



### **Wai – It matters: Mātauranga Māori, policy, commerce and science**

**Erina Watene**

Waikato-Tainui, Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāi Te Rangī

12 February 2026

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Sitting on Boards and providing advice at the highest level among iwi, political and academic forums, Erina is a freshwater scientist with a background in taonga species research, lake and river restoration, resource management and environmental planning.

With her extensive knowledge and experience of working at the interface between policy, mātauranga Māori, and science, she shares her view on critical issues facing te ao Māori regarding freshwater taonga species protection, water governance and kaitiakitanga in practice.



### **Navigating Environmental Systems Reform**

**Jane Kitson**

Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Māmoe, Waitaha

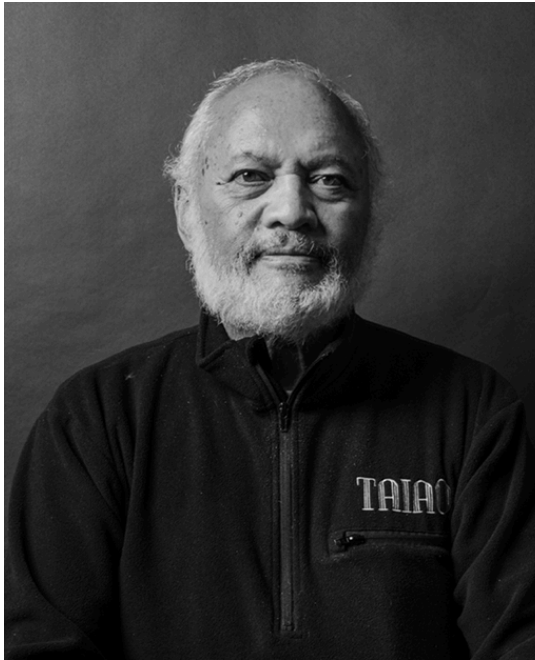
26 February 2026

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Jane, a director, ecologist, environmental scientist, taiao governor and trusted advisor strives to enable whānau, hapū and iwi to exercise rangatiratanga of their whenua, wai and taonga species.

She reflects on navigating reforms while remaining anchored in mātauranga. Tune in as she invites participants to think critically and strategically about Māori leadership, influence, and self-determination within environmental decision-making systems.





### **Te Piko o Te Māhuri: Fostering Māori Science leadership**

**Rereata Makiha**

Ngāpuhi, Te Arawa, Rangitāne, Ngāti Mahurehure, Te Aupōuri, Te Arawa, Ngāti Whakaheke

5 March 2026  
12:00 - 1:00 PM

He momo kua iti haere nei i te ao. He hanga i rauhītia e tōna rahi aumangea o te nōta. Tō nehe reo, tirohanga, tikanga, akoranga, he mea tō mai hei reo, tirohanga, tikanga, akoranga mā ēnei reanga.

Kaumātua, tohunga tātai arorangi, broadcaster and reporter Rereata Mākiha has dedicated his life to te reo Māori and mātauranga Māori and is a specialist in the revival of old teachings and new, and environmental restoration. He probes the worlds of Māori and Western science, its development and transformation with our people, while celebrating success and being cognisant of areas to be cautious.



### **Kia Tipu Ai: Māori Horticulture Revitalisation**

**Nick Roskrige**

Ngāti Rahiri, Te Atiawa, Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Porou

16 April 2026  
12:00 - 1:00 PM

Recently retired as professor of ethnobotany at Massey University, Nick went from working in a cropping gang to a prestigious academic career, teaching and learning about Indigenous foods worldwide.

As a tiller of land who is keeping ancestral kai-growing knowledge and practices alive, join us as he talks about the progress made in recent decades to revitalise Indigenous horticultural practices, navigating academia and growing a community of grassroots whānau practitioners.





### Ki Tua: Māori and Space Science

**Pauline Harris**

Rongomaiwahine, Ngāti Rakaipaaka and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairoa

30 April 2026

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Māori ways of knowing, understanding and practising maramataka are being revitalised and invigorated across our communities and navigated alongside Western astronomy. As descendants of expert navigators and explorers, how are Māori contributing to space science and exploration, and what pathways are opening for Māori in this field?

We have Pauline take us through her academic and research experiences of Māori and Indigenous space science, astronomy and traditions.

