

# Updates

I have tried to follow the minutes and may go off on a tangent and with extra's...as is my style 😊

## Main property issues

### 12 Victoria Street

Francine has settled in at 12 Victoria St and has started her new job...congrats cousin.

Some issues with Cohen erupted and he has now been relocated. It was a sad way to end the trip to New Zealand but we went back to help A. Margie and that is what we attempted. Hopefully from here on in it will be smooth sailing for Aunty and Francine.

The dog has found a new home.

Albie Matthews was contacted to do a requote...as he has all the details from the last quote he will email me with the updated quotes (with and without labour). It hasn't happened yet...hopefully soon.

As Albie is happy to look into doing an assessment on the piling / stumping and having a electrician brought in to look at the electrics. Francine will keep on with her contacts and see if they can help in anyway.

The leaks that A.Margie spoke of at the meeting are worse than first thought. On the rainy days and nights that I was there the whole kitchen floor needed to be covered in bowls to catch the water dripping...for such a small room it was like a swimming pool 😞 Also the wall in A.Bubby's old room is also damp behind the wallpaper. A big concern considering we estimate that we will have the money in a year's time. A lot can happen in the walls between here and then.

Hopefully our new fundraiser (Mark) will be able to pull a bunny out of the hat...ork ork.

On a bright note. The house now has new carpet in the sitting room. This was from the last minutes (NZ 2012) but we overlooked it during the year. Dean Day was contacted last year and gave a quote of \$200. He came back and did the quote but it was \$520. This was because the original quote he gave was using off cuts or leftovers from other jobs. He didn't have any in the store and didn't know when they would have some. I said let's just get it done. So he came and did the job on the weekend before I left New Zealand, no labour costs were included. Thanks Dean...looks beautiful.

Francine got started on cleaning up the backyard. She will chip away at it over the months 😊

### Extra Update:

Cohen is now at Martinborough Hau Ariki Marae. Due to his behaviour during my stay there he has been told he was not welcome anymore at 12 Victoria St and Francine has been working hard at making sure that that happens.

Francine won't be there for much longer, so Aunty Margie has been told what is expected and hopefully that will continue.

Thank you cousin.

## Moiki

Marama was explained the new process for placing anything on the land.

Debbie had not contacted the siblings by this time (when I was in NZ) as to a date for the cleanup. Hopefully this will be done soon 😊

Darren had contacted Brian through a letter and later on Marama (apparently that discussion is still continuing). There has been confusion as to what was said and done from the meeting; Brian is under a different impression from a letter sent to him from Darren and how the actual meeting went. As he did not want to say what Darren had written to him and said he would ring him to verify other things that I had told him had happened. Not happy at all about the phone call or the fact that I or Darren has lied about our meeting.

Brian was also unhappy about the process/es. He was not happy about the voting process for the current administrators and believes he should be on there as per the process previously (Former administrator would name their replacement) I explained to him that a new process had to be introduced because all three administrators had resigned at the same time.

He wanted to know why I cared about the clean up as I don't live there. The cleanliness address was bought up at the meeting by Teri but agreed upon by all the family. It is a reflection of our family, not just the Smiths.

The process for this encompasses ALL our family properties, not just Moiki. However at this point it is only Moiki that needs addressing.

My suggestion to everyone, if you have issues or are unhappy with a process, be present at a meeting with your concerns or at the very least write to an admin so that it can be addressed at the meeting when most of the aunts and beneficiaries are present. Don't wait until afterwards and come to an admin with anger and half truths. It is not productive at all.

Marama was not informed via me about the gate situation, but she has read the minutes and hopefully will adhere to the wishes of the family.

She did bring up some issues in regards to the sewerage on Moiki. I had been informed earlier in the year about the sewerage flooding and being a possible health hazard to their bore water as well as surrounding peoples bore water. She told me that she had had it emptied twice but it still floods due to it needing better drainage. She informed me that the farmer (Richard Kershaw) needs to put in new drainage down in the area that he farms from us.

I found this to be illogical, as from my personal experience, is that if you put your sewerage down and it doesn't have proper drainage or it fails / breaks...it is your responsibility to have it fixed.

I said I would look into it.

I have since contacted South Wairarapa Council , the plumber who put in the sewerage and another independent plumber and am currently in talks with them about the situation.

