



GLOBAL WOMEN 2025 MEMBERS HUI
RESILIENT, RENEWED, RISING
15-17 May | Rotorua

Leadership in today's world is both challenging and rewarding. We are constantly called upon to push boundaries, challenge conventions, and create pathways for others. But to lead effectively, it is essential that we also prioritise our own renewal—because true, sustained impact requires the energy to match it.

With the landscape for women's rights and equity constantly evolving, this year's Hui serves as a timely invitation to reflect, refresh, and take action. Through thoughtful conversations and rejuvenating experiences, we offer our members a unique opportunity to restore and recharge, preparing for the work that lies ahead.

Our gathering will take place in Rotorua, a city rich in culture and history, and an example of resilience and leadership. With a thriving, diverse economy, and a Māori population more than double the national average, Rotorua offers valuable lessons on the importance of community, leadership, and collaboration in navigating both challenges and opportunities. What can we learn from Rotorua as we continue to advocate for progress and equity in a rapidly changing world?

The Hui will begin by grounding our kōrero in the local context, before expanding to explore the global DEI landscape, the opportunities and challenges AI presents to gender equity, and strategies needed to lead into the future. On site at our venue **Te Puia**, you will also be guided through immersive creative and cultural workshops, designed to facilitate deep connection and collaborative renewal. Te Puia's geothermal beauty will provide an inspiring backdrop, enhancing our experience of restoration and renewal, inviting us to reconnect with the earth's natural rhythms.

As part of the Hui experience, members will also have the chance to visit **Wai Ariki Hot Springs & Spa**. This exclusive opportunity allows us to step away from the demands of leadership and immerse ourselves in an environment designed for reflection and rejuvenation.

Wai Ariki offers more than just a relaxing spa experience: it is a place for true restoration. Combining geothermal healing with Te Ao Māori principles, it provides a space for rejuvenation and reconnection—honouring both mind and body. Through its natural mineral waters and detoxifying therapies, Wai Ariki offers the perfect setting to reset and recharge.

Leadership is not just about endurance—it's about knowing when to step back, restore, and refocus. Whether you seek quiet reflection or a moment of renewal, we invite you to join us in this sacred space, so we can collectively rise with clarity, strength, and resilience.

For any queries not addressed in this guide, please contact:

- Merran Brockie-David – merran.brockie-david@globalwomen.org.nz
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GLOBAL WOMEN HUI SCHEDULE

DAY 1: THURSDAY 15th MAY



Te Puia, Rotorua Te Puia is a place where the very land itself speaks to the beauty and vibrancy of Rotorua, offering a profound connection to Māori arts and culture. Nestled in the heart of this geothermal wonderland, Te Puia is a living testament to the region's rich heritage, where the powerful geothermal activity mirrors the dynamic energy of Māori traditions. The steaming geysers, bubbling mud pools, and the majestic Pōhutu Geyser are not only natural marvels but also symbols of the enduring strength of Māori culture and spirituality.

At Te Puia, visitors are immersed in a world of Māori craftsmanship, from the intricate carvings and weaving that tell the stories of ancestors, to the soulful sounds of traditional performances and the graceful movements of poi. The cultural demonstrations are more than performances; they are a celebration of Māori identity, history, and pride.

9.15am Arrival & Registration

9.30am Mihi Whakatau

A formal welcome at Te Puia, grounding us in place and purpose.

Introduction and welcome from Theresa Gattung – Chair, Global Women

10.15am Morning Tea

10.30am Rotorua: Past, Present & Future

Local wāhine leaders share insights on what Rotorua can offer us in terms of resilience, identity, and leadership in shaping the future.

Facilitator:

- Cassandra Crowley – Business leader focused on cultural and economic sustainability

Speakers:

- Hon Stephanie “Steve” Chadwick – Former Mayor of Rotorua, champion for community development
- Mayor Tania Tapsell - Mayor of Rotorua

11.30am Economic realities: Economic cycles, impacts on women and inequality

This session will explore the way women experience economic cycles globally, within Aotearoa New Zealand, and what can be done to ensure that prosperity is shared.

