

# Eruera Mānuera

Nā Patu Hohepa, Toihau o Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori (Ngā Puhi, Ngāti Wai, Te Atiawa)

“Ko Oruataupare tōku piringa i roto o Ngāti Awa, ko Eruera Mānuera tōku ariki”. Me pēhea rā e mārama ai?

Ko taku taenga tuatahi mai i te tau 1955, ka tūtaki au ki a Eruera, – e ono tekau tōna tawhito, e 18 tōku. Nā Hoani Waititi mātou ngā tauira o Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki-makau-rau i mau mai. Moe ana i konei, ā, ka hīkoi ki Te Tai Rāwhiti.

Ka tae mai anō mātou ko Hirini Moko Mead i mua i tōna haerenga ki Amerika. I te matenga o Hoani Waititi, ka tae mai anō; ka pērā anō hoki mō Amiria Stirling me Dick Stirling.

Waiho rā ki tāhaki ngā tūtakitanga tini ki Waitangi. Ka mahara kua tino koroua nei a Eruera i te tau 1987, i te haerenga mai o mātou – a Paki Harrison te tohunga whakairo, a Merimeri Penfold, me te tira o Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki-makau-rau, ki te titiro ki tēnei whare whakairo ki a Oruataupare. Kua tino koroheke rā a Eruera, kua 92 ōna tau. Koia rā taku kōrero mutunga ki a ia.

Nā tēnei haerenga, ka hangā te whare whakairo o Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki-makau-rau, a Tāne-nui-a-rangi, kia ōrite te āhua ki a Oruataupare. Anō rā, hei whakatinana i te waiata mōteatea a Te Homai, *‘Me kawe ra hau hai te pou whakairo Oruataupare te whare o Hātua.’*

I tāwāhi kē ahau i 1990, i tōna rironga atu ki Te Reinga. E rua tau i muri mai ka hoki mai ki Oruataupare, ki Te Teko, mō te wā poto nei. Ka hoki ngā mahara.

E Te Onehou, e te whānau, hapū, iwi o Eruera, nā tēnei pukapuka ka mōhio pāhi ahau i āna mahi whakahirahira, i tōna tū i waenga iwi, i tōna mana, me ōna wawata. Ko te nuinga nei i oti.

Me pēhea rā te whakarāpopoto i



Kaituhi Te Onehou Phyllis.

tēnei whakairo ā-tuhi? Moumou noa iho ngā kupu e whakahuatia ana – he pukapuka pai, hōhonu, whai mana, rerekē. Ehara i te pukapuka noa iho; he whakairo kē, nā tana kōtiro i hanga mō tana matua. Nā te manawapā, nā te pūmau o te aroha i tātāhia ai tēnei.

Ehara tēnei i te momo pukapuka e taea te horomi i te kai tuatahi. Me hoki anō, me hoki anō, nā te mea he tini ōna pūkenga.

- Mehemea ka hiahia koe ki te rapu i te āhua o te rangatira, kimihia i roto i ēnei whārangi. “Ko te iwi te rangatira o ngā rangatira”; “ko te mea nui he tangata”; ko te mahi ātaahua, ko ōna hua ka tau ki te

iwi.” Anā ētahi o ngā akoranga ka kitea.

- Mehemea ko tō pīrangi, he tauira hei ako i a koe i te taura e here ana i tētahi ki te whānau, ki te iwi, ki te hāhi, ki te marae, ki te whenua me te moana – kāhore he pukapuka i tua atu.
- Mehemea ko tō wawata, he whai i te mātauranga, me ngā tikanga, me ngā kaupapa ā-kawa o Ngāti Awa, koinei tētahi pukapuka hei whakamārama.
- Mehemea ka pīrangi koe ki ētahi o ngā rārangi rangatira o Ngāti Awa, ngā tāne me ngā wāhine rongonui i ō rātou wā, kei roto i tēnei pukapuka.
- Mehemea ka hiahia koe ki te