

Each of the districts organised its own programme, based on its own resources. The committees established to plan and run the programmes included many of the young people themselves, as well as local people who gave their time, expertise and attention freely.

Activities included marae "live-ins", rural and urban visits, educational trips, and sport and recreation. Attention was paid to developing skills in nga mahi ahuhenua — fishing, eeling, shellfish gathering, bushcraft and hunting — and to tribal traditions in all their practical, spiritual and historical aspects.

Workshops were run in an extraordinary range of activities — poetry, shearing, disco dancing, drama, first aid, canoeing and flaxcrafts among them. Guest speakers were invited to come and pass on their knowledge, whether they were experts in whakapapa or dairy farming. Vocational guidance was also made available to those who sought it.

What does it all add up to? Despite the

vagaries of the weather in many parts of the country, and the limited time of many of the adults involved, the programme went well. It has received praise from many quarters — from the kids themselves, from those who were involved in helping and organising, even from the police, who are often kept busy during school holidays with waves of minor offending. There have been some detractors, of course, claiming racism and a waste of taxpayers' money, but a programme of this kind can never be estimated in purely financial terms, neither can its emphasis on the strengths of our own people be criticised if we are to do more than pretend that this is a multiracial society.

But full details of this unique and revolutionary scheme are still being assessed; the reports and evaluations are still coming in. In the next issue of *Te Kaea* we hope to examine the Tu Tangata youth wananga scheme more closely, with lots of pictures and interviews.

## MAORI YOUNG FARMER OF THE YEAR

Forty-one years after his father's success, Mr Raumoa Amoamo has won the Bledisloe Cup, the Ahuwhenua trophy. The Cup was presented to him and his family on Terere marae, Opotiki, at the beginning of December by Mr Duncan MacIntyre. The late Mr Fred Amoamo won the trophy in 1938, and it was on his father's farm at Opape that Raumoa learned the rudiments of the business.

## PUKETAPU GETS COLD FEET

While taking his customary early-morning swim at a Wellington pool recently, Secretary of Maori Affairs Kara Puketapu had his socks stolen. Given the weather in Wellington at the time, it can have been no fun walking to work down Lambton Quay having to cope with draughty ankles and the astonished stares of passers-by.

Why anybody should want a pair of second-hand socks is beyond us, and though Kara has since bought a new pair at Woolworths, we feel that the thief might like to return his old ones. Wash them first, please.

## OTAKI MAORI RACING CLUB

A new grandstand, costing \$500,000, was opened at a special ceremony at Otaki Maori Racing Club in November. In a multi-denominational service representing all the churches in the district, the tapu was lifted from the new building.

The Otaki Maori Racing Club is administered entirely by those of Ngati Raukawa, Te Ati Awa and Ngati Toa descent: others, Maori or Pakeha, may be given honorary membership. The club's records start in the 1880s, says club secretary Mr Neil Ames, but racing in the area goes back to 1868 when meetings were held at Reke Reke.



# MIHAIA

Judith Binney, Gillian Chaplin & Craig Wallace

More than 200 photographs, many previously unpublished, the long-lost records of Rua's trial, and the memories of people involved intimately with the events and the man at the centre of them, Mihaia — the Messiah. These are the components of this unique documentary which sets out to correct the historical view of the prophet Rua Kenana and his community at Maungapohatu.

To be published in November. \$13.50 Paperback. \$19.95 Hardback.

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Now at the low price of \$13.50

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