainty, a desire for improved communication, and the importance of using digital technologies for connection. Some participants express a need for support and active participation from whanau, suggesting contributions of skills and talents. Specific areas mentioned include the replacement of the wharepaku, kitchen renovation, and clear guidance on key contacts.

Overall, there's a call for proactive maintenance, cultural preservation, community involvement, and effective communication to address the diverse concerns raised by the survey respondents.

## Biggest Issues & Concerns for Attention on the Whenua

The survey responses highlight several concerns and suggestions related to the whenua/land. Key points include a focus on the feasibility of ongoing access, erosion, and the need for re-fencing, pest control, and strategic planning, particularly regarding weather-related impacts. Economic and environmental outcomes from erosion control are desired, along with consideration of potential flooding risks, particularly for the marae.

Participants expressed a need to mitigate risks such as slips, encouraging whānau to return to help with land issues, and maintaining traditional practices. Concerns about natural infrastructure damage from weather events are noted, with a belief that the trust is addressing these issues. Practical matters, such as lawn maintenance, insurance, and rates, were also raised.

Communication is a common theme, with calls for regular shareholder/whanau hui to improve communication on decision-making and related issues. Preparedness for natural disasters and climate change adaptation plans are mentioned, emphasising the importance of long-term sustainability and passing down the land to future generations. Some respondents express uncertainty or lack of knowledge on these issues, indicating potential areas for improvement in communication and information dissemination.

## What long term outcomes do you want to focus on for the sustainability of our marae/pa/taiao?

Overall themes in responses to this pātai revolve around a holistic and sustainable approach, incorporating cultural values, community involvement, environmental conservation, and financial stability for the long-term well-being of the marae and whenua. Survey responses regarding long-term outcomes for the sustainability of the marae/pa and taiao (environment) can be summarised as follows:

- **Representation and Decision-Making:** Prioritize engagement with the hapu to encourage active participation, particularly focusing on teaching rangatahi that the taiao space is a valuable learning and skill development environment. Ensure adequate representation in decision-making processes, avoiding concentration of decision-making power in a few individuals. The overall theme revolves around a holistic and sustainable approach, incorporating cultural values, community involvement, environmental conservation, and financial stability for the long-term well-being of the marae and its surroundings.
- **Ahikaa Leadership:** Support and work towards the aspirations of the ahikaa (local community) for the marae.
- **Whakapapa and Community Involvement:** Emphasize whakapapa, community involvement, and collective effort in sustaining the pa and land. Focus on succession planning to ensure continued connection and contribution, involving more people in decision-making. Prioritise maintaining regular connection with whanau and ensure that maintenance is carried out on a regular basis. Encourage inclusivity, with everyone playing a role in caring for and tending to the pa.
- **Cultural Regeneration:** Focus on cultural elements such as Te Reo Maori, Tikanga, Nga Korero Tukuiho, and Nga Whakapapa. Work out what cultural values such as Whanaungatanga, Manakitanga, and Kaitiakitanga in the sustainability efforts mean in practice.
- **Environmental Conservation:** Focus on clean waterways, native planting. Ensure the marae is in a safe location considering factors like rain and flooding. Prioritise looking after the whenua, especially addressing concerns about slipping urupa, and explore sustainable business ventures. Create a native tree and plant orchard for future projects, such as landscaping the pa or urupa.
- **Building Maintenance & Development Plan including Papakainga:** Develop a clear long-term building and maintenance plan and strategy for the marae/pa. Explore the concept of

papakaiinga, including the sustainable use of retired whenua with functional native restoration. Consider diverse sustainable farming practices for profit, being mindful of the prime land.

- **Economic Sustainability:** Ensure effective use of the whenua to generate income for maintaining and upgrading facilities at the marae. Work towards financial stability for the marae and consider various approaches to achieve this goal.

### **What can you contribute to support the issues you think we need to focus on?**

More than half (56%) of participants already provide or are keen to provide a regular koha via AP to help with costs of maintaining the pa. 9% said they could make a one-off koha.

Seven people offered to help with funding applications and report writing.

More than half of respondents said they can help with online communications and sharing information amongst their wider whānau.

41% said they could help with working bees and 1/4 are able to help with weekly or monthly mahi.

