

Tauhara News



Kotahi tonu te Wairua o nga mea katoa ~ There is one Spirit that flows through all



Welcome!

Hearty greetings from the Trustees and staff to all friends of the Centre both within Aotearoa New Zealand and abroad. As we begin our slow turning back into the light with the shortest day receding behind us, and we enter winter with wind, rain and snow visiting our hearths and homes, we anticipate warm fires and that fertile place of seeding intentions for the warmth and light which we trust (climate change notwithstanding!) will eventually assert itself once more in September.

There is much to share with you all: the past few months have seen a great deal of activity at Tauhara in terms of groups, retreatants and developments at the Centre. Let us explore a few of those with you.

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Thanksgiving Weekend

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Regular Tauhara activities for you to join in...

- **Yoga** - Intro to Ashtanga with Debi from Lotus yoga. Improve health, well-being, strength and flexibility with this weekly class. Thursdays 10am – 11am concession passes available.
- **Meditation** Find your peaceful oasis of relaxation and stress relief in a demanding fast paced world. First Sunday of the month 5pm
- **Dances of Universal Peace** Last Monday of the month 7.30pm
- **Film Evening** For monthly inspiration and connection with like-minded individuals. An inspirational DVD in front of the Common Room fire.
- **Chanting and drumming** Second Thursday of the month, 7pm.

To reserve a space or for more information, give us a call or see the website for more details.

Tuning In:

In earlier times, people all over the country were invited to tune into Tauhara at certain times of the day.

At the same time Tauhara staff would be in silent meditation in the Sanctuary.

This practice has been revived, and we are starting with 8-8.20 am each day.

We would be delighted if you are inspired to join us in spirit wherever you live, and in person if you are living in, staying in or passing through Taupo



News and Views

Working Bee July 4-6:

"From our hearts, with our hands, for the Earth, all the world together": the time-honoured words of Richard St. Barbe Baker, English forester, environmental activist and author who contributed greatly to worldwide reforestation efforts, and who visited Tauhara back in the 80's, became the daily refrain of the 30+ people who gathered at Tauhara recently for our annual winter working bee. That old Tauhara spirit of co-operation, celebration, friendship and connection blessed the gathering, and many are keen to return later in the year for our Tauhara Thanksgiving Weekend (November 21-23 - see the next page for more information).



The Gathering prepares to plant the new orchard.



Jim Chapple planting the first tree in "Harriot's Dream".

On the face of it, the weather portents were not good. A massive southerly blast moving up the country had forecasters earnestly warning everyone to stay at home over the weekend, and on the Saturday morning we woke to find Mt. Tauhara rising above Taupo township covered in snow down almost to the lowest slopes near the town. During the day, dark squalls came through, with hail, sleet and snow showers dusting the outside workers. Yet amazing things were achieved. Our intrepid bushman, Age, cleared all the scrub and conflicting trees from around our Founders' Circle down the bank, bringing back the light and revealing the trees that had been planted to commemorate those whose vision had given rise to the Tauhara Centre. Gardens were weeded, silted drains cleared, leaves were raked and garden beds were fertilised and mulched. Indoors, wonderful hot meals were brought together, signage was created, an amazing variety of colourful aprons and food covers were manifested, windows were cleaned and pot plants replenished. **Warm-hearted thanks to all those generous souls who came and gave so willingly of their time and energy!**

Remembering Harriot:

Our crowning achievement was the planting of an orchard of feijoas, hazelnuts and assorted fruit trees (pears, apples, plums) in front of our Wwoofers' Lodge. The first and last trees planted (plus a good number of others!) were eased into the good earth by our beloved elder, neighbour and long-time eco-educator, Jim Chapple, who in his early eighties has an energy way beyond his years. To be known as "Harriot's Dream", the new orchard has been dedicated to the memory of one of the Founders of the Centre,



Harriot Felkin, who played such a pivotal role in preparing the way for Tauhara to manifest on the physical plane back in the 1970s. Passing away in 1959 at the age of 81, she would have been delighted to see the Centre open some 18 years later in 1977. Described by one of our later Trustees, John von Dadelszen, as "a woman of indomitable spirit and unusually wide interests", Harriot was greatly inspired by gardening, including different methods of organic horticulture, especially the biodynamic approach developed by Rudolf Steiner.