Facilitator:

- Sarah Baddeley – Partner, Martin Jenkins, Global Women board member

Panellists:

- Professor Gail Pacheco – the Equal Opportunities Commissioner
- Dame Marilyn Waring - pioneering economist, feminist, and former politician
- Traci Houppa – Māori business leader and advocate for indigenous economic development
- Christina Leung, Deputy CEO NZIER

12.30pm Lunch

1.15pm	DEI Macro-Strategy Panel Aotearoa has been a global leader in DEI, but progress is under threat. How do we maintain leadership amidst increasing challenges? Facilitator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karleen Everitt - pioneering leader in Māori economic development, governance, and wāhine empowerment, Global Women board member Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hon Margaret Wilson – Gender equity and legal reform trailblazer Prue Kapua - distinguished lawyer, advocate, and leader in Māori and women’s rights, Immediate Past President of Māori Women’s Welfare League. Amanda Ellis – Global DEI expert, former NZ Ambassador to the UN (video link from Mexico) Judy O’Brien – NZ Rugby Head of Culture and Inclusion (video link)
2.15pm	Breakout Discussion on DEI macro strategy with Members – facilitated by Angela Meyer and Tania Dommett
2:45pm	Afternoon Tea
3.00pm	Champions for Change: Who’s Leading the Way? This session highlights the companies and leaders making tangible progress in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Discover who is driving real change and how their initiatives are reshaping industries. Facilitator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tania Simpson - influential business leader, governance expert, and advocate for Māori development and sustainability. Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antonia Watson – CEO of ANZ and Champion for Change Co-Chair Caroline Ovenstone – CEO of Alpine Energy Kellie Coombes – CEO Ministry for Women Jo Avenell – CEO Russell McVeagh
4.00pm	A Vital Conversation: Protecting Women's Health Amid Rising Challenges This critical discussion will explore the escalating challenges to women's healthcare, including barriers to equitable access, the stigma surrounding menopause, the urgent need for adequate medical professionals to support women's well-being at all stages of life, and the growing impact of online violence on women's mental and physical health. Facilitator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dame Silvia Cartwright - Trailblazing jurist and champion for women's rights Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Linda Dear - Menopause Doctor and founder of Menodoctor Dame Silvia Cartwright - Trailblazing jurist and champion for women's rights Cheyne Chalmers – Seasoned healthcare leader and sustainability advocate Markerita Poutasi – National Director Pacific Health, Health New Zealand
5.00pm	Comedy with Kura Forrester – Levity as an antidote to gravity.
5.30pm	Mahi Toi – Where creativity and connection come together.

6.15pm **Casual Dinner**
Enjoy a relaxed buffet meal with breathtaking views of the magnificent Te Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley when you dine at Pātaka Kai Restaurant.

Free time/Wai Ariki Spa session (discount code available [here](#))

DAY 2: FRIDAY 16th MAY



Te Puia, Rotorua

8:00am **Māori Members Whakawhanaungatanga @ Eastwood Café**, access off Tarawera Road, Titokorangi Drive, Rotorua.

9.15am **Welcome & Registration for those arriving today.**

9.30am **Recap & Visioning – Katie Bhreatnach CEO Global Women**

Reflecting on key insights from Day 1 and setting intentions for the day.

10.00am **Resilient Leadership in a Divisive and Uncertain World**

In an era of rapid change and growing division, how do we lead with strength, adaptability, and purpose? This session explores resilience at structural, community, and personal levels, offering insights from leaders who have navigated complex challenges.

Facilitator:

- Lianne Dalziel - former Mayor of Christchurch and Cabinet Minister, known for her leadership through crisis and long-standing service to resilient communities

Speakers:

- Vanessa Eparaima – Chair, Raukawa Iwi Development
- Dame Jenny Shipley – Former Prime Minister & leadership advocate

11.00am **Morning Tea**

11.20am **The AI Equity Revolution**

As AI rapidly transforms our world, it presents immense opportunities and risks for gender, racial and intersectional equity. This session explores how AI will either reinforce bias or drive positive change—and what we must do to ensure it uplifts women.