Other offers include:

- ‘creating ways to record our stories and make them accessible to others’
- an environmental bio chemist with 20 years’ experience in Taiao science offering to tautoko, network, use skills in whatever ways are useful
- a lawyer offering their time to assist where useful.

### **To support whanaungatanga relationships between whanau connected to the pa, what would you like to do more of?**

Overall, the responses highlight a strong emphasis on cultural learning, community engagement, transparency in decision-making, and the importance of regular and inclusive communication to foster a connected and supportive whānau. Survey responses regarding desired activities and communication strategies for the marae and community engagement can be summarised as follows:

**Wānanga, Reunions and Get-Togethers:** Emphasize the importance of gatherings at the Pa to strengthen relationships, get to know whānau, and connect with the wider whānau who whakapapa to Penu. A desire for cultural workshops focused on whakapapa, waiata, hitori, reo, and tikanga. Activities such as Pa Wars, working bees, and wānanga, with a focus on whakapapa, te reo, waiata, rongōā, purakau and taiao (environmental) initiatives are all useful. Promote cultural learning through workshops on reo, purakau (stories), waiata, whakapapa, and rongoa (traditional medicine).

**Communication & Decision-Making Structures:** Stress the need for regular and effective communication with whānau, with a preference for online resources that allow for deeper exploration of history and wider cultural topics. Online discussions about Penu Pa, Totaranui Nama 6, whakapapa, korero tukuiho and taiao developments could be valuable. Transparency in decision-making, sending out related information to whanau for inclusive decision processes, and openly communicating roles that need to be filled. Balancing rights and responsibilities, ideas and actions, available resources and responses, legal liabilities and tikanga are important ongoing, in-depth discussions to have moving forward.

Regular communication between all whanau will help everyone to stay informed and contribute ideas and support.

At least one whānau member said they would like to have the opportunity to come back with a formal pōwhiri to come onto their marae for the first time, acknowledging feelings of whakamā and anxiety, and a need for supportive and inclusive connection with the hau kaenga.

### **Any other comments/suggestions/questions**

Overall, the responses reflect a mix of gratitude, support, encouragement, and a desire for further understanding and involvement in the marae community. Some express a need for increased communication to bridge the gap for those who may not be closely connected to the current state of the marae and whenua.

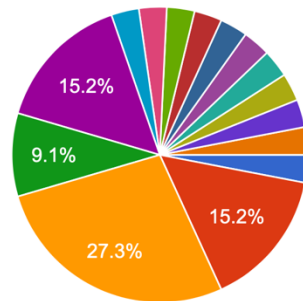
Survey responses to this pātai can be summarised as follows:

- **Positive Acknowledgment:** Express appreciation for the efforts of those managing the marae, commending them for their amazing work.
- **Limited Knowledge:** Some respondents, particularly those who haven't visited the pa in a long time, express uncertainty about the current state of the pa, what needs to be done, and any existing issues.
- **Encouragement and Support:** Encouragement and expressions of pride in being part of Aitanga a Mate and Penu, with a specific acknowledgment of the kaimahi (workers) for their amazing work.
- **Desire for Understanding:** Express interest in understanding kawa, tikanga, and decision-making processes. Also keen on developing localised reo Māori and understanding how to support more people in being involved.
- **Looking Forward to Involvement:** Individuals express eagerness to meet more whānau and actively participate in the community and marae activities. Suggest a registry of all shareholders/whānau.
- **Whakatauki** expressing positive sentiments and values such as unity, truth, and love:
  - *"Katahi te ataahua o te nohitahitanga o nga tuakana me nga taina i raro i te whakaaro kotahi"*
  - *'Ma wa ra e taurima te marae i waho nei? Ma te tika, ma te pono me te aroha' na Henare Te Owai"*
  - *He Mihi nui ki a koutou te roopu kei te Kohikohi whakaaro, kei te tautoko tenei mahi*
  - *Tēnā rawa atu koutou ko ngā kaiwhakahaere o te kaupapa nei. Kei whea mai!*
- **Support and Well Wishes:** Offer support and well wishes to the team involved in gathering thoughts.

## Raw Survey Data

How often do you usually spend time at Penu?

