

NGĀ POU O HERETAUNGA

Ngā whetū o Heretaunga, Koi Matariki ki Te Rangi
Ngā Pou o Heretaunga, Koi Matariki ki Te Whenua

*The stars of Heretaunga, there is Matariki in the Heavens, -
The Pou of Heretaunga, are placed in the Matatiki on the lands.*

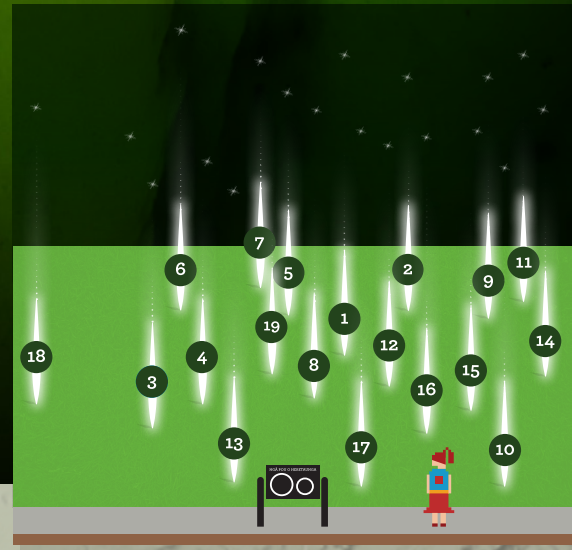
There are many stars of the Mangaroa (Milkyway Galaxy) that are special to the people of Ngāti Kahungunu ki Heretaunga.

They are sewn in the night sky as the Purapura Whetū by the goddess Hinenui-te-pō on Ranginui's (Sky Father) cloak.

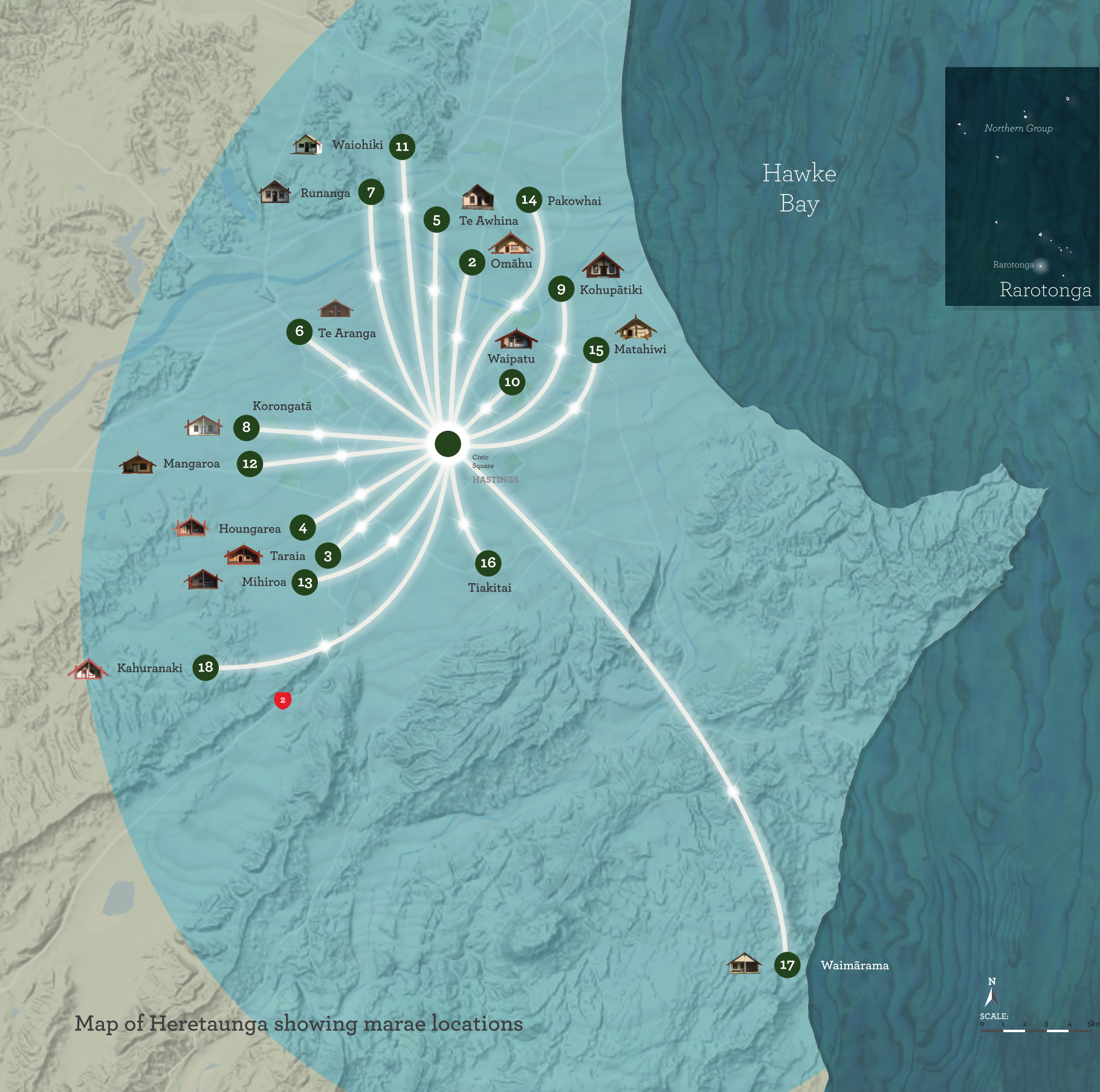
Whakaahu is the beautiful star that shines above who seduced our mountain Kahurānaki, and a special group of mystified stars set in a constellation named Matariki opens the Māori New Year and brings a myriad of foods harvested in the seasons of Matariki.