Facilitator:

- Gill Gatfield – Digital creative, AI–DEI researcher

Speakers:

- Kathryn Kerner – Founder and Head of the NZ Super Fund’s Data Analytics team
- Zoë Lawton – Co Founder TIKA Specialist in AI ethics and gender bias
- Alison Mau – Co Founder TIKA, DEI activist

12.15pm **Lunch and Networking**

1.00pm	<p>Closing the Gender Investment Gap: Funding Women in Business</p> <p>This discussion will explore the systemic barriers that leave women underfunded in business ventures and retirement savings, and the steps needed to close the gender investment gap.</p> <p>Facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jenny Rudd – Leader, Gender Investment Gap Initiative <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jenny Rudd – Leader, Gender Investment Gap Initiative Andy Blair ONZM – Co founder of Upflow NZ Ana-Marie Lockyer – CEO Pie Funds
2.00pm	<p>Future Leaders: Rangatahi Inspiring Change</p> <p>Global Women is dedicated to empowering the next generation. This session showcases young wāhine making an impact in business, technology, and community initiatives, inspiring change for the future.</p> <p>Facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andy Blair ONZM – Co founder of Upflow NZ <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Kahukura Boynton – Māori Millionaire Founder Aleisha Mitchell - Environmental planner and iwi leader, dedicated to kaitiakitanga and governance for Ngāti Whakaue through roles in Te Manatōpū Hau Kainga and Te Komiti Nui. Lani Kereopa - Climate Change Coordinator, Te Arawa Lakes Trust; championing indigenous-led environmental restoration and resilience for Ngāti Whakaue and Te Arawa iwi.
3.00pm	Afternoon Tea
3.15pm	<p>Fireside Chat: The Future of Global Women</p> <p>Dame Theresa Gattung and CEO Katie discuss the organisation's direction in today's context.</p>
4.15pm	Closing Reflections & Call to Action
4.30pm	<p>Te Puia Guided Experience</p> <p>Discover awe-inspiring geysers, bubbling mud, and lush native bush during our guided Te Rā experience. Get up close to Pōhutu Geyser, the largest active geyser in the Southern Hemisphere. Visit the NZ Māori Arts & Crafts Institute with wood, stone, bone carving and weaving.</p>
5.45pm	Free time before dinner.
7.00pm	Arrival Drinks and Networking
7.30pm	<p>Formal Dinner at Te Puia</p> <p>Panel: Three Rangatahi wāhine join a panel with the Dames</p> <p>Facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katie Bhreatnach – Global Women CEO <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dame Theresa Gattung Dame Marilyn Waring

- Dame Jenny Shipley
- Dame Silvia Cartwright
- Te Kahukura Boynton
- Aleisha Mitchell
- Lani Kereopa

DAY 3: SATURDAY 17th MAY

10.00am **Members Morning Tea with Jenni Prisk – Chapmans Restaurant Lobby, Rydges Hotel, Corner of Froude Street & 10 Tryon Street, Whakarewarewa, Rotorua.** An opportunity to check in and check out with each other.

DAY ONE

Dame Theresa Gattung - Global Women Chair

Theresa Gattung is a New Zealand business leader, entrepreneur, author, philanthropist and investor. Her best-selling autobiography *Bird on a Wire* was published in 2010. Most recently launched the Gattung Foundation with her sister Angela Gattung.

Theresa is involved with a number of not-for-profit and philanthropic interests, including being on the Global Board of World Pulse, being co-founder of the World Women Charitable Trust and Patron of the Cambodia Charitable Trust. She is a supporter of The Pūriri Education Charitable Trust, Kootuitiui Papakura, Gandhi Nivas, the Aunties, and Amnesty International.