33 responses



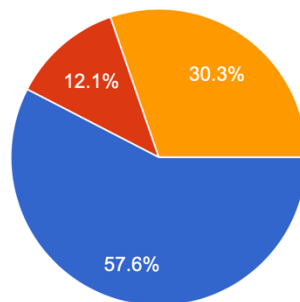
- At least once a month
- At least once every 3-6 months
- At least once a year
- At least once every two years
- At least once every five years
- Never been there
- Finding myself
- It's been many years since I've been h...

▲ 1/2 ▼

It's been many years since I've been home :-(  
 Finding myself  
 At least twice a year before covid  
 When back in NZ  
 I'm yet to come home  
 Since returning to NZ I have tried to get up there at least once a year  
 At least once a year  
 Haven't yet made it over there due to health  
 Never been there  
 Ka noho matau ki te Pa o Penu>Nama 6  
 I have never been

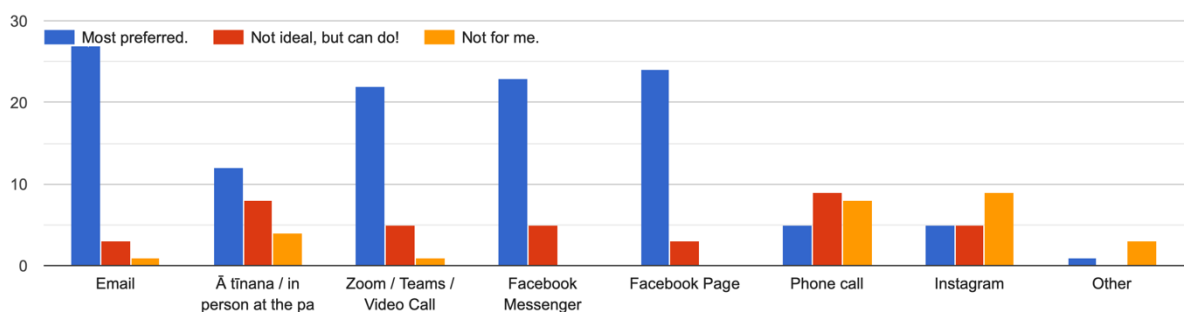
Do you know if you or your whānau have shares in Totaranui A1D2B2B (Nama Ono) - the block that Paetahi urupa is part of and Penu Pa was part of?

33 responses



- Yes I/we have shares in the block
- I don't think we are
- I'm not sure

Please rank your preferred way to engage on issues around the pa and whenua?



## What are the biggest current issues for the marae/pa you think need urgent attention?

- Renovation of the ablutions block & the wharekainees some attention
- Wharepaku
- Toilet and shower blocks
- Ablution block, sustainable solutions that ensure Penu is future proof against issues such as weather events, rising cost of energy and water.
- Resolving the land loss due to deforestation and weather events, helping more people connect and learn tikanga, kawa, waiata without putting too much pressure on the hau kāinga (ie. having more of the younger generation getting trained up to lead)
- Ablution block needs upgrading
- Lack of consistent maintenance. Kitchen & ablutions blocks are woefully outdated
- N/A
- The river eating the whenua where marae is.
- Kāore au i te mōhio i tēnei wā
- The ablution block and kitchen.
- Not sure as I live too far away
- We are not sure as we haven't been back very often, but we have moved back to Gisborne so we are a lot closer now, and can get more involved with Penu now.
- Not sure
- People helping, participating, contributing - need more tautoko - active and hands on - whanau contributing their skills and talents.
- Kitchen area, Ablution block, Parahanga Ideas?
- Maintaining connection with Penu Pa, the Whenua and Taiao
- The use of digital technologies to keep us connected and engaged with Penu Pa"
- Wharepaku replacement, kitchen renovation.
- "Wharekai need revamping along with shower block
- Improved communication to ALL whanau
- The ablution block needs to be re-built, the kitchen needs to be fully re-vamped - maybe extend where the lean to is, etc. Covered walk way from wharenui to whare kai.
- Nanny lucky whare. The toilets/bathroom block. Kitchen update.
- Clear guidance and comms around key contact people, what whānau living away can do to tautoko our Pā and whanaunga that have taken on responsibilities for maintaining it. Penu has a significant uri population that have a diverse range of skills, so leveraging those skills is important.
- Maintenance ie bathroom and general upkeep of the marae
- Physical issue - Whare paku/hīrere - Toilets/showers need renewal. Whānau issue - our ability and our commitment to remain connected to and involved in matters relating to our roots and our ahikā as we operate in an increasingly global environment
- Unsure

