

# Our trip to the Kairua Tepake family Reunion,

*Easter Weekend, April 20-23, 2008*

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**I**t was a hot day on Friday the 21st of April 2008. We were on our way to a family reunion on my mum's side. While we were on the motorway, we got stuck because there was a car crash. We got off the motorway because we had to drop off a trailer to someone. My brother Abera sold it through trade-me for \$150. That was easy money.

After that, we went straight to the Findlayson Marae at Manurewa. When we were close to the Marae, we remembered where our old house was at Moncrieff Ave. We also remembered where our dad's sister lived on Findlayson Ave, opposite the marae. As soon as we got to the Marae, we were so excited to meet our cousins whom we had never seen before.

We were just in time for a prayer. Uncle Katinga was speaking at the front of the hall. And after the prayer all the families introduced themselves. Uncle Katinga was the first person to introduce his family. Mum took some photos of his family. We waited until it was

our turn to go on the stage and to introduce our family. Mama Porohu came with us.

Soon after, Uncle Katinga gave the agenda and the activities for the reunion. As soon as he finished his speech, everyone was invited to sit at the dining tables to have lunch. However, we had meet the mama's before we had lunch.

We were so hungry and after eating we all went outside to play. Unfortunately, we did not know that some kids were our cousins. However, until we could see their faces, we could recognize them from when we were small. It was fun playing with them.

Soon after, we were asked to return inside because the uncle Katinga was going to talk again. Before long, we went to play outside. After playing we took all of our stuff out of the van and

took it into the Marae. Then we went to have a shower. It was quite cold.

The next day, my brothers, my sisters and I had rices for our breakfast. It was nice. Soon after we had all finished eating in the main hall, all us children were allowed to go out and play while the adults organized the activities for the day. Dad went home to get our dance uniforms and drums while we played. He left the bike and the skate boards so that we could play on it. And then when he returned we got changed into our dancing clothes. We all got ready because we were going to do a show. Therefore there was a women's modeling show on the stage. So we had to wait for them to finish so that we can do our show. Our twin sisters Shine and Grace went on stage with our mother. First my mother and my sisters got on the stage to do a dance called Orau ra. Our aunty Haua and our cousin Riri got on and danced with our mother and our sisters.

As soon as they finished dancing, we did a drum beat. Us kids got on the stage as soon as we finished drumming because we did a show for the kids called Tuku Tuku.

When we finished doing our show I went to check on our baby sister Peka. Nevertheless, my brothers and sisters were inside watching other people do their show. So I returned in to the hall to watch as well.

Soon after they had finished, we all went to change our clothes yet we had a family photo.

After the photo my cousins and my uncles all had a game of touch. We were all getting tired and getting hot. So we had enough and came inside the hall.

When it was night time all the parents went to the pub while the kids stayed in the hall and the Marae watching movies and eating popcorns.

The next day on Sunday 23rd we had breakfast and then played on the skateboards and bikes. And then some of the uncles set up a game of touch. It was great. After that uncle Ben had given us questions to see who's the smartest kid out of all of us. And when we finished we played a game called catch. If you through the ball and it land on the ground, you're out. Then we played something else. We played cat and mouse. It was quite tricky that game. The cat has to catch the mouse while the mouse try's to escape from the cat. And then we played a water balloon game. We were all teamed up with a mate. If you through the water balloon to your teammate and it pops that's your water balloon gone.

And then we played water balloon fight. When the man said "Go" we can do whatever we want to do with the water balloons.

Uncle Charlie's son Ben saved his water balloon. After playing with the water balloons we cleaned up our mess that we made and went inside to have lunch. Dad took photos while we were eating. Uncle Charlie told us kids to sing a song after our lunch. And then he told us kids to follow a lady to find Easter eggs. Soon after finding some Easter eggs we played golf. Everyone had a teammate and had a moderator. Our moderator was Glen.

I had found heaps of chocolates that I rapped it up in a foil and put in the freezer. So I got my chocolates and shared all my chocolates to everyone. We played cricket and touch right after we packed the golf stuff. We played touch until night time. As

soon as we finished playing outside we had come inside to have some ice cream. While the adults had a meeting.

The next day on Monday everyone got up had their breakfast and started cleaning. We helped clean up as well. At 12:00 o'clock everyone had to go home. So at about 11:50 a.m. Uncle Katinga had spoke. When he finished all the people got into a circle and singed a song. And then taking the last photos everyone stood on the deck and had photos. After the photo everyone left.