

Putara

1910-1976 17 Kilometres South West from Eketahuna on the Putara Road

1908-1909

1st August 1908 A "request was received at the meeting of the Wellington Education Board on Thursday last from residents of Putara, asking that a school should be erected there. Mr A. W.. Hogg' stated that the distance was about five miles from Nireaha, where he had attended the school opening the other day. Nireaha had an average attendance of 82. The settlers were well satisfied with it. It was decided to leave the request of the Putara settlers in the hands of the board's officers.

1st August 1905 Wellington Education Board An application was considered for a school at Putara, in the Mangatainoka Valley. The secretary stated that two or three years ago the settlers applied for a small school, offering to contribute £-40 towards the cost. The Department agreed to grant £55, and plans of a school were prepared, but since then no action had been taken.

25th September 1908 Wellington Education Board The establishment of a school at Putara was also recommended

2nd November 1908 General Election Mr John Hunter a meeting at the Schoolhouse Putara, [There are a number of advertisements of this nature. This must have been a privately owned room used as a private school]

24th December 1908 A grant; of £300 has been authorised for the erection of a school at Putara in the Mangatainoka Gorge, about ten miles from Eketahuna.

13th May 1909 The Wellington Education Board invites tenders up till Saturday, 22nd May, for the erection of a school at Putara, near Eketahuna. Plans and specifications may be seen at the Express office , Eketahuna, and at the office of Messrs Varnham and Rose, Masterton.

30th July 1909 Putara (new, school).—Building to be erected as per amended proposals 'of 'the Clerk of Works;

11th November 1909 PUTARA (Eketahuna), New School—Sole Teacher, probable salary £90 to £120 and £10 h a., with 'possibility of rising to £120 to £150 and £15 h.a

11th December 1909 . Putara — Appointment Sole teacher, Miss I. Stace, of the Training College.

The sum in the far right column indicates that a school residence was not provided

29th March 1913 Miss I M Stace was appointed to Shannon School as assistant [This was the only reference I can find for her]

1910-1912

1910	19	Putara	Stace	Ivy M	D5	Female	£120	\$18,812	
1911	18	Putara	Neilson	Isabella		Female	£121.5	\$19,769	
1912	21	Putara	Neilson M A	Isabella	A4	Female	£120	\$18,403	\$15

28th January 1910 The opening ceremony in connection with the new school at Putara takes place on Monday. The occasion will be marked by a picnic and dance being held in the

school that day. It is estimated that between twenty and twenty-five pupils will attend the school when open.

3rd February 1910 After agitating for some ten years the settlers of Putara have at last a school to send their children to, the new building having been opened on Monday last. The school will have an attendance of about twenty-five children.

5th April 1910 A new school has been erected at Putara, and the absence of bridges over the above-mentioned creeks hampers the children of settlers in the matter of regular attendance, especially in the winter time. There are now twelve children affected in this way, who will probably lose half time in the winter.

27th April 1910 Wellington Education Board approves fencing work at Putara

30th November 1910 Wellington Education Board Approval to shift shed £2

6th March 1911 A road is being surveyed from Putara to Shannon

28th June 1911 Miss I Stace resigns

26th July 1911 Fresh applications are to be invited for the position of teacher at the Putara school, in the hope that a male teacher may be secured

11th September 1911 Miss I Neilson Sole Teacher appointed

4th October 1911 Messrs Escott and Roberts urged the erection of a small foot-bridge on Mangatainoka Valley-road to enable children to get to the Putara school.

31st January 1912 Miss Neilson Putara granted three weeks leave

24th February 1912 Isabella Neilson passed one subject in Wanganui for C certificate

‘29th May 1912 Wellington Education Board Concreting floor of shed

16th December 1912 Mr G. !R. Sykes, M.P. .will present the school prizes at a concert to be held at Putara on Wednesday evening.

At the end of 1913 Isabella Neilson was the secondary teacher at Hokitika District High School

23rd March 1917 Miss Isabella Neilson, M.A., who is at present senior assistant mistress aft the Hokitika High School, has' been, chosen to fill a similar position in the Southland Technical School.