## What are the biggest issues for the whenua / land block you think need urgent attention?

- Feasibility assessment access points
- Erosion
- Erosion next to the urupa. Totaranui needs re-fencing. Pest control, deer, possum, pigs etc. In comparison to most other blocks it still a prime piece of land with minimal erosion.
- Erosion based on weather events that have affected the whenua to date and in the future.
- Find a way to deal with the erosion and if possible having an economic outcome.
- Situated next to the river could potentially pose flooding risk in the future.
- Short, medium & long term strategic plan needed to utilise the land efficiently.
- Slips
- Getting our whānau back on the land to help
- The natural infrastructure due to the damage previous weather events have caused and the continuing impact it has had on the whenua. However, I believe the trust is currently addressing this.
- Mowing the lawn???? Insurance??? Rates????
- If there is any erosion. How does it affect our Urupa. Also the road to the urupa needs to be fixed so that our whanau can visit their loved ones.
- Not sure
- Tiki taiao, whenua ki ro huringa ahuarangi - need to be putting good climate change adaptation plans and actions in place.
- People power, participation and contribution - 'many hands make light work'
- Preparedness for any Natural Disaster...
- Maintaining traditional practices by using traditional resources and knowledge
- Erosion.
- Regular shareholder/whanau hui to have decisions made by the wider whanau
- Think of ways to manage the up-keep of our whenua/marae for our future generations.
- Beyond erosion unclear, which I guess is a comms related issue. Hau kāinga and trustees should take the lead here on providing uri with detail and involvement around what the key issues are and developing strategies to deal with them effectively. Ensure the Trust operates in line with its obligations and duties under the TTWM Act.
- Consistent communication to all whanau when making decisions and having discussions
- The erosion by the Makatote behind the marae
- Unsure

## What long term outcomes do you want to focus on for the sustainability of our marae/pa and taiao?

- Hapu engagement so that uri are more active also teaching our rangatahi that the Taiao space is a viable space to learn & develop skills in
- Papakainga

- Pockets of retired whenua, with "functional native restoration". Leasing block has showed minimal upkeep and return. Sustainably farmed stock not limited to beef or sheep.. "bull stud" (random guess).. Combination of sustainable uses to be run by Penu for return profit. Be wary of planting to much Manuka... It's prime land.
- Whanaungatanga, Manakitanga, Kaitiakitanga.
- Succession planning and helping more people connect and contribute.
- Create a native tree and plant orchard for the Pa future projects such as landscaping the Pa or urupa etc...
- Sort the above & ensure adequate representation not just a few people making decisions for the majority.
- Have a clear long term building and maintenance plan and strategy.
- Not sure
- Looking after our whenua, but more so the other Urupa that's slipping away
- The above, at this stage, and perhaps look into sustainable business ventures (as I'm sure the trust is on top of).
- Whatever the ahikaa dream of
- That our Marae is in a safe place, with all the rain and flooding, is it okay where it is.
- Whakapapa
- Me pehea e tatau katoa te awihina ki te hapai i to tatau Pa, i to tatau paraki whenua
  - Each of us honestly asking ourselves how can I help, what capacity do I have to ensure the longterm sustainability of our Pa and land;
  - It takes a whole village to care and tend our Pa - we all have a place, we all belong, we all have a role, we all have a job to do."
- Clean water ways, native planting on whenua? He Tapitapi te whanau kohatu i roto i te urupu..
- "Te Reo Maori me Ona Tikanga
- Nga Korero Tukuiho
- Nga Whakapapa "
- Not sure.
- Manaakitanga is being eroded
- "By implementing appropriate practices and policies to meet our present needs without compromising the availability of resources for the future.
- To have financial stability for our Marae - not sure how this will look like but it's on my wish list.
- I personally just want our Pā to be a place that our whānau can easily maintain connection with and be involved, along with special consideration to the various capabilities amongst our whānau, simple aye 😊
- Maintenance carried out on a regular basis
- Ensuring the whenua is used effectively to provide income to maintain and upgrade facilities at the marae
- Being part of it