Working with the council has given rise to more issues and more headaches. \*sigh sigh\*

Talks will continue with the family in regards to this issue.

## Moiki Urupa

A whipper snipper has been bought for our properties, to be kept at 12 Victoria St, a lawnmower has not (too expensive). If anything we can make the Urupa look a lot nicer when we are back there.

After speaking with the Kershaw's (Karen) in regards to their up keeping (mowing the large areas) of the cemetery, it was found that they are actually paid to keep the grass down. It is sorted out by Carter Grey. He is to be contacted in regards to who maintains this fund and how. Jessica did not need to be asked.

The raising of the top right corner to be level for a cremation wall and seat will have to be investigated further as it may actually cause more issues with the land next door, drainage etc. I was looking into it with the South Wairarapa Council but have since had that superseded with drainage on our Moiki Block. So this needs to be looked at further.

I did speak with Hori (Vernon TeWhaiti) co-owner of the land next to the Urupa (A.Raana's house is on the land, A. Marianna lives there) asking him what he thinks of a cremation wall at the urupa. As from the meeting I was trying to find out who was still utilizing the Urupa. He said he was not personally using it as they now are going to Mangakino Urupa. But if space was going to be an issue (some of the reason behind the cremation wall) was that he would be ok if they made the Urupa wider (into their land). Obviously it needs to be discussed with the other owners....but it is something else to think of.

Sent a big hello from everyone to everyone living at Moiki Urupa....they said nothing back LMAO

## Other land interests

### Whareama, Waikekeno and Pukaroro

Didn't get around to speaking with Haami Te Whaiti, he is the administrator on Waikekeno and there is no administration for Whareama.

This needs more time given to it. Ours and A.Correen's land interests hold the largest shareholding on both blocks. They are big blocks. We need to have someone representing our interests on this block.

Just my opinion, of course

Haven't even addressed Pukaroro other than be told by two of our solicitors that he has been to court by nearly every solicitor in the Wairarapa.

### Pahaoa

Took a trip out to Pahaoa to visit Jeannie Cameron and connect with the farmer of our land interest here. It was really a trip down memory lane for Francine and I, as well as some vague memories for Bubz LOL.

It was nice to talk to Jeannie and Angus (he was up at the cookhouse) Maybe the next meeting in NZ a trip out to Pahaoa will be on the table...they rent out accommodation and I'm sure they would make us all welcome.

I managed to sort out our rentals from this land and get it to our bank account, it's not much but something else ticked off the list. Jeannie was really happy to know some of the actual owners so that was great to connect with them again.

## Papawai No5

Spent a fair bit of time trying to figure out what happened to this piece of land. Went and saw Tole Baker (she is an admin for this land)...and she had no idea LMAO. She directed me to Michael Royal (dipstick ...not my name for him, apparently that is his nickname for those who know him) He was going to look into it as the information given to him was not making sense.

I did briefly talk to a Maori land court representative in Masterton about it and ...yeah she directed me to Michael LOL.

Finally did some digging and spoke with a specialist of the MLC (Maori land court) who deals with the court decisions and minutes. It goes like this:

- A. Nana duck was an administrator for Papawai prior to 1997
- B. In 1997 the court (through another administrator) made all the administrators OWNERS of that piece of land. This automatically made Nana duck a owner.
- C. In 2007 the court (through a current administrator) rescinded those court orders from 1997 stating that the said owners were not in fact owners of the land and were just trustees.
- D. Nana ducks name dropped from those deeds.

This means that Nana duck was never an owner of this piece of land.

The only thing that may happen is because the current administrators have made this piece of land "freehold" and no longer Maori land (I really don't know how this happened with apparently no owners but just administrators) they can sell it. If it is sold then the original owners of the land that had given it to the people of Ngati Kahunungu for community purposes...are entitled to the sale money.

I have asked for a list of the original owners from the MLC. If nana duck or her direct family members are not original owners then this will put this piece of land to bed nicely.

## Te Unu Unu

Maxeen was informed last year that John McGuiness, the farmer of Te Unu Unu and who we met after the NZ meeting 2012, died and his son (whom we also met) had taken over the farm.

On a bright note. This is the land that WCM (Wollerman, Cooke and McClure) have money held by them on behalf of Granny Fanny. A. Coreen notified us about this money last meeting and Ian-Wayne did try to get this money to us last year but had a hiccup.