The Honourable Stephanie (Steve) Chadwick

Steve Chadwick spent more than 20 years in public service, serving as Mayor of Rotorua from 2013 until 2022, and MP for Rotorua from 1999 until 2008. Steve previously served as Minister of Conservation and Women's Affairs, and Associate Minister of Health in the Fifth Labour Government


Cassandra Crowley

Cassandra holds a number of significant governance roles, including several as Chair. She provides commercial advisory services and is a business and professional mentor. With qualifications in law, finance and technology she has been recognised for her outstanding governance contributions. Co-Founder of the Global Women Bay of Plenty speakers series (the first outside of Auckland), Cassandra is passionate about inspiring and supporting women of all ages to create spaces and roles to contribute in ways that make a difference for the world we live in, whether that be in boardrooms, on sports fields, within our homes or amongst our communities.


Tania Tapsell

Tania Tapsell, of Te Arawa iwi, is the first Māori woman elected as Mayor of Rotorua. She was previously a Rotorua Lakes Councillor since the age of 21, was the Chairperson of Council's Operations & Monitoring Committee, and Deputy Chairperson of the New Zealand Community Board Executive. She has also worked at BNZ Business Partners and Deloitte as a Consultant and is a qualified Resource Management Commissioner. She made headlines for having a baby while serving as Mayor and is well respected for her ability to deliver practical solutions.


Sarah Baddeley

Sarah Baddeley is a Partner and Director at New Zealand management consultancy firm, MartinJenkins. She offers a special combination of first-class analytical abilities and strategic thought with excellent communication skills. This, together with her wide experience, enables her to work with boards and executive teams on problems that may otherwise be confronting and uncomfortable to tackle. Sarah also leads the Auckland practice of MartinJenkins.



Professor Gail Pacheco

Professor Gail Pacheco has been a Professor of Economics and Director of the NZ Policy Research Institute at AUT, and a former Commissioner at the NZ Productivity Commission. Gail has written and researched widely on numerous social policy issues, while leading large-scale funded projects involving both academic and public sector collaborations.

Gail was a recipient of the NZIER Economics Award in 2018 for outstanding contributions to the advancement of economics and its applications in New Zealand; and awarded the 2019 AUT Medal in recognition of her research, scholarship, and application of integrated data to inform social policy and wellbeing.



Dame Marilyn Waring

Marilyn Waring is a New Zealand feminist, former politician, author, academic, and activist for women's human rights and environmental issues. She is best known for her 1988 book *If Women Counted* and earned a D.Phil. in political economy in 1989. Through her research and writing, she is recognised as the principal founder of the discipline of feminist economics. Waring was Professor of Public Policy at AUT from 2006 until her retirement in 2022, though she continues to supervise PhD candidates, focusing on governance and public policy, political economy, gender analysis, and human rights.



Traci Houpapa MNZM

Traci is an award winning company director and a recognised industry leader. She is also a trusted advisor to Maori, Government, public and private sector entities on strategic and economic development. Traci is known for her strong and inclusive leadership and her clear focus on building the wealth and prosperity of Aotearoa New Zealand.



Christina Leung

Christina is Deputy Chief Executive (Auckland) and heads Membership Services at NZIER, in looking after economic forecasts and analysis of the NZIER Quarterly Survey of Business Opinion. She also works with many clients on projects looking at topical issues, including the wider economic impact assessments of particular industries and investments, as well as analysing key developments in the construction sector. She has also been an expert witness in a wide range of litigation cases involving remedial construction work. Christina is regularly asked to provide commentary and speak to a broader audience on general economic developments. Christina is Board Director and Vice Chair of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Society NZ.



Karleen Everitt

Karleen holds a Masters in Management for the University of Auckland and was appointed as the Kaitohu Rautaki Maori Head of Te Ao Maori Strategy ANZ in June 2021. Prior this appointment she had her own company Manaaki Solutions Ltd, she founded in 2006. She was the first wāhine and Māori to be appointed as the Chair to Northland's Regional Economic Development Agency, Northland Inc. Karleen has held a number of governance roles, serving both Māori and non-Māori entities and currently sits as Deputy Chair of the St Stephen's and Queen Victoria Schools Trust Board. Karleen is passionate about social & economic opportunities for wāhine and women leading their own pathways to truly empower themselves locally and abroad.



