

Pikiteakaewa Tuhokairangi Te Huki (Bucki)

Born 14th July 1944 in Dannevirke Hospital

My first experience was in 1972, when we went to go for a dive and was denied access by the Farm Manager at the time Galbraith, however we were able to leave our car at the gate and had to walk to the River Mouth to gather our kai.

I never lived there like my older brother and sister but recall Mum saying, “it was a tough place to live on” and she was pleased when we moved to Whiti Te Ra.

The amazing thing was, we were still sleeping on dirt floors and hay for mattresses in the 1960’s, which wasn’t that long ago.

I married Moana Tawhai in 1963 and had 7 children, 2 boys and 5 girls.

The good thing about returning to Aohanga is getting to know our Whanau and Whakapapa, as I brought my family up at Herbertville, in a place called Pipibank. We camped and cooked on the beach.

We had heard of all the stories about Aohanga and didn’t realise our connection as we had

only gone there for gathering kai for Tangihanga, not ourselves.

I was a Shearer for 30 years and only once did I shear on Aohanga. That was by chance, as I jumped on the stand to help one Xmas Eve shearing the straggler muster with my son in law Jack. Tom Fleming was the Manager then.

My latest connection to the farm is my grandson Tyson Herbert son of Jack and Shona. Tyson did casual farm work and shore on Aohanga. He now works on Glen Coe farm.

The good thing is, I feel I can go and enjoy Aohanga when I want to, which is great.

I have many Mokopuna and hopefully will start to introduce them to the farm over time.

We have been able to access the Education Grants for my Mokos and now looking at doing the same for my Great Mokopuna. Attending the AGM and Hui are a good connection with whanau.