I spoke with the MLC and was told that we had to just demand it, as we have already succeeded to all of granny fanny's money....it's a tactic solicitors use to keep money in their banks for as long as possible (this we are aware of). As it was a long weekend I couldn't go to WCM as it was closed. Tuesday also bought about a lot of running around.

I emailed them a letter of demand when I returned to Australia. They did not reply.

Decided to ring the MLC again and ask for details of this land so I could better approach this with WCM and got a different answer (sigh...remember people, ring three people from the same office before you act!).

These things need a rubber stamp from MLC. So here we are again in the courts.

The land has been found, the papers stamped now we just wait for the money to go through....so this is great for our bank account ☺

## Ngapuketurua

Quick recap,

Went to see Aunty Pat not long before she passed and she spoke of how one of her kids wanted to build on this piece of land

Went to see Uncle Boy with A. Coreen, just before he passed and he spoke of wanting to subdivide this piece of land

The land has one well. This well is the sole source for us getting a bigger rental return.

There is only one way to subdivide and that is vertically. The well would only be on one subdivision.

Two acres was to be given to each owner to build a private dwelling.

Uncle Boy already has utilized the two acres.

Uncle Boy and A. Pat own the same block. We own a third and A. Coreen a third.

If A. Pat wanted to build then they would be utilizing either ours or A. Coreen third.

If U.Boy wanted to subdivide only one person would get that well as the well is positioned below U.Boy's back it would fall on his subdivision or A. Pats (which would be half of that third) Our piece and A. Coreen piece would be left without a well and therefore the rents would go down, substantially.

After some conversations with A.Coreen about how this would play out, decided it would not be beneficial to our family in regards to lower rents.

Went to see Aunty Bev (Uncle Boy's wife) and Avril (Missy, his daughter) and Jackie (A. Pat's daughter) when I was back in NZ to clarify our position with the subdivision. Aunty Bev spoke of how Uncle had already had the land sub-divided. I know this is not true (Maori Land Online) and think she may be confused about the papers she had, maybe uncle had started the process of sub-dividing and got a surveyor in? I just asked if she could send them to me.

I spoke of how subdividing the property would not be beneficial for our family and that we didn't want to sub-divide at this point in time.

Jackie said that the boys had talked of building but it was pie in the sky type of talk, so she believed that building was not going to happen. If it did she would contact us.

Our dealings with Ngapuketurua are only financial at this moment in time and we have no building interests for there in the near future. I was happy that our wishes for the land had been given over to A. Pats and U.Boy's beneficiaries.

It was also just great to meet up with the extended Whanau ☺

## Wairarapa Ki Moana (formerly known as Pouakani)

This was meant to be an exciting trip to Mangakino to see our land interests up there and to just find out all I could about this land for the family.

It did not start off great at all.

After taking a trip around all the solicitors with paperwork showing the new administrator (Maxeen) I was disappointed when I got to the offices of Wairarapa Moana (WM) to find out that Maori Land Courts had left off WM in our land interests. They had it on the application to the courts but not the actual orders. WM is a propriety ltd company and needed to be manually typed on. The guy at the courts got lazy, did it for one and never looked at doing it for the actual orders. This is STILL being sorted out.

On top of this, A.Putu had given the proxy vote, our vote, over to Marama. She had done this prior to our Gold Coast meeting. I explained to the office that A. Putu was no longer an administrator and was told because the MLC had left off WM on the paperwork, there was nothing we could do about it. They understood and could see that she was no longer an administrator but could do nothing about it. I was not happy. Marama now had our vote at a meeting and we had not been told anything about it.

Anyhoo, I had to suck it up for the family and off we went to Mangakino.

The bus journey was a LONG ONE...6 hours there, well fed though...lunch stop with food provided and a snack bag to take on the bus. Our first stop was Mokai Marae where we were to meet up with other shareholders who were going to see Miraka ...one of our shareholding investments.

Miraka is a milk factory that produces UHT milk and powdered milk for export only and is multi-million dollar investment.

We were shown the factory and given a really long speech about how great it is and what the logo meant. The expansions that were happening and how wonderful this all was. It certainly was shiny ☺

The noticeable thing I saw there was not many Maori faces working at this factory. This was to get worse ☹ I was told later that shareholders and locals had applied for jobs there, told they could have a job providing they met the criteria...but even after meeting the criteria, still didn't get jobs. It was very sad that you can't even work at something you partially own.