The Honourable Margaret Wilson

Margaret Anne Wilson DCNZM is a New Zealand lawyer, academic and former Labour Party politician. She served as Attorney-General from 1999 to 2005 and Speaker of the House of Representatives from 2005 to 2008, during the Fifth Labour Government. Wilson strongly promotes various social causes such as feminism and multiculturalism, and opponents often painted her as Labour's most "politically correct" minister. She was the Minister responsible for the introduction of the new Supreme Court, which was controversial at the time, as well as changing the law on dividing property between partners after a separation, known now as relationship property law.



Prue Kapua

Prue Kapua is the principal of Tamatekapua Law and has extensive background in resource management and the Treaty sector. She has supported whānau, hapū, and iwi claimants in several Waitangi Tribunal inquiries. She was a member of the Refugee Status Appeals Authority, Deputy Chair of the Medical Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal, and a director of First Health NZ Ltd (a Southern Cross NZ Ltd subsidiary).



Amanda Ellis

Amanda Ellis is currently based in Hawaii as Executive Director Hawaii/Asia Pacific for philanthropist Julie Ann Wrigley's ASU Global Institute of Sustainability and Innovation. Amanda served as New Zealand's inaugural Ambassador for Global Women's Issues, and as Ambassador/Head of Mission to the UN in Geneva and Prime Minister's Special Envoy (2012-16), playing a key role in New Zealand's successful UN Security Council bid.



Judy O'Brien

Judy O'Brien is a workplace culture professional with a strong focus on gender equity and a diverse career in entertainment, education and advocacy. As Head of Culture, Inclusion & Safeguarding at New Zealand Rugby she oversees the implementation of NZR's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion strategy and associated programmes of work for Women, Māori, Pasifika and Rainbow communities. A champion for Rainbow inclusion, Judy has worked as peer-support facilitator for transgender and non-binary communities, steered the merger of two of NZ's essential LGBTQ+ youth organisations, and in 2022 led NZ Rugby to win 3 categories at the NZ Rainbow Excellence Awards.



Angela Meyer

Angela has a long and proven track record for being a marketing and communications industry leader and champion for Gender Equality. As a business owner, gender intelligence strategist, advocate and entrepreneur, she has been forging cutting-edge practices in gender equity and business development for over twenty years. Angela's strength lies in her ability to cut through the limitations placed on us by the patriarchy, put her money where her mouth is and take action that provokes real social change.



Tania Dommett

Tania Domett is a social researcher, evaluator, strategy consultant, founder, director, and entrepreneur. Originally from Taranaki, Tania has lived in Tāmaki Makaurau for over 25 years and has twin daughters and a son.

During her career, Tania has founded and led multiple enterprises and projects with the explicit goal of advancing equity in Aotearoa, with a special focus on gender, DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion), workforce development, disability, intimate partner and sexual violence, youth development, and mental health.

Tania founded research and evaluation agency Cogo in 2014, which delivers projects across the public and private sector for a range of clients working in financial services, construction and infrastructure, disability services, advanced manufacturing, banking, export marketing, and public health.



Tania Simpson

Tania Te Rangingangana Simpson is a Director of Auckland International Airport, Meridian Energy and Waste Management NZ, she is a continuing member of the Waitangi Tribunal and an accredited fellow of the Institute of Directors. Tania is Deputy Chair of the Waitangi National Trust and strategic advisor to Taumutu Runanga Ltd. Tania is also active in the Tui Trust children's charity that she established in 2003.



Antonia Watson

Antonia Watson is Chief Executive Officer, ANZ Bank NZ Ltd.

She has over 30 years' experience in the professional services and financial services sector in New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Australia and Hungary. Prior to her appointment as CEO Antonia held roles as Managing Director, Retail and Business Banking and Chief Financial Officer.

Antonia joined ANZ from Morgan Stanley, where she was General Manager of their business services and technology centre in Budapest and held various Finance roles in Sydney and London. She qualified as a chartered accountant at KPMG.

