

**April 2025
PANUI**



Tēnā koutou kātoa,

Ngā mihi e te whānau o Kokako

CURRENT SITUATION (Airini Hepi - Chair)

We had a wonderful AGM on 7th December 2024 at Whakaaratamaiti Marae attended by 31 Owners. Our 2025 AGM will be held at Mangakaretu Marae on Saturday 6th December 2025.

The Trust is operating very well and that is a credit to all involved across our team. It is great to have a stable team right through our farm managers to our administration and support team. Your Trustees have all worked well together to lead the Trust forward.

As mentioned at the AGM we are now ready to take on another trainee trustee and applications can be made via the form on the Trust Website. Trainee Trustees must be available for our regular farm inspections and hui to learn the detailed workings of the Trust. Applicants must read the detailed policy online before they put their name forward. Applications close online on 13th May 2025.

Farm operations are going well although the ongoing dry conditions are a concern. As noted below milk production has been ahead of target for year to date but the dry end to this season may result in production only equally last year's outcomes. However with the increased Fonterra milk solid payout improved financial outcomes can be expected for the year end 30 June 2025.

As reported at the AGM our Hemp trial testing for fertiliser potential is making good progress. A new funding grant has been secured from the Forest Growers Research Ltd to ensure the trials can continue until 31 December 2025.

Ongoing planting of native trees is continuing with riparian restoration on Tuatoru with funding support from the Waikato River Authority and the Waikato regional Council.

FARMING OPERATIONS (Rachel Durie)

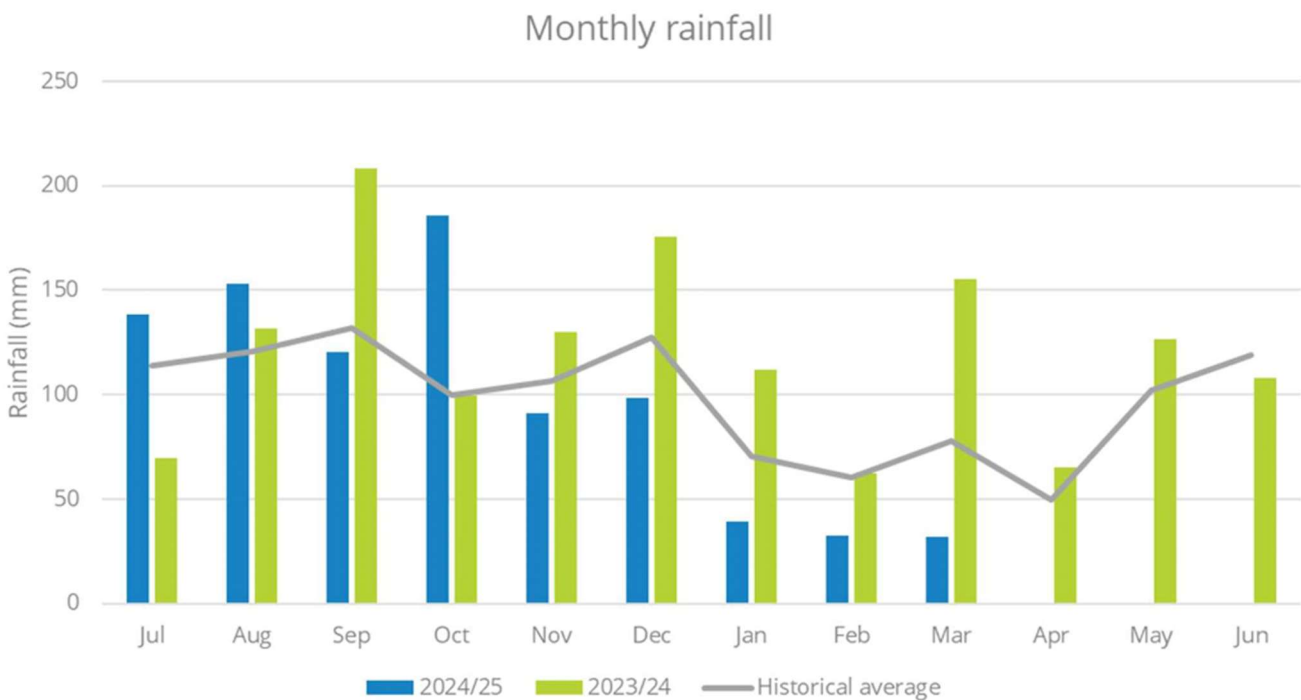
Fonterra are forecasting a 2025/2025 season payout of \$10.00 per Kg of milksolids within a range of \$9.70/kg MZ - \$10.30/kg MS. This compares very favourably with our budget of \$8.00/kg MS. However we did lock in some early season contracts at an average of \$8.58/kg MS. Milk production to the end of Feb 2025 is the highest for 8 years however the very dry end to the season will take the gloss of what could have been a very good result.

Our two contract milkers have extended their contracts for further one year terms through to 30 June 2026 and our 50/50 sharemilker has renewed his contract for another 3 years to 30 June 2028.