### What can you contribute to support the issues you think we need to focus on?

- **Regular AP koha to help with costs – 56%**
- **Funding applications and report writing – 22%**
- **Communications online – 50%**
- **Communications amongst my extended whanau – 59%**
- **Regular working bees – 41%**
- **Weekly/monthly mahi – 25%**
- **One off koha – 9%**
- Background in environmental bio chemist degree 20yrs experience in Taiao science. Current principal scientists for Ngati Porou Toitu te whenua and Tairawhiti Taiao Matauranga lead consultant for NIWA. I offer my tautoko, network, skill set in what ever way necessary for my Penu whanau and my Nanny Hera
- creating ways to record our stories and make them accessible to others.
- I'm a lawyer so could assist with my time where needed
- Working bees are more my thing. Due to how far I live from the pa, it may not meet the 'regular' side of it.

### To support whanaungatanga relationships between whanau connected to the pa, what would you like to do more of?

- Wananga whakapapa waiata hitori
- Wananga whakapapa/waiata/reo
- Reunions and get-together's at the Pa to get to know whānau and strengthen & form relationships with our wider whānau who whakapapa to Penu.
- Whakapapa
- Whakawhanaungatanga"
- Communication with whanau.
- We have done wānanga in which we talk about the history of Rongo-i-te-kai and learn some waiata. It would be good to have these resources on line so we can go deeper, or focus wider and really build our Penutanga and Poroutanga.
- Pa Wars
- Regular communications sent to all whanau
- Become more involved but hard living in chch
- Wananga
- Whakapapa, kōrero hītori
- Not sure at this moment.
- Attend a wananga, connect with whanau - I know we are everywhere:)
- Meet up with the whanau, get to know our whanau more. Loved that you are having Waiata and whakawhangaungatanga hui.
- Awesome.
- Make connections and start being active
- help organise regular whakapapa, whanaungatanga, te reo, waiata, taiao wananga, pa wars
- He ako reo, ako purakau, ako waiata, ako whakapapa, ako rongoa
- Online discussion about korero pertaining to Penu Pa, Totaranui Nama 6, Whakapapa, Korero Tukuiho, Taiao developments
- Working Bees.
- All related information sent out to whanau so that decisions can be made by all for transparency purposes
- Have more gatherings/wangana/whakapapa - to get to know more of our whanau.

- Just good comms and how we can tautoko. Would like to see roles needing to be filled being communicated outwards to the wider whānau rather than the few being overloaded.
- Regular communication between all whanau so everyone's on the same page and all beneficial ideas can be considered
- Wānanga reo and tikanga including whakapapa, waiata, haka, karakia, kawa, Ngāti Poroutanga, historical knowledge, ngā kōrero o neherā including Rongo i te kai, Ngā Kurī Pāka a Uetuhiao, Te Aitanga a Mate... Also regular events eg Pā Wars to keep us connected and operating as a whānau
- To be pōwhiri onto marae and meet people, I am alone in Wellington, whakamā and feel anxious to come alone

### **Any other comments/suggestions/questions**

- You are all doing an amazing job, mauriora ki a koutou xx
- I haven't answered a couple questions as I was a teenager the last time I was home and haven't seen our Pa or whenua in a long time. Not sure what needs doing or what issues there are relating to the Pa.
- PENU 😊
- Nga mihi whanau.
- Keen to understand kawa and tikanga. How are decisions made and how do we support people being involved? Also keen to develop localised reo māori - how our kaumātua would have talked.
- Ka pai
- Keep up the amazing work, I'm proud to be Aitanga a mate Penu and know my whanau are resting there. You are amazing kaimahi, thank you for all that you do.
- Kia Ora whanau looking forward to meeting more of the whanau, and getting more involved.
- "Katahi te ataahua o te nohitahitanga o nga tuakana me nga taina i raro i te whakaaro kotahi"
- 'Ma wa ra e taurima te marae i waho nei? Ma te tika, ma te pono me te aroha' na Henare Te Owai"
- He Mihi nui ki a koutou te roopu kei te Kohikohi whakaaro, kei te tautoko tenei mahi
- Tēnā rawa atu koutou ko ngā kaiwhakahaere o te kaupapa nei. Kei whea mai!
- A Registry of all shareholders