Just as she tilled the fertile spiritual ground of her time, endowing the Centre with a rich history and a vision of the inner work that ours and succeeding generations would carry out at Tauhara, so, too, do we honour her by planting an orchard in her memory. May future generations of seekers of consciousness remember her as they enjoy the fruits of these plantings, and call to mind the inner work that Harriot and the other Founders promulgated in Havelock North before their focus turned towards Taupo.

Improved Facilities:

The Centre is now able to offer a greater degree of choice of accommodation with the development of Tui Lodge (right). The first building to be completed at Tauhara back in the seventies, offering stunning views of the Lake and town, and used over the years as the residential manager's home (formerly known as "The White House"), the new facility offers more private and comfortable living, a step between the shared units and the more luxurious self-contained options. Tui Lodge provides a complete facility for anyone wishing to run a contained retreat or seminar, with five twin-share bedrooms, a meeting room, two bathrooms, two kitchens and a lounge, with the whole space heated by two wood-burning fireplaces. With Tui Lodge, Tauhara is now able to run three smaller groups simultaneously with their own meeting areas. Facilitators need not be put off by the idea that they have to attract large groups before they can take advantage of Tauhara's diverse resources. We often have a mixture of smaller groups and personal retreatants, so please do not hesitate to discuss your needs with office staff.



Tauhara Thanksgiving Weekend: 70 Years of the Tauhara Trust

It's our birthday! Over the weekend November 21-23 later this year, the Centre will be commemorating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the original Tauhara Centre Trust in November 1938, known in those days as the Mt. Tauhara Estate Trust. This will be the opportunity for people who have had an association with the Centre, for however long, to celebrate what Tauhara has meant in their lives. It will also be a great opportunity for those who have never been to Tauhara, to connect in with the wider Tauhara family.

Vernon, our dedicated Tauhara archivist, will be offering precious footage of life at the Centre since it opened; there will be sharing circles, plus plenty of space for people to connect one to one or in smaller groups; a universal worship or Well will provide an opportunity for people to share what inspires them; silent, group meditation will feature at regular intervals; and the refurbished library will be re-dedicated. There will be time for participants to walk the land, to see at first hand all the changes that have occurred over the years, and to peruse plans for the future. No doubt there will be nostalgic visits to the Hot River, or to DeBretts (now rejoicing in the name Taupo Hot Springs). Please register your interest early, as accommodation will fill fast!

Staff Changes and Celebrations

Visitors to the Centre or telephone enquirers will be greeted by two new office staff members. **Kahurangi Wright**, whom many local people already know for her Henny Penny brand of delicious jams and pickles, and her fresh free range eggs, which the Centre has enjoyed over recent years, and who has a background in banking, is here most mornings in reception, and has finance as her special focus. In the afternoons the voice on the end of the 'phone will be **Olivia Sumich**, now helping in the areas of Marketing and Administration. Olivia comes from an event management background (including the Jambalaya Festival). She and her husband Fernando were married at the Tauhara Centre earlier this year and keep themselves busy teaching Salsa, Tango, Italian and Spanish!



Spot the new faces! Nasir, Kahurangi, Angelo, Stan, Olivia, Catherine and Maiko modelling the new kitchen couture created at the working bee!

We are especially delighted to report that **Vernon Smith**, a very well known and much beloved former staff member who has blessed so many aspects of the Centre (maintenance *aficionado* and dab hand with saw and paint brush, former tape library organiser, raconteur extraordinaire, comedy-meister, retreat facilitator and all-round good guy), has agreed to come back as our maintenance projects organiser. Already his vast array of skills has been put to good use, and with many projects happening in our next financial year (July 2008 to June 2009), he is sure to be seen around the Centre a great deal.

We continue to be blessed by the presence of **Stan**, our rainbow-garbed and flower-lei'd congenial chef who, week in and week out, leads the kitchen team in producing delicious meals for our guests. It's been hard to get the smile off his face in recent times since the arrival of his new gas oven, which has been up and running for some weeks now. It's a honey of a cooker, and replaces a rather tired old appliance that has been put out to culinary pasture. Stan is also a treasure in the Wwoofer social life department, generously leading them in his spare time up local mountains, including Tauhara and over the Tongariro Crossing/Alpine pass, or down to the hot river and along local walking tracks. As an accredited black water rafting guide, he has also taken a lucky few through the caves of Waitomo.