1913-1915

1913	23	Putara	Wiesner	Hermine-Louise	D5	Female	£120	\$18,000	£15.00
1914	18	Putara	Wiesner	Hermine-Louise	D4	Female	£130	\$18,612	£15.00
1915	17	Putara	Wiesner	Hermine-Louise	D4	Female	£140	\$18,753	£20.00

29th January 1913 Miss I Nielsen Putara resigns

12th March 1913 Miss H Wiesner appointed

29th April 1914 Wellington Education Board Putara improvement to chimney £1 6s

5th November 1914 Putara children contributed 6 shillings to the ambulance equipment fund

25th January 1915 Wellington Education Board Putara (painting, etc.), O. M. Clayton

5th June 1915 The following have been elected a school committee for Putara: —Messrs. Condon (chairman and secretary), T. Priest, Gunderson, C. Larsen and T. Roberts.

Hermine-Louise Wiesner started teaching at Newtown School in 1911 and after Putara taught at Lansdowne School as the sole teacher at the side school at Te ore Ore

1885/18320	Wiesner	Herrsmine Louise	Caroline	Herrsmann
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It appears Miss Wiesner left New Zealand

1917-1923

1917	16	Putara	Clarke	Marie A	Sole		£110	
1919	15	Putara	Clarke	Marie A D	Sole	£185	\$16,713	
1921	22	Putara	Watson	Herbert W	Sole	£240	\$20,662	
1923	20	Putara	Hancox	Spencer M	Sole	£185	\$16,713	

29th March 1916 Miss Wiesner resigns as sole teacher at Putara

15th June 1916 Mrs M Green appointed Sole Teacher Putara

31st July 1917 Mayoress's Christmas Pudding Fund Putara 14s 6d

28th August 1917 Mrs C F Green the school mistress at Putara has been appointed to the charge of the school at Longbush [Mrs Marion Green went to Longbush and then to Gladstone school both sole charge schools]

14th September 1917 Miss M A Clark appointed to Putara

16th December 1918 During the epidemic no case of Influenza was reported at Putara

18th February 1921 Mr H Watson appointed Putara

Herbert Watson was teaching at Martinborough in 1923

10th October 1922 Putara Mr S M Hancox appointed to Putara

Spencer Hancox served in World One in the Medical Corps.

Post 1923

3rd June 1924 Miss C Butement appointed Putara

21st February 1927 Mr F R Price appointed Putara

28th May 1929 A second School Committee to be held as no election was held on the first night

25th March 1930 Mr M M Whimp appointed Putara

2nd April 1941 Nelson Girls' College has enrolled 228 members of the Navy League this year. A Union Jack is to be presented to Putara School, near Eketahuna. which has all its scholars enrolled.

14th March 1944 NAVY LEAGUE Sir Charles Norwood, president of the Wellington branch of the Navy League, visited Masterton on Saturday to present a flag to Ngahape School, and pennants to Tinui, Kopuaranga, St. Matthew's Collegiate School, Hadlow Preparatory, and Putara Schools. All these schools had achieved 100 per cent, membership of the Navy League for some years.

8th May 1964 Land transferred to the Crown

National Archives Putara Records

Putara

2nd October 1903 Harrie Keene wrote to Wellington Education Board

- a) Re driving from here to Nireaha school the distance is five miles, two of which are very rough and dangerous
- b) I am about to commence the run to the Nireaha Creamery and intend taking the children to school, there will be six children at first
- c) The board offered me £5 capitation for each child if I established a school but I think it would be an advantage to the Board if they would pay me ten pence for each to drive them to school during the creamery season
- d) The rest of the year is rarely fit for children to pass through the Gorge
- e) I may mention this is less than half of what my neighbours are paying me for a can of milk
- f) I wish to add I have a good horse, new harness and cart. I am a driver of some experience I will take every possible care but no responsibility for other people's children

7th October letter forwarded to Department 13th October Sec of Education replies that Nireaha is full. Possibly children should attend Rongokokako

Memorandum: we could do no better than accept the offer notes Secretary of Education Mr Gibbes still recommending Rongokokako

14th November 1903 Wellington Education Board writes to Minister

- a) Nireaha is half a mile nearer than Rongokokako
- b) Two miles and thirty chains of road to Rongokokaho is unmetalled and unfit for traffic in winter
- c) There is room at Nireaha now that a hall is being rented

5th January 1904 I cannot find Putara settlement on any map. I think the board should be asked to have it located on a lithograph which we can send

18th August 1904 Secretary of Education accepts offer of Mr Keane at 10 pence per week and is paid on the average.