Antonia is a member of Global Women and has a Bachelor of Commerce with Honours from the University of Otago.



Caroline Ovenstone

Caroline is an accomplished executive and Chartered Accountant with over 20 years' experience leading business growth and transformation across diverse industries and global markets. She has a strong background in finance, systems development, and strategic leadership.

Originally from South Africa, Caroline worked with BDO and PwC before moving into executive roles in manufacturing and technology, including as Managing Director of Business Operations at PFK Electronics. Her work has spanned four continents, where she has overseen finance, operations, HR, and design functions.

Now based in Aotearoa as CEO of Alpine Energy, Caroline is passionate about people, continuous improvement, and building resilient, values-driven organisations. She enjoys travel, wellbeing, and spending time with her whānau.


Kellie Coombes

Kellie Coombes is the Chief Executive and Secretary for Women at Manatū Wāhine Ministry for Women. Kellie leads the agency's work to support women and girls to succeed economically and in leadership, ensure they are free from violence, and have good health and wellbeing.

Kellie works with others within and outside of government to deliver initiatives and drive system change to improve outcomes for women and girls.


Jo Avenell

Jo is an accomplished senior executive, with broad experience and a proven track-record in transforming organisational performance across many national and global firms. As CEO of Russell McVeagh, her focus is to lead the firm on an ambitious growth and transformation agenda. Her primary passion is on ensuring companies thrive and prosper through the strength of the culture, leadership and values that are embodied. Jo believes that unleashing the individual and collective potential of an organisation is through a combination of having a clear direction, compelling purpose, focus on delivering on plans and commitments, and creating a positive, energised and engaging environment to work in. Jo is also a Champion for Change helping to foster more diverse, equitable and inclusive workforces across Aotearoa.


Dr Linda Dear

Originally from the UK, Menopause Doctor Linda Dear moved to New Zealand in 2014. She is the creator of Australasia's largest menopause survey and the founder of Menodoctor, where she oversees comprehensive menopause care for women across New Zealand and works to dismantle the stigma surrounding this life stage.


Dame Silvia Cartwright

Jurist Dame Silvia Cartwright was the first woman to be Chief District Court Judge in 1989, and in 1993 became the first woman to be appointed to the High Court. From 2001 to 2006, she served as the 18th governor-general of New Zealand.


Cheyne Chalmers

Cheyne Chalmers is a transformative leader in healthcare, embodying the resilience, renewal, and rise that define this year's Global Women conference. With over 30 years of experience in public and private health sectors across New Zealand and Australia, Cheyne is currently the Chief Executive Officer of St Andrews Village and Trust in Auckland, where she is leading bold, people-focused change in aged care.

Previously Chief Executive of Ryman Healthcare New Zealand and Chief Operations Officer before that, she has driven innovation in clinical care and wellness for thousands of residents. Her leadership spans senior roles in both countries, including a decade at Monash Health in Melbourne and earlier executive nursing positions in major New Zealand DHBs.

A Fellow of the College of Nurses and an Adjunct Professor at Deakin University, Cheyne brings deep insight, purpose, and strategic vision to everything she does. She is also a proud member of the Institute of Directors and Global Women.


Markerita Poutasi

Markerita is on the Executive Leadership Team as the National Director of Pacific Health at Health New Zealand. She has a very strong focus on transformation of health structures to reflect health population need and efficiency in system delivery. As lead for Chief of Strategy and Performance Improvement at the former Auckland District Health Board, she was instrumental in delivering new equity approaches within planned care delivery. Markerita is a partnerships specialist and has a background in law and Pacific development. She has been a senior leader in the public service for over 10 years.

She is experienced in change leadership, Pacific health equity and designing new models of care with communities.

DAY TWO

Katie Bhreatnach – Global Women CEO

Katie is a dynamic business leader and mum to three daughters, driven by a commitment to being a good ancestor and shaping a prosperous future for Aotearoa. Her executive experience spans diverse industries, including financial services, technology, FMCG, and aviation, alongside governance roles across the commercial and not-for-profit sectors.