Angelo, our long-serving kitchen assistant, has been putting out some really delicious home-made bread over the past few months, much to the pleasure of visitors and staff alike, showing all and sundry it is a deft touch that produces a grand loaf! **Lorna**, our housekeeper has, much to our delight, shown that she is also a splendid, green-fingered gardener, transforming many of our gardens, much of it during her own time. **Bill**, our maintenance man and electrical engineer who has transformed many a sow's ear into a silk purse with a piece of number eight wire and a length of string, is in the finishing straits of a major project upgrading our fire and smoke alarms systems, which had become somewhat discombobulated by local members of the rodent family in the hidden tunnels of wiring land. **Catherine** is enjoying the variety and challenges in her new role as Centre Manager. Fond of the image of geese flying in formation, she is thankful for the enthusiastic honkings of encouragement from those around her!

A Tribute to Gina:

In late January this year, the Tauhara Centre Trust Board farewelled Gina Allan-Evans after almost 9 years service to the Trust. Over that time, Gina proved to be a hard-working, practical, resourceful and conscientious Trustee. The kaupapa/vision of the Centre was her “light and staff”, and she took great pleasure in seeing the Centre developing over the years of her association with it.

She played a key role over recent years in the refurbishment of the Centre, in particular the Common Room, the shared units, and most of the self-contained accommodation. Gina has always been a generous benefactor to the Centre, gifting a wide range of equipment, such as the walk-in chiller behind the kitchen, which is still going strong, and without which the Centre could not offer such good catering facilities. When one looks around the Centre, it is hard to find an area that has not been touched by her generous spirit, whether that be paint, fabric or building materials. Gina has also had the extraordinary knack during her years of service, of manifesting equipment and materials for many of the Centre's projects either at bargain prices, or as gifts.



Gina has been associated with Tauhara over many years going back to the 1980s, when some of the “Tauhara old-timers” remember her turning up in the robes of a Buddhist nun, her spiritual attunement at that time. Subsequently she came in widely differing roles, as a participant in gatherings, as the facilitator of a range of healing and inspirational retreats herself, and more recently as a Trustee. Earlier this year, as a result of the strong connections she had established in Denmark, she brought to the Centre a group of Danish healers visiting New Zealand for an organised retreat.

There have been many strong characters in the history of Tauhara, and Gina has been one of them. There has also been a side of her to which many individual souls can attest: a generous, caring and compassionate being who has been there in difficult times, and who encouraged them to work towards their full potential. Louise has particularly appreciated the strength of purpose that Gina has shown over the years, her constant support in bringing to completion longer-term projects, and all the hours spent together as travelling companions to and from Taupo, preparing for meetings and planning next steps.

The Trust would also like to acknowledge Gina's husband, Rhys, who has been both a constant supporter of her role as a Trustee, which took her away from home for a great deal of time, as well as personally contributing in many practical ways himself, including help with projects on the ground at the Centre.

It is with a sense of gratitude for all that she has contributed in so many different ways that the ongoing Trustees, Louise Belcher-Breuer and Nasir Grace, farewell her from the Board, and wish Gina a happy retirement, although that is unlikely! Gina has never been one to let the grass grow under her feet, as recently reflected in her graduation with a university degree after years of study undertaken at the same time as her duties as a Trustee and so many other pursuits. Well done, Gina!

Calendar of Events *Tauhara Centre 2008*

The events listed below are open for general participation, please see the contact information provided and enjoy!

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event and description</u>	<u>Registration/information</u>
Aug 03	Meditation Hour 5pm-6pm, gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz
Aug 11-14	Baby Space with Pennie Brownlie Education for the head and the heart	Pennie 021 120 7140 penniepost@wave.co.nz
Aug 14	Drumming and Chanting to Sacred Phrases From Around the World Gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz
Aug 15-17	Zen Yoga. A live-in silent yoga retreat with Paul Barton and Phil Squire	Paul 07 349 4170 yogapaulb@xtra.co.nz
Aug 22-24	Youth Unlimited Teen Retreat (14 -17yrs) An invitation to teens to come together to participate in a wide variety of activities, create confidence, boost self-esteem, learn self-respect all in a fun and adventurous environment.	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz Alyssa Baynham youth-unlimited@hotmail.com
Aug 25	Dances of Universal Peace with Catherine, Nasir and Hadia, 7.30pm, gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz
Aug 30	Yoga from the Heart with Debi Hall and Anandi Congreve. A one-day, non-residential retreat exploring the Tree of Yoga in a heart-centred space.	Debi Hall 07 378 9010 debi@lotusyoga.co.nz
Sept 01-04	Baby Space with Pennie Brownlie Education for the head and the heart	Pennie 021 120 7140 penniepost@wave.co.nz
Sept 5-7	Pakuranga Spiritual Awareness Retreat	Terry Metcalfe 09 277 6976
Sept 07	Meditation Hour 5pm-6pm gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz
Sept 11	Drumming and Chanting to Sacred Phrases From Around the World Gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz
Sept 12-14	Spiritual Singles Weekend An interactive opportunity to attract your ideal partner, remove internal blocks and shine your light. Facilitated by Helen Charters.	Helen Charters 06 877 7110 delight@free.net.nz
Sept 19-21	Yoga Nidra: The Total Personality with Swami Muktidharma.	Swami 03 525 9887 yoga@anahata-retreat.org.nz
Sept 22-25	Baby Space with Pennie Brownlie Education for the head and the heart	Pennie 021 120 7140 penniepost@wave.co.nz
Sept 29	Dances of Universal Peace with Catherine, Nasir and Hadia, 7.30pm, gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz
Oct 01-05	Women's Gathering	Donna Lewin 07 856 0033 donna.lewin@xtra.co.nz
Oct 05	Meditation Hour 5pm-6pm gold coin donation	Tauhara 07 378 7507 tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz

