

Wai Paki Bio

Perth

- Kulcha Board Member (5 years)
- Australian Committee member (Olga Ramasummy)
- Community Settlement Officer.
- Department of immigration
- Nominated by Australian Asian Association.
- Role: Advocate
- Rockingham Environmental committee.
- Joondalup Police Youth committee.
- Mentor Justice Department and Police
- Wanneroo Senior high school
- Indigenous department
- Maori and Polynesian in all locations
- Funding assessment panel Joondalup
- Funding Assessment Panel for OMI.
- Performing Arts:
- Local
- Indonesia
- NZ sporting team visits
- AFL through Kulcha
- NZ Government Visits
- Military Tattoo etc:
- Cultural comp winners
- Birth of the waka. (Te Karangatahi)
- **Community Services Award recipient.** (2005 OMI Page)
- **Award for the promotion of Health.**
- Heathway (Lindsey Lovering)
- On top of all this I worked as a Boilermaker /Welder on construction, offshore etc:
- Where did I ever find the time

Melbourne:

- Met with George De Lukakis (VMC) Mid 2004 to discuss the value of bringing waka from Perth to Melbourne. His words were, The Blending of two cultures, the traditional land owners and Maori.
- Waka arrived to a presentation at Fed Square 2005 organized by Te Roopu Attawhai where the waka rowed down the Yarra then moved on to fed square to be displayed where 50, 000 were attendance. An estimation provided by Melbourne Council.

- Came to Melbourne 2007 to prepare the waka for its return to Perth but due the fact there was work needing to be done, the waka is still here but put to work servicing the community..
- To date the waka has been seen by over 500,000 people.
- Thanks to the different Councils, festival committees who have seen the need to have waka as a means of bringing community members out from their homes to participate in the activities the councils have provided.
- The waka has attended events in: Federation Square, Frankston, Maribyrnong, Patterson Lakes, Caulfield RSL, Altona, Werribee, Melton, Warrnambool.
- Festivals: Moomba x 3, Melton festival x2, Werrama Festival, Packo Festival, Altona festival, Maribyrnong Pacific Festival, Warrnambool Cultural Festival, Community Arts Alliance Laverton, Caulfield RSL Waitangi Day x3, Community Waitangi days covering a wide area, Geelong Waitangi Day being the most recent, display for dignitaries to see at a location in point cook.
- All this come at a cost, many hours of hard work, repairing, time consuming. Logistics is huge. We are so grateful to those who have given of their time for many years.
- Positives: the waka provides ownership, belonging, pride, empowerment, kama, a sense of home for that period of time.
- As the community can see, there has been a lot of energy exerted into the area of displaying waka, applying for funding but because the turn around for funding is 12 months we normally miss out, negotiations, planning, preparing team for water or land, maintenance, and logistics, buying what ever is needed.
- This waka was actually activated with the help of a group of youth at Risk. The activities above has taken much of our time. The main focus for us has been to set up a "youth at risk program. Preventing our youth from going to prison as when they are in prison we feel then it is too late. In short the Youth at Risk project has been tested, tried with an outcome.
- Who ever can help Te Karangatahi with all that is required to put this project together please call MAV reception.