

NOTICE OF HUI OF DESCENDANTS OF MARY NAERA

or MERE NAERA, MERE NAERA POMARE, MERE NICOL, MERE NIKORA, MERE TUHATA and MERE
HAUTONGA

The Māori Land Court has directed that a hui be called for the descendants of Mary Naera. Mary died in 1890 and before her death, she purchased land from the Crown by auction. The Crown had acquired the land by the Taranaki confiscations. The title for the land is still in Mary Naera's name. The land is situated at 44 Whakapaki Street, Urenui being Sections 14 and 15 Town of Urenui. The combined area is 2023 m² (half an acre). Mary was Ngāti Mutunga, the ancestral hapū for this land. Her first marriage was to Inia Paihia and her second marriage was to William Naera Pomare. Her children were William Damon, John Henry Damon or Hone Tuhata, Inia (Iria) Tuhata II, Matoha Tuhata, Rangihanu Tuhata, Ngaropi Tuhata, Pahi Pomare, Maui Pomare, Te Hia Pomare and Piritaka Pomare. She lived at Urenui but died on the Chatham Islands.

Recently the New Plymouth District Council commenced "abandoned land" proceedings to sell the land to settle outstanding rates. An application was filed in the Court by Johnson Raumati, a descendant of Mary Naera for a Judicial Conference under section 67 Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. The applicant filed the application to seek solutions to prevent the sale by Council and to secure the future of the land for Mary's whānau. At a hearing in Waitara on 12 June 2025, the descendants present agreed to consider setting the land aside as a Māori Reservation as the first step to gain administration of the whenua by Mary's whānau.

The Court has now directed that a hui of the descendants be called as follows:

- To discuss and consider setting the land aside as a Māori Reservation, including:
 - a reservation name and purpose
 - for whom reservation may be set aside
 - trustees (meeting may elect trustees if a reservation is decided);
- The Court has appointed an independent facilitator for the hui.

The hui will be held as follows:

When: 3:30pm, Friday 5 December 2025

Where: Tu Tama Wahine O Taranaki, 2 Leslie Street, Waitara 4320

Zoom Option: Attendance will also be available via Zoom using the following:

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83824104626>

Meeting ID: 838 2410 4626

We are keen to reach as many of Mary Naera's descendants as possible to be engaged in this important discussion. We ask whānau members to pass on details of this notice by word-of-mouth, email, social media networks etc, as widely as possible. Please get in touch with me if you can provide email or postal addresses for descendants.

We look forward to meeting whānau of Mary Naera at this hui to assist in restoring administration of her land to her descendants. If you require further information before the hui, please contact me by email oliver.bailey@justice.govt.nz or phone me on 06 348 0651.

Oliver Bailey

Kairēhita Tuarua/Deputy Registrar

Aotea Māori Land Court