Of Ngāti Whakaue descent, Katie has a longstanding relationship with Global Women, where she has been a member, active contributor and board member. Through her career, she has championed the advancement of wāhine in leadership, embodying her passion for empowering others and ensuring intergenerational progress.


Lianne Dalziel CNZM

Lianne Dalziel served over 30 years in public office, including as a Cabinet Minister under the Rt Hon Helen Clark and as Mayor of Ōtautahi Christchurch from 2013 to 2022. Known for her leadership through crises—including the Canterbury Earthquakes and the 2019 mosque attacks—Lianne is a respected advocate for resilience and community recovery. She continues to serve in various leadership and advisory roles, including as a global director of the Resilient Cities Network and an honorary adviser to the Asia New Zealand Foundation.


Vanessa Eparaima MNZM

Vanessa (Raukawa, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Waikato Tainui and Te Arawa) is a business consultant, company director and Trustee who sits on a range of commercial, investment and not-for-profit boards. In 2025, Vanessa was appointed a member of the Waitangi Tribunal.


Dame Jenny Shipley

Dame Jenny Shipley was New Zealand's first female Prime Minister and retired from politics in 2002 and returned to the private sector while still retaining her intense interest in the development of leaders here in Aotearoa New Zealand and globally. Today she is a Director, Advisor and Keynote Speaker with a special interest in mega trends in business, economic and social development opportunities globally.


Gill Gatfield

Gill Gatfield is a sculptor, author, activist, and entrepreneur. Working at the intersection of art, justice, and technology, her international award-winning artworks activate space, shift perception, and challenge the status quo. Her work is exhibited in New Zealand, Australia, the USA, and Europe, and held in collections worldwide. Gill founded Gatfield Studio (1998), Equity Works Ltd. (1992), and authored *Without Prejudice: Women in the Law* (Brookers 1996, hardback 2016, Thomson Reuters 2021). She is Artist in Residence at Foreign Objekt (2024–2025) and International Artist in Residence at NARS Foundation NYC (2025), developing AI-AR sculpture.


Kathryn Kerner

Kathryn Kerner is Head of the NZ Super Fund's Data Analytics team, which she founded in 2022. Her team is the centre of excellence and enablement using advanced analytics to enhance investment excellence, create efficiencies, and mitigate risk at the NZ Super Fund.

Kathryn has extensive leadership experience in data, analytics, technology, risk, and strategy in investments and financial markets. She previously held quantitative and leadership positions at the Federal Reserve Board and Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. She holds a Master of Science in Business Analytics from NYU Stern School of Business and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics with Honours from Princeton University.


Zoë Lawton

Zoë is barrister, researcher, and spokesperson specialising in the law on sexual harm. She will oversee Tika's client onboarding process, ensuring clients receive compassionate, efficient support, while leading a dedicated team of lawyers providing expert legal advice.


Alison Mau

Alison is a former journalist and broadcaster, and leading advocate for survivors of sexual harm. As one of New Zealand's foremost communications experts, Alison leads Tika's advocacy, stakeholder, sector and donor engagement and is responsible for Tika's public outreach.


Jenny Rudd

Jenny Rudd is the founder and CEO of investor-backed tech startup Dispute Buddy, and the co-founder of The Gender Investment Gap NZ.

Dispute Buddy makes software that finds and extracts texts and messages needed as evidence in legal cases. Jenny is the only female founder from Aotearoa to have been accepted into the Techstars Sydney accelerator, selected from over 500 startups.

The Gender Investment Gap tracks how venture capital is split by gender in Aotearoa. In just two years, New Zealand went from having no data (in 2021) to achieving world-leading participation, with 70% of the venture capital industry donating their data by 2023.

In 2021, Jenny sold the publishing business she had bought and built with her husband Mat. She later joined the board of Enterprise Angels, where she made 14 investments into early-stage startups. This year, she is a finalist in the 2025 NZ Hi-Tech Awards 'Inspiring Individual' category.