This is to be regarded as a special case not affecting the general rules laid down

6th September 1904 Education Board writes to Secretary of Education. Fee was for 10 pence per day not week

If Mr Keane establishes a household school the cost will be £30 per year

7th October 1904 Wellington Education Board writes to Secretary of Education that information is not exactly correct even now From October 1903 to May 1904 the attendances were

Hadley Keene 163 half days, Sydney Keene 162 ½ Days, Grace Keene 166, Edwin Christensen 174, Cora Keene 166, Bertha Larsen 126 (From November 11th)

I have not got those for January of this year but have wired for them

29th November Secretary of Ed writes the Department will pay £3:15;0 to Mr Keene Education Board

17th October 1904 From January to time of leaving May 11th Hadley 194, Sydney, 110, Cora 112, Grace 114

School was open 146 half days during the period

19th October Please ADD TO THE LIST OF 17TH Oct the following attendances telegraphed by the teacher yesterday and omitted from previous list

Edwin Christensen 122 and Bertha Larsen

25th October 1904 Secretary to Education Board Mr Keene stated he cannot afford to take children during the winter months. I therefore take it that at the time of mentioned he discontinued sending the children until spring

14th January 1905 Wellington Education Board asking that Mr Keene wants to know how the amount was arrived at

16th April 1907 F Bakewell Inspector writes a long letter to Wellington Education Board re Putara

- a) I visited Putara after receiving a petition for a school
- b) The distance from Homesteads to Nireaha is from 5 to 7 ½ miles nearly 2 miles of which is through the Gorge
- c) The conveyance of children to Nireaha is quite out of the question
- d) There are 11 children of school age 5 of whom have been attending Nireaha School mainly in the Summer
- e) Three sawmills will be operating in the area in fact one of them is being laid out now
- f) I have approved and selected a site 6 miles from het Nireaha School
- g) The settlers say accommodation for the children could be built between £70 or £80
- h) The settlers are prepared to provide the section and half the cost of the school

	Age of Children.		Total	Distance from	Proposed
Name of Parent	5 to 15	Under 5		Nireaha	Site
Lozell	3		3	6. 1/2	1 1/2
W Priest	1	2	3	6	1
E Priest		1	1	5	
FH Shore man	2		2	5 1/4	1/4
C J Larsen	1		1	4 1/4	1
C W Gundersen		2	2	4 1/2	2/3
H Keene	5	1	6	4	1
	12	6	18		

New school to be built of wood, Iron roof, Brick Chimney

18 foot x 6 foot Porch 6 foot x 5 foot

No fencing

19th June 1907 Mr G L Stewart Secretary of Wellington Education Board write to Secretary of Education and included

- a) Mr Keene found he could not afford to take the children and collect them and ignore his farm he is not a wealthy man
- b) The Board asks that this school be opened

Secretary offers £40 for school and £15 for furniture other costs to be covered by parents The Education Board proposes to make accommodation for 40 or 50 children and what are the prospects of that number being achieved?

Application with the addition of T Priest with Isaac Allen 4, Tom Edward 2, Leonard Gordon Infant

16th November 1908 Wellington Education Board applies for a new school Putara The settlers need offer and transfer to the Education Board a suitable site of 3 acres

7th December 1908 Education Department offer £300 for a school at Putara

23rd July 1931 Putara Section 12 Block IX S.D Putara

1st August Present site is leased the Wellington Education Board applies for £1-7-6 purchase price.

11th April 1938 Wellington Education Board applies to install a septic tank and drainage, electric power for pump to lift water to tanks total cost £268 16 0

26th May 1938 Roll is 16 and the School Committee have trouble in carrying out present sanitary arrangements. The current pit system is unhygienic . Department want put septic tanks into schools below IIIa Grade schools

2nd September 1938 Parents offer to assist with the work

21st July 1938 Education Department says the pan system works well in small schools

24th May 1950 Wellington Education Board

- a) A small dam will be built for water on Mr Silk's land 8 foot long, 4 foot high and 6 inches thick
- b) Pipes to go to septic tank
- c) Department to pay £250
- d) District provide labour and erection of dam, fencing, trenching and laying pipeline etc

25th May 1950

- a) Parents are worried that the toilet facilities are worse than they have in their homes
- b) Trouble in getting labour to empty pans In fact they cannot get anyone to empty the pans
- c) Cost of £450 but with the generous help of the School Committee the job would be recommended

5th May 1953 Unless the work on the septic tank is done the grant will be taken back Looks as though the job was completed in 1953

11th July 1963 The school was closed last year. The regional superintendent recommends keeping the site and buildings until the Board has substantial evidence that a school will not be required in that area

Children go to Nireaha School