After an hour or so of more talking and walking we went back to the bus and headed to our final destination. Pouakani Marae.

We had a bit of a wait for the powhiri. There was a lot of Maori politics going on in the background and people were upset with Uncle Rex Hemi. Sometimes it's nice not knowing and being oblivious to all the angst happening.

The hospitality of the Whanau in Mangakino was beautiful. Lovely Marae and B-E-A-U-T-I-F-U-L food...got fatter while I was there LOL.

The farm visits happened the next morning 7am start.

WM had set up all the farms with marquees and guest speakers. I think there was about 7 bus loads that took shareholders around the farms, 2 buses each went on a different route and to different farms. Each bus had a speaker on the bus, someone who was in some way working for WM.

I started on a bus with a consultant businessman with WM. A doctor no less. Our first port of call was Farm No 15. A farm with no irrigation (this will come into play later on) Very profitable.

Along the way there were houses being built on the farm, three to be exact. I asked the doctor, who is building the homes on our land? He answered that they were new farm houses for management and labour. He then went on to tout the value of having a great new house as an incentive to get great managers.

Managers on Farm 15 are Welsh and Sth African. Another new house, houses farm labourers from Indonesia.

I had been on the bus for less than 30 minutes and already it was depressing. No Maori on this farm either. There was some serious money going out to everyone else though.

Some of the farms are sharemilking farms. This means someone works the farm; they pay for half the expenses. WM pays for the other half. Farmer gets half the profits and WM reaps the other half.

The other farms are all paid for by WM. WM reaps ALL THE PROFITS.

The bus speaker was touting all the wonders of WM owning all the farms outright and wants to phase out sharemilking.

The biggest problem with this is what came next in the marquee from WM own accountant / auditor.

Sharemilking earned us more money ....than the fully owned farms.

So why do they want to phase out sharemilking?

The bottom-line profiting from these farms is to pay for all the people working on it, making their lives so much easier. High pays, machinery bought when they want it...brand new, great housing for free...expansions. It's a farmers dream. Have everything, do a day's work and get paid great for it.

We pay them and everything else on the farm. We don't get massive profits because they are getting it. We don't get our people on there working at all.

The pine farms have matured and we are getting large amounts of money from this source. All the profit that we made last year came from something the small (non paid) committee that was in place before all the big wigs came. They have made more turnovers from our land....but we still get the same payouts?!

All the money made out of Mangakino in all its investments is poured back into paying everyone...consultant PHD businessmen, overseas managers, irrigation and managers to go with it, all farm machinery, accountants (I counted 5 just from being there) the CEO was also the committee head (he paid himself) his wife manages a big part of Miraka.

All the profits the CEO wants to keep and move into other areas...making huge money on paper. The costs of these expansions are ridiculous. And yet we still get a piddly amount yearly.

In the last minutes a motion was passed for a million dollar payout to shareholders. They reneged on this and placed it to vote at the meeting. Many (including myself) were disgusted with this. The CEO handled himself horribly, talking over everyone, even our actual committee.

Anyhoo...the people in the hall voted to have a 400K payout instead of a million dollars. What can you do but laugh. The pakeha were all shaking hands and laughing with one another over this....as would I be once I knew the money would be going back in my pocket.

The CEO made it back on board. He isn't even a shareholder, or he is now that someone gifted him some shares. It really is disgusting.

There are two farms they want to place a 5 million dollar expansion on to make it MORE money. Sounds good? The problem is...it is two small farms that share the same milking facilities. It earns a modest profit.

Can we not have a 5 million dollar payout for one year? Save up again the 5 million and keep the small facilities and then build the expansion.

Nope....any money we get WM sink it back in ...Maori 0 – Pakeha 10. We will never get a payout of anything more than 1 thousand dollars a year. The expenses and debt will ALWAYS be huge.

It is a sad state of affairs. Not many people understand business at this magnitude and they are most certainly not being informed of the details ☹

I truly think this is really important; this is the difference between a 1K dollar payout and 10K. I wished we had known more about this earlier on.

On return to Masterton I asked for all paperwork from WKM is sent to me until the paperwork was sorted out through the courts. I did have words with the courts and the person responsible as well as took a trip to Hastings to have this sorted out.