Andy Blair

Andy is the co-founder and Director of Business & Innovation at Upflow, a geothermal innovation company that builds expert science and engineering teams to provide intelligent solutions to global industry. The nexus between science, business and community is where Andy's expertise sits. She has a deep understanding of the drivers relating to the business of science, and a proven ability to turn scientific ideas into economic and societal gains.

The Immediate Past President of the International Geothermal Association (Netherlands), Andy is also the co-founder (2013) of Women in Geothermal (WING), 3500 members in 86 countries, a global movement for the empowerment and advancement of women within the industry.

In 2024 Andy received the Kings honour of Officer for the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for services to the Geothermal Industry and Women and was one of five global winners (first NZ winner) of the United Nations 2023 WE Empower Award which showcases women entrepreneurs whose businesses support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Ana-Marie Lockyer

Ana-Marie Lockyer is the CEO and Executive Director of Pie Funds Management Ltd, a boutique investment manager. As CEO, Ana-Marie is responsible for directing and executing the company's organisational strategy. Ana has over 25 years of broad banking and financial services experience including 10 years in the local and global Wealth teams at ANZ Bank. At ANZ Ana had a number of strategic and executive roles across insurance and investments, including executive responsibility for New Zealand's largest KiwiSaver Scheme and accountability for strategic decisions and performance of the wealth product suite. She also spent a further 10 years in commercial and product functions at Henderson Global Investors in London. Ana has also held governance roles for Pie Funds, ANZ Samoa and the Financial Services Council and most recently was Chief Executive Officer of AA Money. Ana qualified as a Chartered Accountant and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is now a Member of Institute of Directors. She is passionate about financial literacy, savings and retirements outcomes for New Zealanders and diversity in the financial services industry.



Te Kahukura Boynton

Te Kahukura Boynton is the founder of Māori Millionaire and a passionate advocate for closing the wealth gap. At just 18, she began documenting her personal journey with money and mindset on social media, quickly building a powerful platform and thriving business. Since then, she has spoken to thousands across Aotearoa, authored the first personal finance book written by a Māori author, and earned national recognition. Her accolades include the United Nations Women's Entrepreneur of the Day Award, finalist for the Girls in Business Excellence in Innovation, and semi-finalist for Young New Zealander of the Year in 2025.

Today, Te Kahukura works as a Mindset and Business Coach, empowering other trailblazers to build purpose-driven businesses—just as she has.



Aleisha Mitchell

Aleisha Mitchell (Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāti Pikiao, Ngāti Wai, Ngāti Wahiao, Ngāti Tarāwhai, Tapuika, Raukawa ki te Tonga, Ngāi Te Rangi) is a committed member of Te Manatōpū Hau Kainga o Ōhinemutu. In this capacity she has been Taiao Co-Lead, and a member of the Geothermal Steering and Interview Panel committees. An environmental planner with a background in Resource Management and Local Government, Aleisha grew up on Te Papa-i-Ōuru at Ōhinemutu pā, and is dedicated to serving her iwi and hapū through her whakaro and actions. Aleisha is a Koromatua Representative on Te Komiti Nui o Ngāti Whakaue.

**Lani Kereopa**

Lani Kereopa (Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāti Tarāwhai; Ngāti Wahiao) is passionate about protecting the Ngāti Whakaue way of life that her whānau and hapū have enjoyed for generations within Ōhinemutu pā.

This means fighting to restore and care for the once abundant natural sources of clean water, food, geothermal and cultural resources within the village and surrounding tribal lands, as well as protecting the values, knowledge and worldviews of the tribe for future generations.

The ongoing impacts of colonisation and urban "development" on the community and associated ecosystems requires enduring commitment; a dedication to constant learning, capacity building and strategizing; as well as an obligation of service for the greater health and wellbeing of Ngāti Whakaue.

Lani's paid work as Climate Change Coordinator at Te Arawa Lakes Trust sees her confronting the same issues at a collective iwi level around food, water and energy security; land use; the restoration of indigenous biodiversity; and the need for systems change to enable adaptation and resilience-building to meet current and future challenges.