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| Oct 9 | Drumming and Chanting to Sacred Phrases
From Around the World Gold coin donation | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Oct 10-12 | NZ Healers Essences 2 Day Residential Workshop
The sacred path of the healer in the 21st century. Caring for your healer self. | Franchelle 09 817 6737
medicinewoman@nzfloweressences.co.nz |
| Oct 12-15 | NZ Shamanic Essences 3 Day Residential Workshop
Sacred plant attunement ceremony. The mantle of shamanic responsibility. | Franchelle 09 817 6737
medicinewoman@nzfloweressences.co.nz |
| Oct 17-19 | Self-Realization Fellowship Annual Meditation Retreat
on the teachings of Paramahansa Yogananda. | 09 441 9446
selfrealizationcentre.akl@paradise.net.nz |
| Oct 20-23 | Baby Space with Pennie Brownlie
Education for the head and the heart | Pennie 021 120 7140
penniepost@wave.co.nz |
| Oct 27 | Dances of Universal Peace with Catherine, Nasir
and Hadia, 7.30pm, gold coin donation | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Nov 02 | Meditation Hour
5pm-6pm gold coin donation | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Nov 13 | Drumming and Chanting to Sacred Phrases
From Around the World Gold coin donation | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Nov 14 | End Your Story Begin Your Life. INTRO evening
with Jim Dreaver. Friday, 7.30pm—9.30pm
Explore Jim's three step practice: Learning to welcome our shadow,
noticing the story behind it, breathing and relaxing into the presence. | For info:
www.jimdreaver.com |
| Nov 14-16 | End Your Story, Begin Your Life
A weekend retreat with Jim Dreaver.
Jim will guide us through the simple yet revolutionary practice from his
new book, which will enable us to: gain clarity and insight to any problem;
free ourselves from anxiety and pressure; be happy with things as they are,
even as we seek change; enjoy harmonious relationships with others;
be more productive and successful in our work; awaken to our true purpose and have a lot more fun! | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Nov 21-23 | Tauhara Thanksgiving: The 70th Anniversary
Celebration of the Founding of the Tauhara Centre Trust | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Nov 24 | Dances of Universal Peace with Catherine, Nasir
and Hadia, 7.30pm, gold coin donation | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Nov 25-27 | Creativity
with Pennie Brownlie. | Phone 021 120 7140
penniepost@wave.co.nz |
| Nov 27-30 | Spirit Retreat For Men:
In the busy pace of today's life in 2008, what holds you?
What's the spiritual wisdom that gives you relief and
comfort in refuge? Led by Ian Drower and Nasir Grace. | Nasir 07 377 0905
baraka@paradise.net.nz
or Ian 09 425 4044
ian.drower@lifearchitecture.co.nz |
| Dec 22-
Jan 2 | Tauhara Christmas and New Year Gathering
(ChrissieFest!)
A warm welcome to old friends and new to join us at this holiday time
at the beautiful Tauhara Centre in Taupo. Our festival is a unique 10 day
community experience blending the traditional Christmas and New Year
festivities with a Universal spiritual approach. Families and single people,
young and old, living in heart-centred community will provide a rich environment
to enable us to nurture and support ourselves and care for one other. | Tauhara 07 378 7507
tauhara@tauharacentre.org.nz |
| Jan 7-11 | Heart Politics Summer Gathering | Contact Christof Schneider
christof@gmail.com |