

Maunganui

- Be Brave
- Walk together
- Discover new horizons

Maunganui, kia tu rangatira i te ao, i te po hō!
Maunganui, the chief mountain standing strong through day and night!

From the journey Maunganui made from Hautere after leaving his quest to obtain the heart of Pūwhenua, he came to stand here at the mouth of Tauranga Moana where he could stand chiefly in his own light as he heralds the light of the dawn each morning. Here he became a beacon of safety, and a symbol of home for all who reside within his view.

Upon the arrival of Takitimu waka at Te Awaiti at the base of the maunga, Tamatea-Ariki-Nui instilled two mauri stones brought with him from their home lands in Hawaiki. One at the peak of Maunganui, the other under water within Tirikawa. This deed signified the arrival of his people to their new homeland, bringing with them all the whakapapa and mana of their home and history from Hawaiki.

Te Kuia me ōna kuri is a kohatu, a rock that faces out North West towards Matakana Island at the entrance to the harbour, where a great sacrifice was made by a kuia to warn her people of an approaching danger. This rock is significant to all that venture from the harbour out to sea where koha is given to invoke safe journeying and return in the same manner as Te Kuia me ōna kuri enabled her people to remain safe from the dangers that lie seaward.

An acknowledgment of the big mountain, as named by Tamatea and his unwavering strength throughout time.