On farm expenditure continues to be controlled with ongoing race upgrades continuing. There are no major capital works currently underway. We continue to review operations to obtain maximum profitably while



The impact of the lack of rain cannot be understated and the following chart compares the monthly rainfall received this year compared to last year and the historical averages:



As necessary feed options are adjusted to manage the shortage of rain and maintain production but inevitably some of the cows will dry off earlier than planned.

FINANCIAL (Murray Patchell - Accountant)

Economic conditions have improved with lower inflation, lower interest rates and increased income. Kokako Trust is in a strong financial position with good cashflow and access to contingency reserves if required. As reported at the 2024 AGM The Trust generated a net surplus of \$659,126 before tax and distributions and is on track to improve on that in the 2025 financial year.

Total Assets of the Trust at 30 June 2024 were \$26,019,335 and Bank debt owing was \$1,340,840. Bank interest rates have been falling and are currently at 6.55%. Further repayments have been made on the mortgage and the balance is now \$1,089,035.

The Kokako Manaaki Charitable Trust investment portfolio has performed well and is currently worth \$378,736. Although global geopolitical events have created volatile investment markets.

This is a brief snapshot of the financial position of the Trust which remains strong. The 2024 annual report is available on the website. Owners can request a copy of the full financial accounts via the contacts page on the website.

GRANTS

A Kaumatua grant of \$300 was paid to Owners aged 65 years as at the date of the AGM on 7th December 2024 or if turning 65 before 31st December 2024. If you have not been paid your grant, then this can still be claimed up until the 2025 AGM on 6th December 2025 by contacting the Secretary's office. If you are claiming a Kaumatua grant through a Whanau Trust that is the registered owner in Kokako Trust, then you need to contact the office for a claim form. Kaumatua Grants can only be paid to persons that can whakapapa to the land.

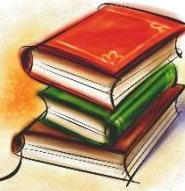
The Trustees approved an owner's grant payment relative to shareholding with a minimum payment of \$75 per owner. Owner's grants are paid to owners who have supplied their address and bank account number to the Trust. If you have not supplied your details and claimed your grant, then you may still do so before this year's AGM. Grant payments cannot be claimed for prior years, you can only claim in the current year.

The annual Marae grant of \$2000 was paid to Tarukenga Marae in December 2024.

2025 EDUCATION GRANTS

*The Trust continues to support its students who are studying at tertiary institutions through education grants. Applications can **only** be made online at www.kokakotrust.co.nz.*

The link will take applicants through to the Māori Education Trust who handle our applications process through the partnership section.



*Applications for 2025 education grants must be **submitted online by 4pm Wednesday 30th April 2025.***

Students are reminded to take care to complete their forms in full and supply all information requested.

Education grants are paid at the rate of \$500 per student from the Kokako Manaaki Charitable Trust. With involvement of the Māori Education Trust an additional \$200 is added to each grant and in some cases further amounts are available through agreements with Tertiary institutions.

TRAINEE TRUSTEE APPLICATIONS

The Trust has operated a trainee Trustee scheme for many years. All current Trustees have been through this process. It is a great way for prospective trustees to learn about the workings of the Trust and the farming operations. Not only do trainees gain valuable skills but they can also make a positive contribution to the Trust business by bringing their own knowledge, skills and perspective.

Applications are open now for one position for a term year term. Full policy details are available on the Trust website under the Trainee Trustee section and applications can only be made via the online application form.

Applicants should understand the commitment to attend farm inspections and Trustee hui and be prepared to contribute constructively as they also learn about the Trust business.

There is no certainty that a trainee Trustee will become a full Trustee in the future but they will gain valuable Governance and practical experience and insights for their personal benefit.

Applications close 13th May 2025 via the website www.kokakotrust.co.nz.

We remind owners to encourage whanau who are owners, that have not registered with the Trust, to do so and for those who have not completed their successions to become shareholders, to contact the Māori Land Court and get this done. There are now simplified processes to sort successions. You can find more information at this website www.maorilandcourt.govt.nz/your-maori-land/succession/

We always welcome feedback from owners. Feel free to contact us through the website or directly through the contacts below.

Many thanks to you our shareholders, for your continued support on our journey to protect and utilise our taonga tuku iho to develop a better future for us all.

We hope that you and your whanau remain safe.

In closing, I thank my fellow Trustees Riria McDonald, Kyle Amopiu and Leisha Andrew for the time and hard work they put in, for the benefit of our Trust. I would also like to acknowledge our advisory providers, Rachel Durie and Duncan Walker from Perrin Ag, Todd Cheesman our forestry adviser our Secretary Murray Patchell and the team at Awhi Rōpū Consultants for their continued commitment and ongoing support to Kokako Trust.

Tēnā koutou kātoa

Airini Hepi

Chair

1st April 2025

TRUST CONTACTS:

Website: www.kokakotrust.co.nz

Chair: airini.hepi@xtra.co.nz

Ph: 0272272848

Secretary: murray@arconsultants.co.nz

Ph: 0272454390

Farm Consultant: rachel@perrinag.net.nz

Ph: 0278478232

Share Registry and Office:

Awhi Rōpū Consultants

1227 Ranolf St

Rotorua

Ph 072427228

Email: shareregister@arconsultants.co.nz