In 2013 it was decided to unveil Ngā Pou o Heretaunga in the month of Marua o Matariki. It was also agreed by Ngā Marae to face each pou to their respective marae, and that all pou placed on the lands be aligned with the Matariki constellation.

This decision was made sacred in a proverbial saying, "The stars of Heretaunga, there is Matariki in the Heavens, - The Pou of Heretaunga are placed in the Matariki on the lands".



Map of Heretaunga showing marae locations



Te Tatau Pounamu

o Ngā Marae o Heretaunga Ararau, o Ngā Pou o Heretaunga Haukūnui

Ngā Tatau Pounamu - The Greenstone Corridors begins from the Hastings Civic Square where the Pou o Heretaunga stand and face their marae - Ngā Marae o Heretaunga. The marae of Heretaunga are the royal houses of the tribes of the Tangatawhenua and the Pou o Heretaunga represent their rangatira, their royal ancestors. To enable safe passage between tribal lands, the ancient custom of a Tatau Pounamu was authorised by the rangatira in the form of a marriage to consolidate the peace and relationship between each other.

Instigated by the rangatira, the late Tama Huata, Ngā Tatau Pounamu was inaugurated by Ngā Marae o Heretaunga to allow all people including visitors a safe passage to each marae where stories are told and customs of the ancient world are still practised today.

The connections between each marae are symbolised as The Greenstone Corridors, a spiritual treasure that unites us all in Heretaunga Ararau, *Heretaunga of many pathways.*

NGĀ POU O HERETAUNGA

In 2013 it was decided to unveil Ngā Pou o Heretaunga in the month of Marua o Matariki. It was also agreed by Ngā Marae to face each pou to their respective marae, and that all pou placed on the lands be aligned with the Matariki constellation. This decision was made sacred in a proverbial saying, *“The stars of Heretaunga, there is Matariki in the Heavens, • The Pou of Heretaunga are placed in the Matariki on the lands”*.