What was needed until the paperwork went through was for a paper from me stating the change of "receiving" admin from A. Putu to me. To be signed by all three administrators. I honestly didn't think this was going to be an issue. Over my years as an admin, I have NEVER seen anything to do with WKM or even knew about the finances of the interest. Really only thought it was a dam that made no money. After the meeting it was important for me to receive this information so I could pass it on to the family. I informed Ian-Wayne that he had to sign the paper and fax it to WKM office. I then asked A. Putu to sign the same paper...she then told me that she couldn't because Marama was her Power of Attorney. I asked if it had gone through court, if it had then Marama can sign on her behalf. She told me it hadn't. I explained that it was only to receive the paperwork from WKM. A. Margie was there and asked A. Putu what the problem was as she wasn't an admin anymore. A. Putu wanted Marama as her replacement on the WKM. She was again explained about the administrators and that Marama would never be on WKM. She reluctantly signed the paper.

This caused a furore with Marama (who couldn't be there at Moiki after arranging a time...but after we left Moiki, a phone call was sent to her mobile and she managed to high tail it and see us on the way home and follow us back to Carterton...well done at getting your priorities right... subsequently this upset Brian.

Gosh it was ONLY to get the paperwork that we have never ever received or been told about before. I found the meeting to be very informative and important...and wanted to make sure that the rest of the beneficiaries know about this piece of land and its investments.

Also to make sure for further meetings that the people voting on our behalf are voting the way everyone wants. Not voting on our behalf without our knowledge or voting on someone we know NOTHING about.

A. Putu voted by mail for the new committee members, Marama voted on all the crappy things to be passed at the meeting. I was a sulky little shit and kept putting my hand up on everything anyway LMAO. It irked me that this had been done...and sneakily.

The next meeting is in Carterton, November 4<sup>th</sup> 2014. I was hoping that we could have our family meeting at this time rather than in October and have as much family as possible, attend this meeting.



## General Issues

### Fundraising for the renovations

Mark took to his role as fundraiser with gusto. He will keep us up to date with his efforts as they unfold over the next year. If he hasn't already contacted you....he will ☺

A new account for Australian Whanau has been established, properly this time. Mark will forward those details to family as they are needed.

Well done cousin.

### Kaio Website

I have uploaded the website with some videos of my time back in NZ. They are a mix of photos and videos. Go have a look and leave some comments. They are long but some may appreciate them.

[www.kaiowhanau.com](http://www.kaiowhanau.com) click on the photo gallery page

DONT forget to turn off the website music....bottom right hand corner (purple buttons) . Otherwise you will have two different types of music playing at the same time ☺

Forgive my music choices....I have limited songs on my laptop.

The Mangakino video is a bit grainy; I couldn't save it in High Definition. Sorry about that.

I have also done some changes on the website, tried to make it a little less busy LOL (exception for the fundraising page...Mark needed some bling bling LOL

There are some new pages as well as some taken off.

If anyone has some photos they would like put on the web page forward them and they will be put on.

Remember the password is nanaduck for any of the pass-worded pages.

If someone would like to take on the upkeep of the Kaio website / email address / YouTube channel...much appreciate it ☺

### Panui / Kaio Book

Please don't forget to send the Panui questionnaire. I have attached it to this email as well as placed on the website. Its important. I would like to see a book done for the family with all stories of our youth and of the aunties.

### Tangi's

The two wills of A. Sue have been reviewed and the only one that will be followed is that held by the public trust. Both wills are almost identical except for the executors. The law will only go by the one that is been through court.

The sisters are happy with A. Sue's requests for her and we will all ensure that Aunty Sues wishes are met after she passes. I know this is a long update. There has been a lot being going on in the background.

Finally (promise)

I really want to do a shout out to everyone who has appreciated all the time and effort that the administration brings to making sure you are informed of all our land interests and we have been working toward making things right with those land dealings.

It's been a blast being an administrator I have enjoyed learning and growing from the experience. What and where the administration wishes to take it from here, they have my full support.

My hope was to make our land interests and assets tidy and more user friendly for the coming generations. I believe I have 😊 It still has a way to go, but if we continue on the path that has been put forward we will get there...eventually LOL

Love you all to pieces.

Me Me

**Take care and Keep well for the coming year**  
**Much love**